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## Retirement age 65, +27, for Dorothy



At Apple Cake Tea Room for 35+ years, 92-year-old didn't really want to retire

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

How many people start a new career in their mid 50s, then end up loving what they do so much their service lasts more than 35 years?

After almost 36 years with Apple Cake Tea Room, Dorothy Graves, 92, decided to retire last December.

"I miss you so much," Apple Cake Tea Room owner Mary Henry told Dorothy.

"I've tried a little bit of everything around here," Dorothy reflected. "I hated to have to retire because I wasn't ready to retire, but I had a bad hip, and I had to have it taken care of."

"When you're on your feet four hours a day, why, you have to take care of yourself," she added. "But I just like to work."

For Henry, Dorothy has been more than an employee. She has been a friend, confidant, therapist and even, like "I Love Lucy's" Lucy and Ethel, fellow conspirators at times.

"Dorothy and I are like two peas in a pod," Henry said. "We knew, pretty much, what our right arm was doing all the time. "We would just zig and zag and do everything together. We worked very well together," she added.

And for at least one young employee, the retiree was his "Civil War grandma."

Dorothy's leaving has affected Henry "very much," the owner said, adding her three daughters are coming in to help now.

"She's done everything here," Henry remarked of Dorothy. She related Dorothy's attributes: "wise, honest, her faith, sincere, trust-worthy ... just a very honorable lady."

"She has taught all these girls and boys well here," Henry added. "She taught them how to cook; taught them how to bake. She's been our teacher and friend."

Dorothy started her career with Apple Cake Tea Room in September 1989, six years after Henry opened the business in November 1983 in a little corner of Station West. She moved the

(Above left) Dorothy Graves, left, recently returned to Apple Cake Tea Room after her retirement and spent time reminiscing with owner Mary Henry. (Above) Dorothy, left, was photographed with Henry shortly after she became dishwasher at the shop off North Campbell Station Road almost 36 years ago.

See **DOROTHY** on Page 2A

Above left photo by Tammy Cheek  
Above photo submitted

## Vision Plan, Town Center, gets 4-1 BOMA nod

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
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After a little more than a year, the Town's Vision Plan for its Mixed-Use Town Center (downtown) was passed in a resolution in a 4-1 vote.

While Mayor Ron Williams and Aldermen Scott Meyer made the motion to approve it, Drew Burnette and Alex Cain also voted to approve the resolution. Alderman David White voted against it.

"Why are we going to vote on the Vision Plan when the thing is done; it's finished?" White asked.

"It's just an expression of support, if you want to do that," Community Development director Mark Shipley answered.



"That's what this resolution is."

The idea was to have a vision plan started last year, when the Board decided to create a vision plan for Town Center, hiring TSW Consultants to develop that plan.

Shipley said the consultants worked with the community to "determine their desires for this area," adding, "This outreach has involved steering committee and stakeholder meetings and four well-attended community meetings. There were also two surveys conducted with over 1,200 responses."

Going back to last Spring, "A complete draft of the plan, which is titled, 'Town of Farragut Mixed-Use Town Center Vision Plan (the Plan),' was taken to the (Farragut Municipal) Planning Commission for a workshop discussion at their meeting on May 16, 2024," Shipley said. "Some suggested modifications were made to the plan at the May Planning

See **VISION PLAN** on Page 5A



## Special FPS dad-daughter Career Day

(Above and right) After rushing into the arms of her father, U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Alex Mowry, 7-year-old Chesley enjoyed a moment or two with him before her fellow students surround the staff sergeant during Farragut Primary School's Career Day Friday, March 14, when Mowry volunteered to show a military vehicle to the students. The father said his duties often keep him away from home.

(See additional FPS Career Day photos, information in West Side Faces, page 8A)

Photos by Tammy Cheek



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# Focus on \$25k-plus CIP projects: adds, cuts for Fiscal Year '26 budget

**TAMMY CHEEK**

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Town budget workshops continued Thursday, March 13, when Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen reviewed several of its funds before its regular meeting.

One of the funds reviewed was the Capital Investment projects fund, which are the bigger projects — more than \$25,000 — the Town undertakes, which could take a year or more to finish.

During the Board's last workshop on Feb. 27, its members asked for changes in the CIP.

"In the general government section of the budget, we had a project that we did not do this year that we need to re-budget for next year," Town administrator David Smoak said. "That is the restroom building at the Anchor Green over on Biddle Farm. That is \$300,000 projected for FY 2026 now that (the development) is getting occupied.

"This year would be a good year to put that restroom facility in (the budget)," he added. "We are also planning some events at the Anchor Green at some point during the fiscal year."

In Parks and Recreation, "in the FY 2027, you had the McFee Park pavilion," Smoak said. "That has been deleted for a cost savings of \$535,000.

"Under transportation and infrastructure projects, we have moved the Campbell Station Road-Eddy Courtney Way intersection (improvements) from FY 2027 to FY 2028," he added. "It will stay the same. It will just move out one more year to give us a little more time with the intersection (improvements) we're planning on doing at Jamestowne and Campbell Station (roads), to see how effective that is before we move forward (with the Campbell Station Road-Eddy Courtney Way intersection project)."

At the Boring Road/Smith Road intersection, there is \$100,000 scheduled for (improvements to) that intersection in the FY 2026-27 budget. "That would be a four-way stop and closure of a horse-shoe road you have there," Smoak said. "Also, looking at Boring Road, there were several projects ... several options in that area.

"The one I recommend to you tonight is to have a Boring Road closure (at Boring Road and Kingston Pike) in 2027," he added. "It costs around \$50,000. You would close that (road) at Kingston Pike and then create a cul de sac approach at the last residential entrance on Boring Road.

"What that would do, then, is direct all the traffic, as the school studies showed, toward Farragut Elementary School there on the Village Commons Boulevard up and into the school (property)."



Smoak

## Dorothy

From page 1A

business to her current location in the log cabin a year later.

Dorothy had just retired in March 1989 from Yale Commercial Lock & Hardware in Lenoir City, where she put in 35 years, because her husband had a stroke.

After he passed away in May 1989, "I had worked so long, I couldn't stay at home anymore," Dorothy recalled.

So, when she saw a sign advertising a dishwasher position vacancy at Apple Cake Tea Room, "I come up here and I started washing dishes," she said.

"She is my first cousin's mother-in-law," Henry said of Dorothy. "I mentioned to my first cousin that I needed a dishwasher, and the next day, (Dorothy) showed up.

"I said 'What are you doing here?' She said, 'I came to

wash your dishes.'"

Dorothy continued in that position for six months until Henry "fixed the baking kitchen upstairs," the retiree recalled. "I went to work up there for 10 1/2 years."

Dorothy baked all the cakes, muffins, banana nut bread, chicken salad and brownie pies. "I just made it all," she said with a laugh. Her favorite thing to make was the banana nut bread.

"Then, I messed my shoulder up and had to have surgery," she added. "When I come back to work, I told Mary, 'I can't do that (baking) anymore.'

"Everything we bake is from scratch. I said, 'I can't stir anymore,' so I came downstairs to hostess (in 2000), and I've been hostess every since."

However, Dorothy also pitched in as waitress and cashier.

"You have to help out people when you work here," she said about her duties. "You just do

• At 3:46 p.m., Thursday, March 6, a complainant called Knox County Sheriff's Office North Precinct to file a report on a theft from a building that occurred at an assisted living center.

Complainant advised an unknown suspect took her wallet with the listed contents from her room at the assisted living center. Complainant advised she believes it was someone who has had access to her room.

• At 12:29 p.m., Wednesday, March 5, an officer spoke with the victim, who called in wanting to report a burglary of her home. She said an unknown suspect stole multiple old credit cards from her home, along with "documents" and coins. She did not know the time of the crime.

Victim said the cards are not active, but she thinks that her identity has been stolen and is now being involved in a criminal conspiracy that is being investigated by the FBI and other

federal agencies, with whom she also is in contact with, the victim said.

She wanted KCSO "to do a report of her calling in just to have the documentation with local law enforcement," the report stated. "I provided her with a report number."

• At 11:33 a.m., March 5, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report a vandalism from Planet Fitness, 11433 Kingston Pike.

The complainant, a manager, said the suspect "became irate when he was informed he could not use a massage chair as a day pass user," the report stated.

"The complainant stated the suspect walked to the chairs and pulled the remote and wires from the chairs. The complainant stated the suspect left the business after he caused the damage. Estimated value of damage was not listed.

# Towncalendar

• Forget Me Not Race, a loop from Planet Fitness in Village Green shopping center through Village Green subdivision in Farragut, is an in-person race also with a virtual option. The goal is to raise awareness and funds to eliminate dementia, a devastating disease. Come and join by racing for a cure and fighting in memory of legendary Lady Vols Basketball head coach Pat Summitt against this fierce opponent.

Fifteenth Annual Forget Me Not 5k/10k/1-Mile Race will be held starting at 8 a.m., Saturday, April 12: 8 a.m. for 10k; 8:30 a.m. for 5k; 8:30 a.m. for Mile.

The 5k is mostly flat and the 10k contains a couple of hills, just to keep things interesting. Registration and entry fee: \$30 for 5k, \$40 for 10k and \$25 for 1-Mile per participant.

The Forget Me Not Race benefits The Pat Summitt Clinic at The University of Tennessee Medical Center for research. (The race is hosted by volunteers, so all proceeds will be presented as a check to The Pat Summitt Foundation). Become an individual fundraiser when you register to participate in the race or create a fundraising page even if you aren't participating in the race.

Each participant will receive an official Forget Me Not Race T-shirt. Choose size when registering. We cannot guarantee preferred sizes if registering after April 6. Only registered participants will receive a shirt and be qualified for prizes.

While this race is in-person, packets will be provided that include shirts, coupons, additional give-a-ways and more. Participants can pick up their packets/shirts from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, April 11, at Little Joe's Pizza, 13100 Kingston Pike in Farragut.

Prizes will be awarded to top three place winners the 5K and 10K and participant awards for 1 Milers. For more information, contact Drew Degges at drewdegges19@gmail.com or Angela Wampler at angelawampler@gmail.com

• Farragut Lions Club Car Cruise-In will run from 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday, April 5, at Dickey's Barbecue Pit, 11483 Parkside Drive in Farragut.

"Bring your classic cars, vintage rides — or just your love for all things automotive," a joint Town/FLC press release stated.

"This is a fun-filled event for car enthusiasts and families alike."

a little bit of everything."

"She went to the store and did everything for me," Henry said of Dorothy. "She was my right arm. I could not have done it without her, and she's as honest as the day is long. If somebody owed me 3 cents out of the register and didn't pay me, she put the 3 cents in at the end of the day.

"A lot's happened in those years," the owner added. "We've seen Farragut change. We were the only place here, across the street from the Pilot, when we opened over here."

"When I first came to work here, there was nothing but one filling station," Dorothy said.

Now "all the trees were taken down. It became very, very commercial," Henry added.

Dorothy decided to stay those 35-plus years because "I'm the type of person that when I get a job, I don't want to have to go hunt another one."

At the tea room, "You meet a lot of people, and in all these years I have really acquired a lot of friends," she said. "And, I just like to work here."

Working with Henry, "her and I got along real well," Dorothy said. "I couldn't work for anybody any better. She's good to her customers and her employees.

"She's there for you if you need her," she added about Henry. "I'd still be working if it wasn't for my hip."

Her fondest memories revolve around "just being around all the employees because they ranged from 18 to 35," she said. "I was kind of like a momma to them.

"They all called me granny."

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# Expect the Unexpected



Robbie, Jamie, & Del

The Blinds & More team brings a new definition to the term “local,” creating one-of-a-kind spaces with thoughtful attention to detail and design.



Jamie and her team have been exceptional to work with. We ordered custom draperies, custom bedding, motorized shades and custom window treatments. The quality of the product, attention to detail and the professional installation get 5 stars!! Even more impressive has been the great communication and honesty that you won't find in many other companies out there. Highly recommended!!

– Anne Marie Wolsey



Jamie & Ann Marie

“You know, even after two decades designing custom window treatments, I’ve discovered that no two projects are ever the same,” says Jamie Kidd, founder and co-owner of Blinds & More E. TN. “I love what I do, but I also love the fact that no project is ever what you expect. Embracing the unexpected is truly the beauty of design.”

Blinds & More E. TN is a true multi-generational family business specializing in “All Things Window.” From soft window treatments - which include draperies, roman shades, cornices and valances - to your functional window treatments such as blinds, shutters, roller and cellular shades, Blinds & More has all your window treatment needs covered. Everyone in the family has a role in the process, from initial meeting to project completion. Jamie meets with the client for the initial design consultation. Robbie, her husband and co-owner, oversees the company’s commercial and outdoor projects, and Del, their oldest son - who recently joined them after 10 years of service in the Air Force - oversees installation of all projects. Together, exceptional service is the family standard.

In a recent conversation with Jamie, she recounted one of her favorite projects out in Rarity Bay that took her company in some unexpected directions. “We were brought in to address a privacy issue,” she says. “These days, newer larger homes are often situated in close proximity to each other and feature expansive windows, which was the case there. We started the project by designing and installing motorized shades throughout the home that provided the client with the privacy and light control she needed.”

With initial privacy and light control concerns addressed, this “opened the door” to soft treatment needs in other rooms of the home. The client’s beautiful master bedroom suite needed not only some additional privacy but also a finishing touch that functional window treatments alone could not achieve. “Sometimes you just need to add soft elements to a room to create that extra warmth and sophistication that many of my clients are looking for today.” So, elegant draperies were designed and installed providing both the privacy and sophistication the client desired. Once the draperies were installed, one of Jamie’s favorite design opportunities arose, Custom Bedding. “The custom bedding, in this instance, duvet cover, pillow shams and decorative pillows were the finishing touches, or lipstick as I jokingly tell my clients, for an already gorgeous room” Jamie says.

But the project didn’t end there. Now pleased with the master bedroom, the client moved to the kitchen and dining room, where Jamie again encountered large, tall and unusually wide windows. With the motorized roller shades already addressing privacy and light control, both areas needed a “bit of softening,” as Jamie puts it. “We further refined our previous design by installing custom valances over our motorized shades in the kitchen and extra-long draperies in the dining room. Both areas required an unusual degree of precision and craftsmanship. Fortunately, we collaborate with a local workroom that handles all of our custom soft treatments. This partnership ensures a personal touch, as everything is locally made, and definitely contributes to the envisioned final design. This project and the client will always be one of my favorites. We all worked together and very hard to make the clients vision come to life.” Jamie said.

“So, can window treatments be unexpected and get tricky? Absolutely. Can the process get complicated? Absolutely, but we are blessed to work with many lovely homeowners who trust us with their homes and trust we will make the process as seamless as possible. We promise to get the job done right and are always ready to promptly respond to any client needs, even the unexpected ones.”



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# fromtheTown byWendySmith

## Parks & Rec upcoming events, history keys new Town column

A new monthly column from the Town of Farragut begins this week right here.

Column writer Wendy Smith manages the Town of Farragut communications department.

She keeps the community informed about meetings, road and park projects, Town services and special events through the Town of Farragut website and in farragutpress among local print and online publications, social media and traditional media.

Farragut Parks & Rec offers something for everyone

When I joined the Town of Farragut staff in early 2017, the Parks & Rec Department was squirreled away in a second-floor corner of Town Hall. Several employees shared one space – creative and energetic people who dreamed of being able to offer more.

At the time, a variety of athletic programs and special events were held at Farragut’s four parks, but indoor programming was limited by a lack of space. Town Hall had a Community Room, but it wasn’t ideal for recreation.

This changed in early 2020 when the Town partnered with Knox County to buy the former Faith Lutheran Church to be the Farragut Community Center and West Knox Senior Center. The Parks & Rec staff gained a gymnasium, an Assembly Hall (the former sanctuary) and two classrooms to program.

Almost as soon as the Community Center doors opened, they closed due to Covid. It was a frustrating time for staff, who were chomping at the bit to provide classes and

gym programs. Socially-distant activities eventually gave way to a steady stream of gym sports and exercise and craft classes.

Today, the Community Center lives up to the vision of the elected leaders and staff who dreamed of it for years before it became reality.

A new season of programs and events begins Tuesday, April 1, and offers something for all ages and interests.

Adult classes like Sourdough for Beginners and Zumba, and youth programs like Afterschool Art, Home-school PE and Wiggle, Giggle and Go (for preschoolers) keep the Community Center busy all day. Athletic programs in the gym have expanded this spring to include Drop-in Dodgeball.

New programs and events extend beyond the Community Center. Farragut Parks & Rec will celebrate Bike Week with three events: A Learn-to-Ride Workshop for kids is May 12, and Bike Maintenance 101 on May 14 offers the basics of caring for a bicycle. Two Ride-Along events on Farragut greenways, May 16 and 17, are suitable for the whole family.

New events also are on the



Photo courtesy of Town of Farragut

Shamrock Ball, once held at Farragut High School, is now hosted in Farragut Community Center.

spring schedule. A Visit Farragut and Parks & Rec partnership, Chalk the Plaza, is May 31 at Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza. Participants compete in a chalk art competition, and non-competitors can enjoy food trucks, vendors and a Kids’ Zone.

Farragut’s Kid Try-Athlon, June 7 at McFee Park, allows kids to bike, run and splash their way across the finish line.

(Find more info and register for these and other programs and events at townoffarragut.org/register.)

In the second half of 2024, Parks & Rec had an average of 991 program participants per month. This number is a testament to the enthusiasm of the staff and the amazing Farragut Community Center.

If you haven’t seen it for yourself, stop by during busi-

ness hours (from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and from 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays).

Pick up a Spring Program Guide and give a staff member a pat on the back. The guide also is available online at townoffarragut.org under “Farragut News.” Follow Farragut Parks & Rec on Facebook and Instagram for more info.



I WORKED HARD MY ENTIRE CAREER TO MAKE SURE THAT I CAN



# lettertotheeditor

editor@farragutpress.com

## T-Creek greenway extension: respect property rights

March 15, 2025, to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Farragut:

This is an open letter to each of you and to the residents of Farragut regarding the recent vote to cut the Turkey Creek Multimodal Improvement project from the Town budget.

I support this project being removed from the budget. As currently defined, it is simply too expensive, injurious to real property and property rights of multiple Farragut property owners and would include undefined legal expenses to prevail on the Town's claim of eminent domain.

Extending the greenway along this section of Turkey Creek Road is not the right choice. I live in Brixworth subdivision and use the Turkey Creek trail regularly, including the section that ends at the western end of Brixworth.

I've often wondered why this trail ends where it does, and why it was not extended all the way through Brixworth as part of the original platting and construction of this subdivision. The general direction of the trail could easily be directed to the upper portion of the hill rather than down towards street level; why was that not done as part of the original Brixworth platting? Why is that not an option now?

Information as to how and why it ends where it does may help me and many others understand the alternatives available to us now, over 20 years after construction.

Further, I must take note of a trail stub that was constructed in Sheffield off of Lakehurst Lane near the HOA clubhouse. The placement and general direction of this trail stub appears that it could have been intended to connect with the Turkey Creek trail via a route

behind the homes along Turkey Creek. What was the Town of Farragut Strategic Plan for this trail when Sheffield was constructed?

As above for the Brixworth section of the trail, information regarding how and why this trail stub was constructed, and future plans for connectivity, would help in understanding options available to us today.

In January 2023, years after completion of Brixworth and Sheffield and the trail stubs mentioned above, the Town of Farragut approved a contract to study options for extending this trail. Why was this necessary? Did the Town not have available information on options, or a strategic direction, from the extensive work required and completed on those two developments?

Regarding connectivity, it is a fine concept, and the walking trails around Farragut are clearly a fine feature of the Town. But resources are finite and must be used carefully. Property rights must also be respected. Plans change; we all understand that.

Perhaps the strategy from 10 or 20 years ago is not feasible today, or other priorities should now prevail. I would submit there is another option that has not received proper consideration, and that is to leave the trail as it is today.

There are many stubs throughout the trail system, most of which will never be further extended because another development was constructed where a trail extension might have gone. Has the town actively considered this?

I will also point out that connectivity is already available from the Turkey Creek trail through Sheffield to Virtue Road and the Little Turkey

Creek trail, by means of the trail behind Sailview subdivision to Banbury and Black Powder Road.

While there is no trail or sidewalk on these two roads (an opportunity for the Town), these are quiet secondary streets friendly to walkers and bicyclists. This project should be permanently removed from the town budget and list of projects.

~ Brian Gill, Farragut

## Vision Plan

From page 1A

Commission meeting and the plan was taken back to the Planning Commission on June 20, 2024, for a recommendation to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

"The staff presented the plan as an ordinance to enhance the level of support for the concepts in the plan and to be consistent with how the Architectural Design Standards were adopted and how the Mixed-Use Town Center area has been treated, from a regulatory perspective, since 2015."

However, "Some concerns were raised about approving the plan as an ordinance and the Planning Commission rec-

ommended postponement and for the staff to consult further with the Town attorney," Shiple said.

Attorney Tom Hale did not support approving the plan as an ordinance, but did advise it should be a resolution.

Then on Sept. 26, 2024, Shiple said Town staff conducted a workshop with the Board to review land use-related plans, how they are applied in the Town and how the current Comprehensive Land Use Plan has been applied, specifically to the MUTC.

"The primary purpose of that workshop was to obtain feedback from the Board in terms of what they may be comfortable with to express support for the Plan," he said.



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## Tennova Ortho, Foot-Ankle Turkey Creek celebrate

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
 tcheek@farragutpress.com

Tennova Healthcare celebrated two relatively new additions to its community care.

It cut the ribbon on Tennova Orthopedics Turkey Creek and Tennova Foot and Ankle Turkey Creek in Physicians Plaza, 10800 Parkside Drive Suite 207 beside Turkey Creek Medical Center, Wednesday, March 12. They actually opened last December.

"This is a culmination of a lot of work that we've been doing in the orthopedic space," said Tony Benton, CEO of Tennova Healthcare East Market. "Our trauma program has been a very important part of our growth recently."

"We've seen dramatic growth in those different areas," he added. "We really started our orthopedics program with Dr. (Charles Daniel) Benson.

"I always like doctors who push us and we're not pulling along," Benton said. "... Dr. Benson really helped to jumpstart our orthopedics program, and this is an evolution of the growth that we've seen."

"We're very excited about this, not just being a clinic space but also what we're

doing here from a trauma standpoint, a trauma program," Benson said. "We think that's going to be a huge asset to the community.

"Elective orthopedics is also a big space in the Knoxville market," the doctor added. "There are a lot of people here, and we're very excited about the team."

Tennova Orthopedic is led by Tonya DeGuira, senior administrator; Robin Cumbie, director; and Kerry Kirby, office manager.

"Tennova Healthcare is thrilled to open our newest clinic, Tennova Orthopedics," said Rylee Sawyer, Marketing coordinator for Tennova Healthcare's East Tennessee Market. "With the addition of more providers and a newly designed facility, we are able to expand orthopedic services for the community.

This clinic also features Dr. Justin Jones in orthopedics.

These providers treat men, women and children ages 6 months and older, Sawyer said.

"We can usually offer same-day appointments," she added.

"Tennova Orthopedics Turkey Creek provides a wide range of orthopedic services and treatments that are close



Tammy Cheek

Tennova Healthcare celebrated a ribbon-cutting for Tennova Orthopedics Turkey Creek and Tennova Foot and Ankle Turkey Creek, 10800 Parkside Drive Suite 207, Wednesday, March 12. The clinics opened last December. On hand were orthopedics providers Dr. Charles Daniel Benson, fourth from left, and Dr. Justin Jones, with scissors; Tennova Healthcare East Market CEO Tony Benton, back row; various staff; and Ashleigh Christian, far right, Knoxville Chamber of Commerce.

to home for patients."

In choosing a location, "Tennova Orthopedics experienced rapid growth, outgrowing their previous location in less than two years," Sawyer said.

Tennova Foot and Ankle is led by Brent Harvin, D.P.M.

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## 'Painting' Northshore ribbon cut

Noah Corbett (with scissors), Sherwin-Williams manager, prepares to cut the ribbon on the opening of the Sherwin-Williams store, 909 Osprey Point Lane, off Northshore Drive, during a Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce-sponsored event Wednesday, Feb. 26. Joining him are Sherwin-Williams staff, Ruben Rivera, front row second from left; Yair Galvez, third from left; Wilder Vaughn, fourth from left; Jordan Trivette, second from right in front; Marisa Hall, store support manager, front row, far right; and Chamber members.

Photos by Tammy Cheek



## Roll-Em-Up Taquitos cuts ribbon

Roll-Em-Up Taquitos, 117 Lovell Road, celebrated its opening with a Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce-sponsored ribbon cutting Wednesday, March 5. On hand to cut the ribbon were Jinal Patel (right with scissors), co-owner and wife of Nirav Patel; co-owner Nirav Patel (second from right); and his brother-in-law, co-owner Nick Patel, far right, along with Nirav's mother, Mina Patel (with scissors, left), Alisha Patel (second from left) and Chamber members.

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Photos by Tammy Cheek

## Biz Mixer quartet mingle

**Left:** Fiona Fox, left, owner of Saucy Foxy, 9051 Executive Park Drive in Knoxville, chats with Kat Mahn, owner of Kat's Lash Lounge and Wax Studio, 11410 Kingston Pike in Farragut, during a Shop Farragut BIZ Mixer, which took place in Farragut Community Center Tuesday, Feb. 25. **Above:** Joel Ash, left, owner of Ash Chiropractic & Wellness, 12752 Kingston Pike in Farragut, chats with Brian Walker, sales agent with Rilynn Insurance Services, Farragut, during the Mixer.



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## Farragut Primary School's Career Day

Farragut Primary School second-graders got an early start looking at career choices during Career Day in the FPS gymnasium Friday, March 14.

More than 30 volunteers from the community set up booths in the gym, where students could interact and learn about what they might want to be when they grow up, according to Ashley Phillips, school counselor.

"I liked that I got to ask questions about how things worked," second-grader Meredith Young said. "I really liked looking in the ear on the (ENT) doctor's screen."

"It was fun getting things to bring home. I already used the new stethoscope I got from Career Day," she added.

One child, Chesley Mowry, had an unexpected highlight when she saw her father, U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Alex Mowry, USA 278th Troop D, who had been away on duty, standing by a military truck on school grounds.

Walking with her class, Chelsey's face lit up when saw her dad — and she ran into his arms. "I travel a lot during the week," Mowry said. (See photos, page 1A)

"I think he only came because I'm celebrating my birthday," exclaimed Chesley, 7, who also has a sister, Emma, 8.

Among the businesses and agencies represented at Career Day were: Oak Ridge National Laboratories, Y12 Federal Credit Union, Bechtel, Regal Cinemas, Fresh Impressions, Tennessee State Troopers, Farragut ENT & Allergy, Primient, FedEx Express Airlines, Turkey Creek Medical Center, Roane County Medical Center, Crunchy Mama Box and Innocrate by IACMI.



Tammy Cheek  
Kayla Hughes, family nurse practitioner



Submitted by Ashley Phillips  
Dr. Rhett Ketschke with students



Tammy Cheek  
Sophia Harrison, left, and Brookie Hayman



Tammy Cheek  
Dr. Rhett Ketschke with a student only identified as Jason



Submitted by Ashley Phillips  
Connor Knox (yellow shirt) and a friend at the Bechtel booth



Submitted by Ashley Phillips  
Thomas Proffen of ORNL (blue shirt) with a student



Submitted by Ashley Phillips  
Porter LaRue of Regal Cinemas informs a pair of students



Tammy Cheek  
Nora Lynch, left, and Melaina Eskew



Submitted by Ashley Phillips  
Sophia Harrison, left, and Brookton Hayman listen to Realtor Chris Ball of Keller Williams Realty



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## Tied for 3rd in state, BHS girls win half vs super Bradley



BHS's Natalya Hodge was a Class 4A Miss Hoops Finalist.

**STAFF REPORTS**  
 editor@farragutpress.com

**MURFREESBORO** — Bearden High School's girls proved to be the better basketball team versus two-time defending Division I-4A state champ Bradley Central for an entire 16 minutes, at least on the scoreboard, taking a 23-21 halftime lead against the mighty Bearettes in the Class 4A State Tournament semifinals.

Of course, it didn't last, as Bradley woke up in the second half and easily won 66-39

Friday night, March 14, in Middle Tennessee State University's Murphy Center.

And while the Bearettes went on to cruise past Bartlett and capture the program's third straight 4A state crown (35-1), Bearden's season of dominance in District 4-4A, while proving to be alongside Oak Ridge as the two best 4A teams in East Tennessee, saw Justin Underwood's girls finish tied for third place at state with a final 33-6 record.

**Bearden 59 Whitehaven 24**  
 Smothering defense got the Lady Bull-

dogs out of the gate quickly in the state quarterfinal Thursday night, March 13, drilling Whitehaven 59-24.

Offensively, Tennessee 4A Miss Basketball Finalist Natalya Hodge (winner announced after deadline Tuesday, March 18), star junior point guard, led Bearden in scoring, once again, with a game-high 19 points.

Kendall Anne Murphy, BHS senior wing, added 17 points and a co-team high

**See THIRD IN STATE on Page 2B**

## Dramatic Soccer Ads victory at Knox West with late score, pk stop



**(Above)** Farragut's Johnny Moreno (6) celebrates with teammates what turned out to be the game-winning goal late in the match, as the Soccer Ads went on the road to edge Knox West 2-1 Tuesday, March 11. **(Near left)** FHS goalkeeper Matthew Burney (green top) is congratulated by a number of teammates a few moments after stopping a Runnin' Rebels penalty kick, which prevented a second West goal. **(Far left)** Looking to advance the ball down the pitch past some KWHS players is Admiral Franklin Von Hagen (11).

Photos courtesy of Carlos Reveiz/crfoto.com

## Biggest softball rivals go down as FHS takes control in district

### Morrison, Raby, freshman on fire as Lady Ads beat BHS, go to 4-0 in 4-4A

**BILL HOWARD**  
 Correspondent

When Bearden High School's softball team visited District 4-4A rival Farragut Thursday, March 13, the Lady Bulldogs quickly took a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning

After that, it was all Lady Admirals. FHS tied it in their half of the first, then put up four in the second and five more in the sixth. The result was a 12-4 Farragut win that improved its record to 9-2-1, 4-0 in district.

"(Bearden's Megan) Lawson hit that ball out (two-run home run in the first) and that kind of woke us up — and we responded," FHS head coach Nick Green said.

"Our team showed a lot of resilience and determination," BHS head coach Kenneth Boles said. "Even though the outcome wasn't what you wanted, games like these build character and make the team stronger for the next challenge."

Elsa Morrison, standout senior shortstop and University of Tennessee signee, hit a two-run triple for FHS in the first, then scored on a throwing error to tie the game.

In the second inning, Farragut catcher Rylee

Raby's two-run home run followed Logan Jameson's RBI single.

Morrison's fourth homer of the season made it 7-3 Farragut.

After BHS scored a run in the fifth, the Lady Admirals blew it open in the bottom of the sixth, starting with Taylor Albright's triple. She then scored on an error.

Two batters later, Raby hit her second home run of the day, a three-run shot to center making it 11-4.

Alexa Shrader completed the scoring with an RBI double.

Hallie Grace Johnson went the distance for Farragut on the mound, as the sophomore gave up five hits and two earned runs. She fanned 11 to improve her record to 5-0-1.

Jameson, only a freshman, Raby, a sophomore, and Morrison combined for 10 hits in 11 at-bats with nine RBI.

"The top of the lineup had an exceptional night," Green said.

The Lady Ads travel to Chattanooga for Wildcat Classic Friday and Saturday, March 21-22.



Green

### Seven-run bottom 3rd fuels 13-3 run rule Farragut home win versus HVA

**BILL HOWARD**  
 Correspondent

A cardinal rule in baseball or softball is: don't give up the big inning.

Hardin Valley Academy's softball team violated the rule Tuesday, March 11, at Farragut High School's Bellamy Field, and the Lady Admirals made their rival pay.

After yielding three runs in the top of the second inning to fall behind 3-2, FHS erupted for seven in the bottom of the third to lead 9-3.

The final was a 13-3 run-ruled, District 4-4A win for Farragut, which improved its record to 7-2-1, 3-0 District.

"They scored early; they actually had the lead," Lady Admirals skipper Nick Green said. "I started my freshman, Taylor Wolfram, gave her an opportunity to get some experience."

Wolfram's two innings yielded the three runs, all earned. She gave up six hits.

"I told her her start wasn't bad," Green said. "If we put that seven up earlier in the game, I'd probably let Wolfram go a little bit longer."

The seven third-inning runs gave the Lady Admirals all the scoring they'd need.

A single by Logan Jameson, a double by Rylee Raby and an intentional walk to Elsa Morrison loaded the bases with no outs. Hallie Grace Johnson, who had replaced Wolfram on the

**See FHS RUN RULES on Page 2B**

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# A switch: Mains now leads KCHS boys hoops

## STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

**KNOXVILLE** — Knoxville Catholic High School didn't have to look far before announcing Travis Mains as its new boys basketball head coach last week.

Mains led the KCHS Lady Irish to back-to-back Division II-AA state titles in 2022-23 and 2023-24 in his five seasons as head coach, while also guiding the Catholic girls to the state title game in 2021 and state semifinal berths in 2022 and earlier this month.

Mains' overall record with the KCHS girls was 102-59, and stands at 235-112 overall as a high school head coach.

A native of Gray in Upper East Tennessee near Johnson City, Mains' coaching experience includes his alma mater, Daniel Boone High School from 2013 through 2018, where he led the girls' varsity team



File photo

Then Knoxville Catholic Lady Irish head coach Travis Mains held the state championship gold ball trophy after winning the 2023-24 Division II-AA crown with then senior wing Syndey Mains (No. 24, his daughter and tourney MVP) and other family members, and then senior guard Caroline Krueger (12) and her parents.

to their first-ever Division AAA State Tournament appearance. Mains compiled an overall record there of 133-63.

In his last season, the Blazers finished with a record of 30-5. He then stepped away to coach his daughter — soon-to-be 2024 Tennessee Miss Basketball Sydney Mains at KCHS — at the travel ball level.

His experience also includes time as an assistant for the boys' high school programs

at Sullivan South and Daniel Boone.

Mains and his wife, Missey Mains, both played basketball at King University, where Travis led his team to the NAIA National Tournament in 1998.

He finished his playing career at King ranked 11th all-time in scoring while amassing more than 500 rebounds. Mains also was an Honorable Mention All-American in his final season with the Tornado.

# Hames has big shoes to fill as new Webb volleyball boss

## STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

**KNOXVILLE** — A lot of Webb School of Knoxville volleyball standouts will have a huge task if ever trying to duplicate the success former Lady Spartans star Nicklin Hames enjoyed from the fall of 2014 through her senior season, named Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year for 2017-2018 while also garnering Under Armour First-Team All-American honors.

All of this while helping Webb claim five consecutive Division II-A state crowns.

However, Hames has her own huge shoes to fill as new Lady Spartans volleyball head coach: that's because of her mother's success, Chris Hames, who led her daughter and the other Lady Spartans through that amazing state title streak.

This four-time state tournament MVP — who also was selected as a starter for the United States Girls Youth National Team that competed at the 2017 FIVB Girls' U18 World Championship in Argentina — enjoyed a stellar major college playing career for national power Nebraska.

Now its time to teach others how it's done.

"Webb School of Knoxville holds a special place in my heart, and I'm eager to give back to the program that helped shape me both as a player and a person," said Hames, who earned a bachelor's degree in child youth and family studies with a minor in psychology at Nebraska while also collecting Academic All-Big Ten and Nebraska Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll kudos throughout her collegiate playing career. "I'm looking forward to working with these talented young women and building something special together."

"I truly believe that we have hired the premier young coach in the area and that exciting times lie ahead for the program under her leadership," Webb athletics director Dan Gill said.



Hames

*"(Bearden's Megan) Lawson hit that ball out (two-run home run in the first inning) and that kind of woke us up — and we responded,"*

-FHS head coach Nick Green

## FHS run rules

From page 1B

mound, then singled to score Jameson.

A walk to Audrey Ginel, which brought in Raby, was followed by a two-run single by Callie Brown, which scored Morrison and Johnson. Taylor Albright then roped a two-run double that brought in Ginel and Brown.

Later, with two outs, Amelie Dorset singled to score Al-

bright, making it 9-3.

Johnson, meanwhile, shut down HVA hitters the final three innings, giving up only one hit while striking out four. Her record improved to 5-0-1.

"It was a district game, so at that point (down 3-2), I made the switch and brought in Hallie Grace," Green said. "The next inning we scored a bunch of runs"

The Lady Admirals' four-run fifth gave them a 10-run lead that invoked the run-rule.

## Third in state

From page 1B

eight rebounds, while senior forward Aisha Patel scored 10 with eight rebounds and three blocked shots.

Junior guard Emma Rainey finished with eight points for BHS.

The Lady Bulldogs' defense allowed just seven second-half points to the Memphis school — just two in the third frame.

Bearden held huge advantages in points off turnovers (20 versus 6, and fastbreak points (17 versus 2).

Whitehaven finished its sea-

son with a 19-9 record.

### First half versus Bradley

Against Bradley Central, the Lady Bulldogs built a 15-9 lead after the first quarter — with Hodge nailing a trio of three-point jumpers in the first eight minutes, scoring 12 of the 15 Bearden points — before holding on to its two-point halftime edge, which preceded the tough second-half.

### Overall versus Bearettes

Hodge ended up scoring a team-high 21 points while adding seven rebounds.

Murphy added 12 points and raked down a team co-leading 10 boards.

Patel added 10 rebounds to go with a free throw.

As a team, the Lady Bulldogs made just 12 of 53 shots.

The Bearettes held a huge 48-10 scoring edge in the paint (inside) while finishing with an 18-6 advantage in second-chance points, along with a 19-2 bulge in points off of turnovers.

Fast-break baskets also favored Bradley (22 versus 7).

BCHS star junior forward Kimora Fields, tourney MVP for the second time in three years and also a Miss Basketball Finalist, had a game-high in points, 27, and rebounds, 13.

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## Future defenders of our nation, Class of '25

FHS Military Day has 7 recognized

TAMMY CHEEK

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

Seven Farragut High School graduates and current students have sworn their oaths to serve their country.

To honor them, the school held a Military Signing Day in the school library Thursday morning, March 13.

Junior Ethan Giles Levy and senior Andrew Keely have joined the U.S. Army National Guard while junior Kat Lewis joined the Army Reserves and senior Isaiah Stafford-Hedge joined the Army.

Seniors Ruby Manning and David Mills joined the U.S. Navy and senior Isaac Vann joined the U.S. Marine Corps.

"Near and dear to my heart, and near and dear to every American's heart, should be the young men and young women who decide to say 'I'm going to put my name on the dotted line, I'm going to go through training, I'm going to wear the uniform and I'm going to serve our country,'" said FHS principal Dr. John Bartlett, a U.S. Marine Reservist. "They do so knowing that their country can call on them to put them in harm's way while they are wearing that uniform."



Tammy Cheek

Farragut High School students who recently joined the military are, front row from left, At Kat Lewis, U.S. Army Reserve; Ruby Manning, U.S. Navy; Isaiah Stafford-Hedge, U.S. Army; and Isaac Vann, U.S. Marine Corps. Back row are Ethan Giles-Levy, Army National Guard; Andrew Keely, U.S. Army Guard; and David Mills, U.S. Navy.

However, "There are benefits to that," he said. "They are going to get some things that most young people won't get without going in the military.

"But they're putting their lives on the line from day one and they know that," Bartlett added. "And, it's honorable service.

"It's honorable to say, 'Hey, I'm here to serve others.' And, if there's anything we can do as a school, that we can do as a country, it is to instill the heart

of service into our young people. So, I'm very, very proud of our students today. I'm very

See FHS-MILITARY on Page 4B



Tammy Cheek

With roughly 400 Farragut Intermediate School third-graders watching, 20 of their classmates won the school's Arbor Day essay contest and were recognized during an Arbor Day celebration at the school Wednesday, March 12. Alongside FIS administrators and the school's third-grade teachers helping make the recognition festive is Town of Farragut Mayor Ron Williams.

## Top essays, FIS 3rd-Grade Arbor Day, are twenty

TAMMY CHEEK

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

About 420 Farragut Intermediate School third-graders learned about the importance of trees and wrote essays on the subject as part of Town of Farragut's Arbor Day Celebration, which took place at FIS Wednesday morning, March 12.

In return, Farragut Mayor Ron Williams signed a proclamation declaring Saturday, March 15, as Arbor Day during Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen's meeting Thursday evening, March 13.

One student from each of the 20 third-grade classes was chosen as an essay contest winner

Those winning essays were displayed on a paper "tree" in Farragut Community Center. Winners were Rosie Ru-

See FIS-ARBOR DAY on Page 7B

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

• **Farragut High School's World Cultures Night 2025, a night to celebrate** all the cultures of the world, runs from 6 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, March 27, in FHS Commons. All families from all Farragut schools are welcome.

• **Covenant Health Knoxville Marathon organizers are calling for volunteers** to help with the Saturday-Sunday, April 5-6, race weekend.

Race officials specifically are looking for volunteers to act as course monitors, staff the Goody's Health & Fitness Expo on Saturday, at the finish line for all races and at water stations during the Sunday races.

Volunteers should complete online registration at [knoxvillemarathon.com/volunteer-spectators](http://knoxvillemarathon.com/volunteer-spectators) and choose the day, time and task that best suits their individual or group preferences. Volunteers are invited to attend the Volunteer Appreciation Party starting at 6 p.m., Thursday, April 17, at Calhoun's on the River.

• **Concerts For Our Own is partnering with Yee-Haw Brewing Company to present the Brewnolence Concert Series**, a three-show lineup blending great music,

craft beer and community giving. Held at the Yee-Haw Knoxville Stage, 745 N. Broadway in Knoxville, this exciting series kicks off at 7:30 p.m., Monday, April 7, with The Ultimate Garth Brooks Tribute featuring Shawn Gerhard, "promising an unforgettable night of high-energy entertainment for a great cause," a Yee-Haw press release stated.

Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door, with a three-show series pass \$75.

Other concert dates are May 8, The Highwaymen Show – American Outlaw Tribute, and Sept. 25 – Exodus – A Tribute to Bob Marley.

• **Knoxville Bar Association and Legal Aid of East Tennessee are offering local veterans an in-person, free Legal Advice Clinic** from noon to 2 p.m., Wednesday, April 9, in Knox County Public Defender's Community Law Office, 1101 Liberty St. in Knoxville.

Veterans who are not able to attend the clinic in person are encouraged to continue to use the telephone clinic option. For this, pre-registration is required. Call Legal Aid of East Tennessee at 865-637-0484 to pre-register.

This is a general advice clinic with a wide variety of legal issues, including family law, landlord/tenant, bankruptcy, criminal defense, consumer protection, contract disputes, child support and personal injury, among other issues.

This is an advice-only clinic — no wills are drafted nor legal work performed.

• **First Presbyterian Church of Knoxville, 620 State St., is hosting Dr. Amy-Jill Levine**, a renowned Jewish New Testament scholar, to speak from 7 to 9 p.m., Saturday, April 5, in the church sanctuary. A reception follows in Fellowship Hall.

Her lecture, titled "Jesus and Judaism: The Connection Matters," will explore how understanding Jesus within his Jewish context brings new meaning to His piety, politics and parables.

The lecture is free and open to the public, but attendees must register in advance at [firstpres.rsvp](http://firstpres.rsvp).

Free parking is available on-site or in the State Street Garage. For more information, contact First Presbyterian Church at 865-546-2531 or visit [www.fpcknox.org](http://www.fpcknox.org).

## You ready for a new dog? How to properly prepare

**Q:** We haven't had a pet in a few years, and I think our family is finally ready. The kids really want a dog, and they are getting old enough to help. We welcome your thoughts and suggestions. P.W., Farragut

**A:** Congratulations! Having a family discussion about this decision is wise, as there is much to consider before bringing a new pet into your home.

First, consider the lifestyle of your family. Do you want a dog to run or hike with you or simply snuggle on the couch? Those thoughts may help you decide what type of dog would fit best into your family.

You didn't mention the ages of your children. Are they old enough and willing to help with brushing and grooming? Long-haired dogs require frequent brushing to avoid tangles and mats. Or would you want to take him/her to a groomer every four to six weeks?

Or would a short-haired dog be a better fit for your family?

Are you considering a puppy or an adult dog? Adult dogs can make great pets, as they are often already house trained and out of the "chewing" stage. Pups are always adorable, but please consider your work schedule and time needed for house-training. Is someone home for frequent walks and bathroom breaks, or are you able to take your pet to work? Do you have a baby gate and/or crate available to help with house training? Do you already have a fence in place?

Spring can be a great time to bring a new puppy or dog into the house. The weather is warmer, making it easier to involve everyone with walks and bathroom breaks. Ideally, a new pet is brought into your home when everything is as stable and normal as possible, and travel is not planned in the near future. It can be quite difficult for a puppy or an adult dog to be separated from their new family if you have a vacation planned soon and he/she must be boarded.

Lastly, your house should be puppy-proofed before your pet's arrival. Food, bowls, toys and blankets should all be ready for his/her arrival. Best of luck to you and your family.

*If you have questions about your pet, you may e-mail Dr. Myers at [lenoicityac@gmail.com](mailto:lenoicityac@gmail.com)*



Dr. Stephanie Myers  
**Ask the Vet**

## FHS-military

From page 3B

proud of your young men and women who say, 'Hey, this idea of serving others, serving our nation and keeping our country safe and secure,' I'm very proud of that.

Also praising the previous generation, "I'm very proud that you (students) had this instilled in you by your parents and hopefully being reinforced by your school," Bartlett said.

He explained there was no actual document for the students to sign because they already signed with their respective branch and took the oath.

"They're just ready to ship off to basic training," he said.

Along with joining the Army National Guard, Levy and Keely will receive 100 percent tuition assistance in college all the way up to a master's degree.

Keely, who will start as a private first class, is going to be a 68 Whiskey combat medic, and Levy, also a private first class, will be a 13 Bravo crewmember.

While joining the Guard was not his first option, Levy said he wanted to join the Marines.

"But I just wanted to join as quickly as possible and this was just the best route," he said. He plans to do active duty after finishing his contract with the National Guard.

"The Army Guard plays a unique roll," Bartlett said. "Not only are they serving their country as Army Reservists, but they serve our state in natural disasters or any time the state calls on them."

Lewis, who enlisted as a private first class, will join the 68 Whiskey as a combat medic under the split option program and will be going to basic training this summer. Once she graduates from FHS, she will get medical training.

Stafford-Hedge, 19, "is going to be a 91 Bravo in the Army," Army SSgt. Carlos Cuebas said. "That's a wheel vehicle mechanic. He's going to be leaving off in May. Once he gets out, he will be a full-time veteran at 22 years of age. He'll have veteran benefits.

"The biggest thing, when he came to me, he said he wanted something he could do with his hands, something that could certify him a trade to last his entire life," the staff sergeant added about Stafford-Hedge.

"When I was graduating

high school in December, I was looking at going to a trade school," Stafford-Hedge said.

However, he added all the jobs required apprenticeships with two- to five-years experience to be hired, so he looked at the Army.

"I had about a 35- to 40-minute phone call with my recruiter and ... I told him the 95 Bravo (vehicle mechanic) sounded the best to me," the graduated senior said.

"Ruby and David have worn their behinds out to get where they are now," Navy Gunnery Sgt. Craig Cooper said of Manning and Mills. "They stayed in ROTC their entire time in high school. They looked toward going into the military, talked about college for a little bit.

"They're both going to do great things," he added.

"Every since I went into ROTC, it just helped me go through the path I wanted to do: to bettering myself and help people," said Manning, who plans to be an aviation handler on the flight deck.

About being a Marine, "one of the most defining moments in my life was when I got off the bus at Paris Island (boot camp for Marines) and had to stand on the yellow footprints," Bartlett told Vann.

## The Big Game Show, RCF fundraiser, April 17

The Rotary Club of Farragut Foundation invites everyone to The Big Game Show from 6:30 to 9 p.m., Thursday, April 17, in Fox Den Country Club, 12284 North Fox Den Drive. "The Big Game Show is a series of games similar to the kinds you see on television that are led by a professional host and involve contestants and the entire audience," an RCF press release stated. "It is a lively, fun, high-tempo game show that involves everyone. ..."

Table sponsorships (\$1,750) "include a buffet dinner for eight, silent auction, cash bar and a variety of entertaining ... games," the release stated. "Single tickets (\$100) are limited. Proceeds go towards worthy service projects in East Tennessee." For tickets or more information, visit [farragutrotary.my.canva.site](http://farragutrotary.my.canva.site).

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# Total Town public schools effort, K-12: 2nd Shared Visions & Empty Bowls

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

The community can support Farragut schools' art students while helping feed the hungry at the same time.

All four Farragut schools have joined efforts to host their 2nd Annual Shared Visions & Empty Bowls, which will take place starting with the Empty Bowls segment from 4:30 to 6 p.m., Monday, April 3, in Farragut High School Commons.

The art show segment take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. with the awards presented at 6:30 p.m. Farragut Middle School Band will perform from 6 to 6:30 p.m. and FHS Jazz Band will perform from 6:45 to 7:15 p.m.

Art teachers Mary Catherine Adams and Ruth Granroth with Farragut Primary School, Ebru Sahin Ekici and Christy Davis with Farragut Intermediate School, Haley Hall and Lauren Rutherford with FMS and Wendie Love, Angela McCarter and Laney Haskell all coordinated their efforts for the event, which benefits FISH Hospitality Pantries (helps feed people in need).

"It's all a collaborative group project that combines the work of all the schools," Granroth said. "All of the art teachers from kindergarten through 12th grade met together and decided we wanted to have a community art show that would get the community excited about visual arts happening in the schools."

"And, we wanted to recognize students who do exceptional work," she added.

Love, who teaches ceramics at FHS, was involved with Empty Bowls since its inception at FHS.

"We just merged the two events — the art show and Empty Bowls — together for one night," Granroth said.

"The Empty Bowls portion is for FISH Hospitality Pantries in Knoxville," she added. "The kids in kindergarten through 12th grade made ceramic pottery. All the kids made a bowl and the high schoolers glazed them."

People purchasing a ticket, which is \$15 per person, are given a seating time of when they will be served.

"We will have extra bowls people can purchase for \$10 each,"

See VISION-EMPTY BOWLS on Page 6B



Photo submitted

## 'Capp'ing off FHS flying feat

Earlier this year, Jude Capps became the first Farragut High School student to earn solo wings with FLIGHT Foundation. Capps soloed in a Cessna-152 at Greeneville Municipal Airport in just 8.6 hours as the 299th solo student overall in the FLIGHT Foundation-sponsored High School/College Flight Program, recognized as a Tennessee Aviation Hall-of-Fame program and "the best in the nation" by some in this field. He also received a matching solo scholarship thru the Ray Foundation.

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# obituary

**Barbara Frances Schweitzer**, a devoted wife, mother and grandmother, passed away peacefully on March 11, 2025, at the age of 83, following complications from Parkinson's Disease.

She was born on March 10, 1942, to Charles and Ruth Smith (Sauer) and grew up in Elgin, Illinois. She moved to Milwaukee in the early 1960s, where she spent most of her life until retiring to Knoxville in 2000.

A diehard Green Bay Packers fan, she often could be found with a green Packer-Backer drink in hand during football season.

Barb and Roy loved traveling with friends to various

casinos throughout the South and Midwest, and a quick trip to Cherokee was always on the calendar. Barb and her daughter enjoyed countless shopping trips to any mall within driving distance. She spent her later years playing in several ladies' golf leagues, forming lasting and unbreakable friendships.

She was the life of any party, and her contagious smile and laughter and infectious spirit will be missed by all who knew her.



Mrs. Schweitzer

Barb is survived by her devoted husband, Elroy (Roy) Schweitzer; daughter, Danielle (Schweitzer) Lawrence; son-in-law, Kyle Lawrence; grandchildren, Lillian and Hudson Lawrence; as well as other loving family and friends.

Arrangements will be made in the coming weeks, but the funeral will take place at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Lenoir City. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Green Bay Packers Foundation.

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## Vision-Empty Bowls

From page 5B

Granroth said. "That supports the FISH

Pantry as well."

Tickets can be purchased when visiting at <https://app.givebacks.gives/empty-bowls/Campaign/Details>

The second segment of the evening involves an art show and awards for the art.

This segment is free of charge.

"There'll be a bunch of art work on display," Adams said.

Attendees who purchase an empty bowls ticket receive a bowl of soup and a separate

bowl to take home.

"The person sponsoring the soup is Haley Jones Homes," Granroth said.

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**FIS-Arbor Day**

From page 3B  
 dolph, Brooks Druba, Evvie (no last name given), Riley Powell, Olivia Jenkins, Reagan Stridde, Hudson McBee, Iva Lukose, Vannshi Chheda, Nicole Griffin, Wyatt Lemond, Braden Knapper, Antonella Prieto Bermudez, Riley Glasby, Alisa Cheng, Olivia Bowers,

Penelope Lorusso, Gavin Barczak, Thatcher Fowler and Annabelle Wynkoop.

**Kite-Rowland**

“I did get to spend time looking at your essays, and I must say, I shouldn’t be the one talking about the benefits of trees because I think you already know a lot,” said Ashley Kite-Rowland, Urban and Community Forestry Program coordinator with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture. “I do hope you tell your parents about the importance of trees, and everyone else.”

“I work with communities and talk about the importance of trees, how to plant them, how to take care and why you should plant more of them,” she added.  
 “This year, we are celebrating the 150th year of Arbor Day.”

Last year, Town of Farragut became a Tree City, and as part of that “you are celebrating your third official Arbor Day here in Farragut” with the school program, Kite-Rowland said.  
 As a Tree City, “you joined cities across the whole country, and you have a reputation

for saying, ‘Our town likes trees and we’re going to take care of them,’” she added. “That’s awesome to live in a place like that.”  
 To stay a Tree City, the Town has to celebrate Arbor Day; have an ordinance on tree care; designate Town tree caretakers; and spend a certain amount of tree-care budget money.



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3. Winners will be selected in five categories: **Ages 4-5, Ages 6-8, Ages 9-11, Adults 12-112** and **Special Needs**
4. No entries accepted for judging after **4 p.m. EST on Thursday, April 10, 2025**

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## FARRAGUT VISUAL RESOURCES REVIEW BOARD AGENDA

Farragut Community Center • Large Classroom  
 Tuesday, March 25, 2025 • 6:00 p.m.

1. Approval of minutes for the February 25, 2025, meeting.
2. Staff report - wall signs approved in the past month.
3. Review of a primary permanent ground sign for The Church of Jesus Christ and Latter-Day Saints Temple, located at 13001 Kingston Pike.
4. Review of a landscape plan for Bruster's Real Ice Cream, Located at 11692 Parkside Drive.
5. Review of a landscape plan for the Costco Fuel Expansion, Located at 11745 Kingston Pike.
6. Citizen Forum

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

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### Service Directory Payments

Payments may be made by cash, check or credit card. Prepayment is required on all classified advertising.

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# lawn & landscaping

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 Pressure Washing

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