

Camp’s ‘ambassador’ there for March Sampler goodies



Photo courtesy of Steve Krempasky/Shop Farragut executive director Russell Camp was Shop Farragut’s March Town Sampler champ, but was unable to attend the prize-award meeting. Instead, he sent his ambassador, and sister, Rena Amerson, who is a long-time Farragut area resident and familiar Shop Farragut advocate. Visiting Tropical Smoothie and pictured alongside manager Tyler Lugo, Amerson accepted the \$200-plus bag of gifts from these Farragut businesses: \$50 value Murad facial at JCPenney Beauty; \$25 gift cards from Tropical Smoothie, Super Chix, Snooty Patootie Boutique and Great Clips; and \$25 gift certificate from Kat’s Lashes & Wax Lounge, Fruition Cafe and Bark Place Grooming, plus other Farragut schwag. April contest entries will be accepted through April 30 at <https://wfiv.com/contests/64/shop-farragut-april-2025>

New West Mill subdivision gets unanimous FMPC nod

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

West Mill residential subdivision’s preliminary plat got a unanimous nod from Farragut Municipal Planning Commission during its meeting Thursday, April 17.

The development, located beside Dollar General Store abutting Fox Den subdivision, is taking place at 12413 and 12501 Kingston Pike, which involves 16 house lots and two commercial lots on 14.5 acres.

“Originally, the applicant proposed the subdivision’s access onto Champions Point in the Fox Den subdivision,” Community Development director Mark Shipley said.

After hearing traffic concerns from Fox Den residents, Shipley reminded the Commission it did not support the Champions Point access and asked the applicants to look at accessing at the traffic signal intersection of Kingston Pike and Old Stage Road.

The developers came back with a new preliminary site

plan that includes an access through its commercial section to Kingston Pike, across from Old Stage Road.

Shipley said the preliminary plat shows “a layout of the future commercial development on the portion of the property zoned commercial abutting Kingston Pike.”

However, the commercial portion was not part of the approval FMPC gave on April 17.

“This portion of the project ... is only being shown for conceptual purposes,” Shipley said. “A separate site plan submittal and review will be required for the commercial portion of this property.”

In terms of the residential development and associated improvements ... the subdivision includes 16 house lots, three open space lots and a detention basin in the western portion of the property,” Shipley said. “The walking trail that stubs into the property from the Dollar General Store development will be extended

See WEST MILL on Page 5A

KCSOreports

• At 9:35 a.m., Monday, April 21, a complainant called Knox County Sheriff’s Office West Precinct to report financial exploitation against an elderly woman at businesses along Parkside Drive.

Complainant reported on Thursday, April 17, “a suspect called the (woman) and claimed to be from Venmo,” the report stated. “The suspect was on a three-way call with her daughter and informed her that she was locked out of her Venmo and that he needed to confirm her identity. The complainant said that she never disclosed any personal information or bank account details during this contact.”

On Sunday, April 20, complainant was online looking at her Knoxville TVA Credit Union account and noticed several charges that were not made by her — all on April 17 at businesses along Clinton Highway in Knoxville: \$1,002 to Walmart; two \$400 charges to Walmart; \$200 to Walmart; \$750 to Kroger; three \$398 charges to Target; and two \$504 charges to Regions bank.

There also were two internet transfers

through KTVACU on April 17: \$3,599 and \$3,401.

Complainant said no one has authorization to access her bank account and she remains in possession of her debit card.

• At 12:46 a.m., April 21, officers responded near a Glastonbury Road residence in reference to a vandalism/disturbance call.

Officers met the victim/complainant, who said he delivers newspapers for Knoxville News Sentinel “through this route almost every day,” the report stated. “For unknown reasons, while delivering papers near this residence, an unknown white male wearing a motorcycle helmet, a black jacket and a backpack came out of the residence yelling at him and ripped his passenger-side mirror out.”

Victim said he does not know this person “and is unsure why this individual attacked his vehicle,” the report further stated. “Officers drove around the neighborhood but could not find the suspect.

See KCSO REPORTS on Page 4A

lettertotheeditor

Reasons stated against Sonja speed bumps

As a resident of Sonja Drive in Farragut, I feel obligated to speak out publicly about a growing public safety crisis that’s being ignored by Town of Farragut officials: the dangerous and improperly placed speed bumps throughout our neighborhood.

One such bump — located just past the crest of a blind hill at 11221 Sonja Drive — is a tragedy waiting to happen. Vehicles routinely cross the double yellow line at unsafe speeds to straddle this bump, creating the constant risk of head-on collisions. My family and I have experienced near misses ourselves.

Even more alarming, my home security cameras have captured children attempting to “jump” these bumps on motorized scooters. If a child is injured — or worse — the liability lies with the Town of Farragut.

On Feb. 20, my grandson, who suffers from a serious seizure disorder, required emergency transport to the hospital. Despite dialing 911 promptly, the EMS vehicle was delayed by six speed bumps — three on Sonja Drive and three more on Admiral Road.

These aren’t minor inconveniences; EMS crews are required to come to a full stop at each bump, wasting precious time when seconds

count. The responding EMS team confirmed this directly. The Town of Farragut’s claim that emergency vehicles can simply drive over these bumps without slowing is simply false — and dangerously negligent.

There’s also the matter of Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility. I am a disabled resident, and every trip over these bumps causes pain. The placement of these obstructions, especially atop narrow roads and blind hills, may be in direct violation of the ADA, specifically Section 35.151 governing accessible public infrastructure.

Given (U.S. Rep. R-2nd District) Tim Burchett’s role on the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, I urge him to consider the implications of local infrastructure decisions on public safety and accessibility — particularly the impact of speed bump placement in residential neighborhoods.

This is not about being against safety. It’s about holding our local officials accountable for policies that make our streets more dangerous, not less. If common sense won’t prevail, maybe public pressure — or legal action — will.

Charles D. Hamilton Jr., Farragut

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Publisher

Tony Cox865-218-8883
tc Cox@publicnewspapers.com

General Manager

Kathy Hartman .. .865-218-8878
khartman@farragutpress.com

Editorial Department

Alan Sloan,
Editor..... 865-218-8880
editor@farragutpress.com

Tammy Cheek,
Writer.....865-218-8873
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Advertising Department

Glen Coleman,
Account Executive 865-218-8884
gcoleman@farragutpress.com

Laura Sayers,
Account Executive 865-218-8879
lsayers@farragutpress.com

Charlene Waggoner,
Account Executive.....865-218-8877
cwaggoner@farragutpress.com

Linda Tirban,
Classified Display,
Service Directory 865-218-8881
linda@farragutpress.com

Production Department

Tony Christen,
Production Manager/
Circulation Manager. 865-218-8872
production@farragutpress.com

Cindy Wilfert,
Designer..... 865-218-8872

Receptionist


Terrie Ware865-218-8871
Monday – Wednesday, Friday
receptionist@farragutpress.com

Editor email: editor@farragutpress.com **Website:** www.farragutpress.com

Press Talk: Call: 865-671-8255 or **email:** editor@farragutpress.com



Phone: 865-675-6397 **News Fax:** 865-675-1675 **Advertising Fax:** 865-675-6776

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New stores coming to Pinnacle center

TAMMY CHEEK

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Turkey Creek patrons can expect some new businesses in the Pinnacle center development along Parkside Drive.

“Pinnacle Turkey Creek is thrilled to announce the addition of four new retailers: Sitka, H&H Bagels, Nothing Bundt Cakes and Barnes & Noble,” stated Gabi Walsh, marketing manager for Pinnacle Turkey Creek in a press release.

“These new openings mark a continued commitment to offering a dynamic mix of dining, shopping and lifestyle experiences for the Knoxville community,” she added.

“We’re always looking to bring best-in-class tenants to Pinnacle Turkey Creek. Each of these new businesses brings something special to the property — from fresh outdoor lifestyle gear to delicious desserts and timeless books.”

SITKA

SITKA, headquartered in Bozeman, Montana — an outdoor apparel and gear brand rooted in conservation and performance — is “known for

“We’re always looking to bring best-in-class tenants to Pinnacle Turkey Creek,”

~ **Gabi Walsh,**
Marketing manager for
Pinnacle Turkey Creek

its innovative products built for serious adventurers,” Walsh stated. “This will be one of the brand’s first retail locations in the region.

“You can find their store near Natural Alternatives and Altard State,” she added.

H&H Bagels

H&H Bagels – A New York City icon since 1972 — “brings authentic, kettle-boiled bagels and gourmet sandwiches to the heart of Knoxville,” Walsh said. “Get ready for your new go-to breakfast and lunch spot, opening at 11390B Parkside Drive near Lovesac and Chipotle.”

Nothing Bundt Cakes

Nothing Bundt Cakes, the beloved bakery franchise specializing in handcrafted Bundt



cakes, “is set to sweeten up Pinnacle with its signature treats, perfect for every celebration — or just (any time),” Walsh said. “We are excited to bring them into the Pinnacle Family near Cava and Chipotle.”

Barnes & Noble

A nationally loved bookseller, Barnes & Noble returns to West Knox County, “offering a modern retail experience featuring books, toys, games and

a café,” Walsh said, adding it is “a long-awaited addition to the Pinnacle lineup next to Dental Works and Smoky Mountain Vintage Lumber.”

With those businesses currently under construction, Walsh said opening dates and grand opening celebration details will be shared in the coming weeks.

According to the H&H Bagels website, the Turkey

Creek Store only states it is scheduled to open this year, while the Nothing Bundt Cakes website states it is expected to open this summer — but no official date has been announced.

“Shoppers are encouraged to follow @PinnacleTurkeyCreek on social media and visit www.pinnacleturkeycreek.com for the latest updates,” Walsh stated.

Make an ‘Impression’ by customizing your closet, garage or pantry

TAMMY CHEEK

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Looking to customize your closet, garage or pantry?

Impression Home has designs ready for you at its new showroom, 10670 Parkside Drive, in the shopping center behind Wasabi Steak House off Lovell Road.

“We do custom closets, but also pantries, garages, mudrooms,” Impression Home sales manager Joan Pace said. “We also do some entertainment centers — anything that’s custom storage.”

This is Impression Homes’ second location.

“We have our main facility in Sevierville, and Dave Tinker (the owner) has been in business for 20 years,” she said. “He’s a manufacturer, so we

have a facility with CNC and other machines.

“Basically, if you are building a new home or wanted to redo an area in your home, we have a designer who would come out, meet with you and get you a quote and a 3-D rendering of what your closet or (other) space is going to look like,” Pace added. “Then (the plan) goes to our manufacturing facility (in Sevierville).

“A few weeks later, we’ve got installers who come and put it in your space.”

Of the other closet companies in the area, “I can only think of one that manufactures,” Pace said. “Everybody else orders, which is great if you order it right.

“Being able to manufacture, we’re a lot more reactive,” the

sales manager added.

Customers have a plethora of finishes from which they can choose.

“We’ve got some really special, beautiful finishes,” Pace said. “They can include lighting.”

However, “of course, most people really do simple white melamine,” she said. “We can do floating (cabinetry) or we can do floor-based.

“Some of the stuff (a customer would put in a cabinet) is really heavy,” Pace added. “You don’t want it floating on the



Pace

floor.” Additionally, floating cabinetry can have a kick plate so dust can’t collect under it.

Another finish is Natural Linen, which is “really popular,” Pace said, noting the price point is more than white but less than other finishes. “We can do all kinds of different tops with it, kind of mix and match.”

Another product, which has made a comeback, is a wall bed formerly known as a Murphy bed.

“This has been super popular, starting over COVID, when people were at home all the time, were working from home and wanted to do a loft kind of experience and have everything all in once place,” Pace said.

While Murphy beds were popular in the 1950s, she said,

“They have come a long way.

“We’ve also done them with storage beside it ... and a night table,” Pace added.

Customers are about 50-50 in regard to new home builders versus people wanting to renovate their homes.

“We also do window treatments,” she added.

They include Hunter-Douglas products.

“They actually started doing Hunter-Douglas as a rep then closets came along after,” Pace said.

The showroom is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information about Impression Home, call 865-908-6935, e-mail joan@inspirationhome.net or visit online at www.inspirationhome.net



BeLocal cuts the ribbon

Tiffany Davis (with scissors), BeLocal owner, cuts the ribbon for her business, a West Knoxville magazine publication, as part of a Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce-sponsored ribbon cutting in Farragut Community Center Tuesday, April 15. Davis was joined by her mother, Sheila Randell, to her right, and a host of Chamber members.

Tammy Cheek

Concerts For Our Own Kicks Off 2025 Season

with The Ultimate Garth Brooks Tribute

Concerts For Our Own launched their 2025 season with a high-energy performance by The Ultimate Garth Brooks Tribute at Yee Haw Brewing Co. Shawn Gerhard and his band delivered an unforgettable night, performing the hits that have made Garth Brooks a beloved icon in country music.

This year, Concerts For Our Own will present a total of six shows, starting with Brewnevolence—a series of three concerts hosted at Yee Haw Brewing Co.—followed by three more shows at the World’s Fair Park Amphitheater. The lineup spans a wide variety of genres, ensuring fun and entertainment for all ages.

Each year, Concerts For Our Own selects local nonprofits in East Tennessee to benefit from the funds raised through their events. For 2025, the chosen organizations are Breast Connect, Choice Health Network, and Love Kitchen. To date, the organization has donated over \$60,000, reinforcing its mission to use music as a force for good—bringing hope, joy, and support to those who need it most.

For more information, visit concertsforourown.org or email snukals@concertsforourown.org.



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Reactions

From page 1A

neighborhoods,” she said. “It is not a good indication of the type of person who does this.”

“There’s no plans to do anything with this (Red Mill Lane),” Community Development director Mark Shipley said. “It may become relevant if the properties on the Biddle Farms develop. It would be a way for pedestrians and bicyclists to get from the north down to the sidewalk at Turkey Creek Road.”

However, he told Lyke there is an existing Town right-of-way on Red Mill Lane, so “a lot of what is in this cross section will be in the existing public right-of-way, especially closer to Turkey Creek Road.”

“I’m glad I signed up (to speak) because this relieves me somewhat,” Lyke said.

No action was taken, but Shipley explained the plan simply was a way to “retain the rural character of the affected areas with, in most cases, not greater than 11-foot lanes, open ditch drainage and space for street trees between the street and sidewalk or shared

use path.

“Some of these streets extend into areas that are beyond the Town limits where future improvements are unlikely,” he added.

Commissioner Louise Povlin said the impetus behind the plan was that not all sizes fit all roads.

“McFee, Old Stage and Everett roads were all built with 12-foot lanes, 40-mph design speeds and they are race tracks,” she said. “We didn’t take a look at each one of them and really consider what the context is, what’s going on here.”

“This is not a plan,” Myers added. “This is a conceptional cross section that actually reduces the impact of what otherwise is required today if we were to go in and improve (the roads).”

At the same time, Shipley said the plan would assure the



Cone

improvements would be “complete streets.”

“The streets that were selected were determined to be streets that are currently either substandard or incomplete in terms of having a complete streets cross section that includes provisions for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists,” he said. “These streets, other than Boyd Station Road, are also not currently part of ongoing projects in the Town’s Capital Investment Plan.”

However, Boyd Station Road’s plan will be coming up before FMPC in May because of improvements a developer is proposing on that road.

“The intent of including desired cross sections that will ultimately be linked into the major road plan is to guide a developer or the Town on what improvements would be desired if one of the selected streets were part of a development or future CIP project,” Shipley added.

However, reports on Next-door left some residents confused.

Along Boring Road, a major collector street, Baldwin Park

resident Christina DiMauro said, “I don’t see why somebody — the Town or Board of Education — couldn’t pay to widen that road.”



Forester

ans Road improvements,” he added. “So to say it isn’t in the works — it’s been in the works for years ... you changed the rules on how roads and sidewalks are going to be designed, and now you’re moving forward, inch by inch, trying to wear us down on that.”

“I’m a little confused,” Jim Petrone said. “I went online and looked at the Town’s budget. As I saw it, there was money projected in the budget for right-of-way land acquisition to begin in 2027.”

“That same document had budgeting for Virtue and Boyd Station (roads),” he added. “You can say it’s not planned and this is something not to take seriously, but obviously I do (take it seriously).”

He said a proposed walking trail would take his land, particularly where his mailbox is located. He recommended putting the trail on the other side of the road.

Regarding the cross section for Red Mill Lane, “this actually has more traffic than you think,” Shipley said. “The count I have is about 1,240 trips per day.”

Roundabout

From page 2A

oper to construct only those improvements they would otherwise be required to perform. Additionally, the Town will be required to purchase right-of-way and easements from the property just west of the

Grove, as improvements will extend to McFee Road.”

Smith said the Town’s share of the cost is \$465,000.

Russ Rackley, engineer/owner of Rackley Engineering, said the developer’s share is an estimated \$400,000.

“This is very much like the one we did with the same de-

veloper on Virtue Road and Brookmere,” Smith said.

Alderman Drew Burnette asked about the structure of the roundabout, voicing concerns about the roundabout on McFee Road.

“It’s a very serious roundabout,” the Town engineer replied about the Boyd Station

proposed roundabout.

However, “being a civil engineer for 25 years, you can never out-engineer idiocy,” Rackley said.

“The key to the roundabout ... is to create a divergent on the approaching departure ... you physically have to slow down to navigate the yield,”

the company owner added.

Other matters

On another development matter, the Board approved a variance request to allow Rackley Engineering to install an access to a proposed subdivision fronting Boring Road across from a residence.

KCSO Reports

From page 2A

• At 1:39 p.m., Friday, April 18, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report a scam at a Sparkle Lane residence.

He advised around Feb. 1 of this year he found the suspect on LinkedIn claiming to be Tim Tebow. “He (said) they started speaking via e-mail when the suspect requested the complainant to send \$5,000 through Bitcoin and Crypto.

“The complainant advised he discovered it was a scam on (Wednesday), April 16. when his wife noticed what he was

doing” and said it was a scam.

• At 2:56 p.m., Tuesday, April 15, a complainant/victim called KCSO West Precinct to report theft from a Bertelkamp Lane residence. Complainant advised she received a notice from Amazon that her package (\$1,149.45 value) was delivered Saturday, April 12, but was picked up by a suspect at FedEx, 2560 Bertelkamp Lane April 15.

Victim was told by Amazon she would need to get in touch with the person who sent the shipment, being a third-party sale. The third party said nothing could be done because the package was picked up.

Closing

From page 2A

entire park will be closed to the public.”

The southernmost portion of the park, mainly the parking area, recently was closed.

Farragut Branch of Knox County Library and the upper parking lot will remain open throughout the project.

Contact Town officials at 865-966-7057 if you have questions about the closure of Founders Park.

Camera

From page 1A

Anyone who used that women’s restroom at The Cove during that time frame is urged

to reach out to Major Crimes Unit detectives by e-mailing MCUTips@KnoxSheriff.org with the date they visited and their contact information.

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Town of Farragut receptionist Jane Ondocin and stormwater coordinator Cliff Mann (**top**) were ready to serve residents on their first day back in a renovated Farragut Town Hall, which was Monday, April 21, after more than 16 months in Farragut Community Center. The same goes for Sharon Cramer (**above**), Knox County Clerk’s Office employee.



Photos by Tammy Cheek
Farragut Town Recorder/Finance director Allison Myers, left, welcomed former long-time Town receptionist Betty Newby during an open house in the newly renovated Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive, Monday, April 14.

West Mill
From page 2A

to Champions Point.
“There will also be a sidewalk along one side of the street that will tie into the commercial portion of the development,” he added. “A traffic impact study was prepared for this project, and the conclusions and recommendations are included in the packet, along with a traffic signal plan for the intersection of Kingston Pike and Old Stage Road.
“The Town engineer has reviewed this plan and agrees

with the recommendations. The recommendations mainly include optimizing signal timing, providing pedestrian safety measures related to intersection crossing and ensuring that sight distance is not compromised by future landscaping, signage, or vegetation.”
As part of the approval, the Planning Commission also approved a variance, allowing the development to only have one access since it only has 16 house lots and “there are no other options for a second access point,” Shipley said.
Additionally, developers received a variance to reduce the

street width from 26 to 24 feet.
In other business, FMPC unanimously approved a site plan for Turner Homes to modify the building — formerly an O’Charley’s restaurant and a bank at 11820 Kingston Pike at the west intersection of Kingston Pike and Federal Boulevard — as an office.
Turner Homes plans to enclose the drive-thru area on the east side of the building and make some modifications to the main entrance, add roll-up garage doors in the back and re-stripe and update the parking lot.

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A ‘Grace’ful bounce-back for FHS softball

BILL HOWARD
Correspondent

Farragut High School’s softball team played consecutive games last Wednesday and Thursday, April 16 and April 17, splitting the pair. On Wednesday at home on Belamy Field, the Lady Admirals fell to Karns 10-8.

At Grace Christian Academy the next day, Farragut snapped

a three-game losing streak with a 3-0 win.

Lady Ads 3 GCA 0

Against GCA, the Lady Admirals got a sterling pitching performance from Hallie Grace Johnson. The sophomore threw a complete-game shutout, yielding but two hits and striking out three. She walked two.

“Hallie Grace pitched a great game,” FHS head coach Nick Green said. “She only gave up

a handful of hard-hit balls and we were able to make plays on them.”

Farragut took a 1-0 lead in the fifth inning when Elsa Morrison hit a solo home run. The visitors added two more in the sixth when Dajah Means led off with a single, followed by a walk to Taylor Albright.

A double steal put the runners on second and third. Logan Jameson’s grounder

to second scored Means. Rylee Raby then doubled, scoring Albright.

FHS was opportunistic in the game, drawing eight walks and stealing eight bases. They also held Grace to no runs in the third after the Lady Rams loaded the bases with no outs.

Still, Green would have liked to see more runs driven in. “Our biggest struggle all year has been driving in runs,” he said.

The non-district win improved the Lady Admirals’ record to 21-7. “Pleased that we played much better, considering we had a rough week,” Green said. “Much better job than earlier in the week.”

Karns 10 Farragut 8

Against Karns, the Lady Admirals weren’t without their opportunities.

See SOFTBALL on Page 2B

Varsity, JV FMS LAX boys make big Jamboree mark



Photos by Alan Sloan



Annual Farragut Youth Lacrosse Spring Jamboree, held at Mayor Bob Leonard Park Saturday, April 5, featured Farragut Middle School varsity and junior varsity plus local and area 10-Under and 8-Under teams, including those from Asheville, Johnson City and the two big private schools in Chattanooga, Baylor and McCallie. **(Left)** Drake Lewis, FMS varsity (18), versus Baylor, as are teammates Andrew Toth **(10, above)** and Matt Kitchiner **(below far left)** in a 6-5 OT win. FMS junior varsity’s Brennan Farr **(below middle)** and Carson Resseguie **(13, below right)** helped beat Asheville 10-1.



Big inning, 5 pitchers fuel Ads at CAK, 8-2

ALAN SLOAN
editor@farragutpress.com

WEST KNOXVILLE — A five-run third inning, highlighted by Owen Stelzer’s three-run homer and aided by two errors, and the combined efforts of five Farragut pitchers resulted in an Admirals victory at Christian Academy of Knoxville.

Starter Corey Cole gave FHS two innings while relievers Cash Shroeder, Joey Ray, Connell Driver and Benny Miller combined to allow the home team just two earned runs and seven hits in an 8-2 Ads win Saturday afternoon, April 19.

See FARRAGUT-CAK on Page 2B



Alan Sloan

Braxton Tye, FHS second baseman, makes a putout at CAK versus the Warriors Saturday afternoon, April 19. Farragut won 8-2.

2nd period key for FHS lacrosse vs HVA, GPS

ALAN SLOAN
editor@farragutpress.com

HARDIN VALLEY — It was a back-and-forth lead change in the first two periods when Farragut High School visited rival Hardin Valley Academy in a key boys lacrosse showdown Friday evening, April 18.

But after taking a 6-5 halftime lead on a goal converted right at the halftime horn, the Admirals took charge — allowing no Hawks goals in the match’s final 22 minutes — to win going away 14-6.

Led offensively by Finn Sachs’ five goals, “Our boys, in the second period, decided they really wanted it. ... They made a unified decision to play the game that they love,” said FHS head coach Ben Sachs, whose team improved to 8-1

See FHS-HAWKS LAX on Page 2B

ALAN SLOAN
editor@farragutpress.com

Down 5-2 roughly midway through the second period versus Girls Preparatory School, Farragut High’s girls lacrosse team suddenly came to life.

The result was a 9-1 scoring run, which carried these Lady Admirals to an 11-5 lead into the fourth period, winning 11-8 at the FHS home field Tuesday evening, April 15.

“I think we just talked to the girls and really told them to lock in, and they really followed through with that,” Lady Ads assistant coach Savannah Elliott said. “They really worked as a team in this game, and their defense really, really just came through with stopping the attackers.”

Sophomore attacker Taryn

See LADY ADS LAX on Page 2B



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HVA walks off Ads 2-1; but a Hawks win or a tie?

ALAN SLOAN
editor@farragutpress.com

Nathan Holbrook’s sudden death overtime goal, a rebounded effort from 15 yards out after teammate Ben Brophy’s shot was blocked, saw Hardin Valley Academy’s boys soccer team react like winners, as the match ended 2-1 Hawks versus rival Farragut on the road.

And to hear HVA head coach Ray Dover talk after the match, he said his boys “had to win this thing” in overtime, in which they needed just 1:40 of OT to get the job done.

However, Farragut head coach Bradley Culbreth said because the match was 1-1 after 80 regulation minutes, it’s considered a tie.

Agree to disagree?
“It wasn’t our best match, from a tactical standpoint or moving the ball, but it was one of our better matches from a desire standpoint. That’s what matters to me,” Dover said.
About the OT goal, “We had been composed in moving the ball out of the back and then switched it, and that’s where it started,” the HVA coach added. “You always look at where it starts, and it started with a great pass from the goalkeep-



Photo courtesy of Carlos Reveiz/crfoto.com

HVA goalkeeper Adam Leonard grabs a Farragut shot, with help, despite the efforts of Admiral Zack Guigous (blue top).

er (Adam Leonard).”
Dover said the Hawks’ record improved to 9-2-2 overall, 4-1 in District 4-AAA. Culbreth said the Ads’ record after this match was 8-3-2, 2-1-1.

Hardin Valley had to overcome a penalty kick goal from Admiral Franklin Von Hagen in the 50th minute. They did so just 90 seconds later with Brophy’s goal from 20 yards.

Farragut-CAK

From page 1B

About his pitchers, Admirals skipper Garrett Copeland said, “You can’t ask for much more than what they did today. They competed in the strike zone and did a good job.”

Taking into account CAK’s defensive gifts in that pivotal third inning, “I think the final score wasn’t necessarily as close as the game was,” Copeland said.

“But I think we did a good job staying to the middle of the field and having a good approach at the plate, and we were able to take advantage of some things,” he added.

Braxton Tye smacked a seventh-inning solo homer, while-Zane Kureshi-Smith, Neyland Williams, Travis Brummitt Jr. Braden Humphrey and Jackson Zeller also had singles for the Admirals. Aidan Flagg added an RBI groundout.

The Warriors got a leadoff first-inning homer from Tyler Bennett, one of his two hits, and a sixth-inning RBI single from Joey Sulish, who also doubled. Chip Shelton, Seaton Moffett and Brody Waller also singled for CAK.

Rally vs HVA gives Dawgs 4-4A Tournament #1 seed

KEN LAY
Correspondent

BEARDEN — A walk-off comeback victory in a rivalry showdown netted Bearden High School baseball at least a share of the regular-season District 4-4A championship.

The Bulldogs overcame an early deficit to topple Hardin Valley Academy 5-4 at BHS’s Phil Garner Ballpark Monday evening, April 21. The Hawks fell to 18-9 overall, 6-3 in district.

Bearden (26-6 overall, 8-2 in district) faced a 4-3 deficit heading into the bottom of the seventh innings. But the Bulldogs captured a walk-off victory when Matt Schroeffel, a senior first baseman, ended

the game with a walk-off single, which combined with a Hawks’ error brought home the tying and game-winning runs.

The Bulldogs will be the No. 1 seed in the upcoming District 4-4A Tournament.

The victory culminated a busy late-season stretch for Bearden, which began with a 6-5 victory over longtime rival Farragut at FHS Monday, March 14. The Bulldogs also claimed an 11-1 victory versus Karns to celebrate BHS Senior Night Thursday, April 17. Coach Dave Prichard’s boys now have won 11 of their last 12 games.

“The win (over Farragut) was a big one for us,” Prichard said.

FHS-Hawks LAX

From page 1B

overall, 2-0 in district. “The offense started to kick in by playing unselfishly.”

Defensively, “We communicated effectively to pretty much shut them down,” the Admirals skipper added.

Coach Sachs praised FHS goalkeeper Baker Sandoval’s “multiple saves, while also praising Luke Duenckel, “who kept our team moving.”

Lady Ads LAX

From page 1B

Jackson led Farragut offensively with three goals while freshmen Raeanne Ellsworth and Cam Beeler each scored twice.

After Jackson’s second goal tied it, junior attacker Jane Davanzo gave the Lady Ads a 6-5 early third period lead it wouldn’t lose, then added another goal less than one minute later. Senior Greer Butler and freshman Morgan Oglesby also scored for FHS.

In the first half, “We were playing our game; we wanted to slow them down, and we did,” said HVA head coach Kevin Hoppey, whose team lost just its second game (8-2) and first in district (3-1).

But in the second half, “They wore us down,” the Hawks coach added.

Maddox Farrow led HVA in scoring with two goals, while Gavin Ralston, Kadin Wilson, Elliot Fisher and Trever Kelley each added one.

The win improved Farragut’s overall record to 6-3, while the Lady Admirals already had finished regular season district play at 3-1.

“I just really think we probably played our best team game overall this season,” Elliott said. “We really locked down and played a good team game.”

“I think that their ability to keep the ball moving and find the ball quick and clean off the ground was really impressive today,” said GPS head coach Laura McIntyre, whose team’s record fell to 2-7.

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Gibbs, Webb ‘Our Town’ an FHS PAC production

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut High School Admirals Performing Arts Company’s advanced acting students will be taking on a touching production of Thornton Wilder’s play, “Our Town.”

The production, which is open to the public, will be presented beginning at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 7, and Friday, May 9, in FHS’s Vickie B. Wells auditorium, 11237 Kingston Pike.

Tickets cost \$5 cash and will be sold at the door the night of the production. There will be no advanced sales.

Twenty-three students, a majority of whom are seniors, make up the cast, of which one is a student director. Among the cast members are seniors Molly Barber, who plays Julia Gibbs; Hayden Toon, who plays George Gibbs; Tiyan



Tammy Cheek

Farragut High School Admirals Performing Arts Company’s “Our Town” cast includes, from left, Hayden Toon, who portrays George Gibbs; Evan Beeler, who plays Dr. Frank Gibbs; Molly Barber, who portrays Julia Gibbs; and Addison Garrett, who portrays Rebecca Gibbs.

Dudley, who plays Stage Manager No. 1, an actual character in the play; Evan Beeler, who plays Dr. Frank Gibbs, George’s father; Addison Garrett, who plays Rebecca Gibbs; Eva Rogers, who plays Emily Webb; Jase Martin, who plays Charlie Webb, Emily’s father;

and sophomore Rafika Amlani, who plays a variety of characters, including Sam Craig.

APAC director Tony Wooley, theater teacher, said the students selected the play.

“(Wooley) called the senior class up and had a discussion about the play we wanted to

do,” Barber said.

“We were looking for a play that could fit our cast of around 20 people,” Toon said, adding Wooley suggested “Our Town,” but said he didn’t think the students would be interest-

See ‘OUR TOWN’ on Page 6B

Rousing STAR, Petr testimonials of success

ALAN SLOAN
editor@farragutpress.com

In making a case about the huge benefits many have enjoyed at Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding — started 38 years ago by a determined 1975 Farragut High School graduate with a vision — soak in the words of Retired U.S. Air Force Col. Jim O’Brien.

“I believe in STAR because of the impact that I’ve seen on my fellow veterans over these 15 years that I’ve been here,” said O’Brien, a STAR volunteer, during a video shown to hundreds attending the 20th Annual Bridles & Blue Jeans STAR fundraiser Saturday evening, April 12, at the academy, located between Farragut and Lenoir City. “The transformation that I’ve witnessed

See STAR-PETR on Page 6B

FHS Old School memories part 2

First Saturday in May Grand Reunions remain special for grads of Old FHS; next one is May 3

MATTHEW MCFEE
FHS Class of 1977-Special

(Final of two parts)
My father (Alfred McFee, Class of ‘49) and his four siblings had all attended Farragut High, and some years back during the 1970s began gathering at the school cafeteria on the first Saturday of May.

They, along with many of their classmates, would gather there all morning over coffee and doughnuts to reminisce about their glory days attending Farragut High while growing up in the Concord community.

They talked about family, football, baseball, basketball, homecoming queens, plays held in the auditorium, pranks played on the principal, the horse stables below the gym, agriculture strategies with the Future Farmers of America, home economics in the canery and so much more.

Many of them brought old annuals, old football and basketball programs, pictures of the school buildings, various letters and report cards — and everyone shared stories about their glorious teenage years and life in high school in the ‘30s, ‘40s and ‘50s.

As they grew older, some went off to college, some went to war, some got married, some became teachers, coaches, dentist, pharmacists, doctors, professors, scientist and community leaders — yet they somehow continued to keep meeting in the cafeteria on the first Saturday of May to share memories, tell stories and sometimes complain how so much change had come to their beloved farming community.

Many of their parents attended Farragut School as well. My grandfather, along with his three brothers and sister — as well as my grand-



Photo submitted

A front entrance photo of the Old Farragut High School, lettering and all, located near the intersection of Kingston Pike and Concord Road. This was the FHS home until moving across the Pike and roughly two blocks west beginning with the 1976-77 school year.

mother (Ellen Belle Russell) and her siblings — also graduated from FHS.

The community population was sparse with multigenerational family farms spread across the west end of Knox County. Families, such as Galbraith, Hall, Hobbs, McReynolds, Marion, Justice, Shanks, Shipley, Ivey, Blevins, Strange, Williams, Hensley, Boring, Fox, Bondurant, McCarter, Starkey, Kimsey, Swicegood,

Hunt, Scarbrough, Donovan, Loy, Johnson, Smith and more made up the community of Concord.

This long traditional gathering affectionately became known to these old timers as “The Grand Reunion,” and everyone knew that on the morning of the first Saturday of May, to show up at the school cafeteria.

At one point, the high school administration wanted to

charge the group for use of the cafeteria, apparently to cover the cost for the electricity and custodial clean-up, so for the last decade or so the event has been held at Virtue Presbyterian Church as many of the organizers and attendees were members of Virtue.

The church opened its doors, provided access to their community center along with the

See GRAND REUNION, Page 7B

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And this summer, we're cooking up an exciting new initiative to help **ensure kids in Knoxville have access to healthy meals every day** — because no child should ever go hungry.

This is just a glimpse of the impact we're making — and you can be part of it!

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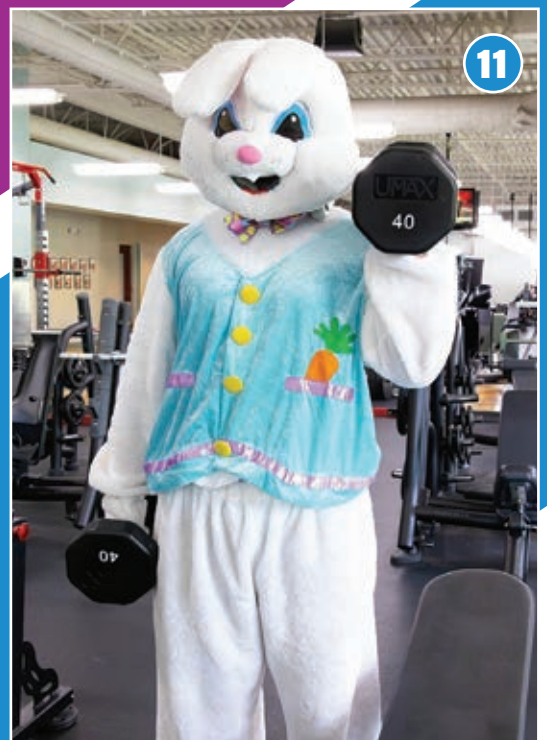
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4. Samuel catches his breath after being the target in a Homeschool PE ring toss drill!
5. The Easter Bunny invites you all to come to our next big bash at the Davis Y: Rural Metro Water Works on July 19th!
6. We put the Easter Bunny in charge of breaking in our new treadmills — and he hopped right to it!
7. The Schramm family came out in full force to celebrate Easter Bash 2025 — smiles, laughter, and memories made!
8. Vicki Karas keeps a sharp eye on our members, making sure every plank is in perfect form!
9. Zachary spent the day at Easter Bash, soaking up the fun and making core childhood memories!
10. "The Misfits" gearing up and getting in the zone for their Tuesday Night Pickleball League game!
11. The Easter Bunny stays active to balance out all the treats he enjoys!



Photos submitted





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- **St. Elizabeth’s Episcopal Church, 110 Sugarwood Drive in Farragut, offers a “Gift of the Month” each month assisting different local organizations.** “We invite our neighbors to join in to help others in our county,” a SEEC press release stated about donating on the last Sunday of each month.

For April, gifts benefit Volunteer Ministry Center, an organization having assisted low-income and homeless people for more than 35 years. “They have two supported housing complexes, funding for IDs and birth certificates, bus tickets for newly employed and those with doctor appointments, work shoes, medicine, showers and more,” the release stated.

Drive by and drop off any of the following items from 1 to 2 p.m., Sunday, April 27: reading glasses of all strengths; Individually wrapped snacks, such as granola bars; new and gently used backpacks; drawstring shorts and pants; practical style men’s shoes sizes from 10 to 13; and practical style men’s pants sizes from 30 to 38.

- **The Widowed Parent Relief Project’s mission is to help build an enduring community support system to alleviate everyday stress for widowed parents** so they can spend more time dealing with their family’s mental health and healing.

Show your support by shopping WPRP’s online silent auction and by joining a team to participate in the 3rd Annual Family Friendlyz, which happens from 2 to 5 p.m., Sunday, April 27, at Cool Sports (Home of the Icearium), 110 S. Watt Road in Farragut. Team check-in begins at 1:15 p.m. Bidding is open through the close of the event.

Join the Backyard Game Competition by joining a team, volunteering or donating. Every contribution earns a team points toward becoming the “Knoxville Village Champs.” All donations are tax deductible. Learn more at Family Friendlyz’s site: fund-raise.givesmart.com

An online Silent Auction includes more than 70 local items and experiences up for grabs, including a Dormie Network Golf membership (valued at \$12,000); a six-night Orlando vacation at The Fountains (valued at \$3,700); a private concert with Chuckwagon! (valued at \$500); and tickets to Anakeesta, Dollywood, Soaky Mountain, Ripley’s Aquarium and Zoo Knoxville.

- **MEDIC blood donors** through Saturday, May 10, will receive a ticket to Soaky Mountain Waterpark. Donations in March were lower than expected, and donors are encouraged to donate.

Appointments can be made online at www.medicblood.org, via the MEDIC app, or by calling 865-524-3074. Walk-ins are welcome, including the 11000 Kingston Pike Farragut location.

- **Dogwood Arts Festival, now in its 64th year, will take place** from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday, April 25–26, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, April 27, at World’s Fair Park (Performance Lawn, Amphitheatre, Greenway), 963 World’s Fair Park Drive in downtown Knoxville. For more information, visit www.dogwoodarts.com/dogwoodartsfestival

Star-Petr

From page 3B

is near miraculous. Three of the riders that I know personally were suicidal the day they walked in the door.” They are no longer suicidal.

“God put something in a horse that allows the animal to relate to human beings and likewise humans to horses.”

A majority of STAR participants have physical and/or mental disabilities. “It has given him something of his very own; it’s not the rest of the family; it’s not his three brothers,” one mother of a STAR participant said in the video. “It’s his time and he loves it.”

“That’s something she could be proud of because of her friends who play softball or basketball,” another parent said about her daughter’s positive therapy. “Not very many of them were riding horses.”

Honoring Petr

About STAR founder and recently retired executive director Lynn Petr, “What began originally as her college thesis (in the mid-to-latter 1980s) has grown into a state-of-the-art facility and a place that has

‘Our Town’

From page 3B

ed because “it might be kind of slow sometimes.”

However, after reading the script at home, the seniors chose the play.

“It’s a beautiful story that follows mainly George Gibbs and Emily Webb, the leads of the play, and how they grow up, navigate through early life and love and ultimately face the tragedy of death in the end,” Beeler said. “I think there’s a lot of sweet moments in this play. If we do it right, it will re-



Photo courtesy of Chris Cannon/STAR Communication manager

Lynn Petr, seated, gets a standing ovation during Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding’s 20th Annual Bridles & Blue Jeans fundraiser at STAR Saturday evening, April 12.

helped create a positive impact on thousands of lives over decades,” said Chase Kirby, president of STAR Board of Directors, at the fundraiser. “Today, there are similar organizations throughout the country that offer therapy riding activities. In 1987, when Lynn created STAR, there were none.

“She began by using her own horse in her own backyard,” noted playwright Mary Donnet Johnson said. “You could say

Lynn’s first director of development was her father, Fred. He would flip burgers and host backyard events to raise money for STAR cheerfully.”

By 2002 came “another great leap. Lynn took a look at the Classifieds and an ad for 63 acres of pasture land in Loudon County jumped out at her.”

STAR now has 23 full and part-time staff and 443 volunteers alternately contributing seven days a week.

ally touch a lot of people.”

“We think it has a really beautiful and important message, especially for nowadays, that we would want to put on the stage,” Toon said.

“The message is to really enjoy life while you are living it and to not take for granted what you have around you,” he added. “As a senior, I think that’s something that’s really important as we’re all going off to college. We really should look for the beauty, even in the tedious, dryer moments in life.”

“But, it’s not just for the se-

niors,” Dudley said. “It’s also for the underclassmen, as well, because when we’re in high school, things kind of move slow, but enjoying those little moments while we have them, you really don’t realize until it’s over. Making sure they know that is really important to all of us.”

“I really enjoyed working with them on this,” Wooley said, adding the play has a minimalist stage setting to amplify the students’ acting with a stage manager who narrates and guides the audience through the play.

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Donna Jean (Jewett) Hawn, age 90 of Farragut, passed away Thursday morning, April 17, 2025, at Parkwest Medical Center in Knoxville. Donna was born in Juneau, Alaska, to the late Leo Julius and Helen Agnes (Laurie) Jewett. She worked for a short stint in the travel industry as a bookkeeper; however most of her life was dedicated to her husband, children and volunteer work.

Donna was a proud member of the Farragut community and dedicated many hours to serving as a docent with Farragut Folkllore Museum. She also was a long-



Mrs. Hawn

obituary

time member of Philanthropic Educational Organization, a national organization where women motivate women. In her spare time she enjoyed working in crafts and needlework. She also enjoyed a good puzzle book. Donna was preceded in death by her parents; her hus-

band, Clyde L. Hawn; her son, Kevin Hawn; and her sister, Marilyn Olsen. Mrs. Hawn is survived by her devoted children, Shannon (Robert) Coats of Kent, Washington, and Keith Hawn of Farragut; grandchildren, Imara, Khalil and Malik; and brother, Robert (Jeannie) Jew-

ett of Silverton, Oregon. If you desire, memorial contributions may be made to the Philanthropic Educational Organization online at <https://www.peointernational.org/>. The family received friends from 5 to 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, in Click Funeral Home Farragut Chapel, 11915 Kingston Pike in Farragut. To leave online condolences: www.clickfh.com

Grand Reunion

From page 3B

coffee and doughnuts for those attending the “Farragut Grand Reunion” at Virtue. Growing up, neither I nor my cousins ever attended this particular reunion — we only heard bits and pieces about it over the years at Sunday lunch at my aunt’s house (Anne Shipley). It was the only Saturday that our parents weren’t on the farm working cattle, cutting hay or planting tobacco, but had gone to the reunion. Two years ago, my uncle


(Bill McFee) made his traditional visit from West Lafayette, Indiana, to see his old high school buddies and maybe an old girlfriend or two. Upon his arrival with his wife and daughters, he talked about who he hoped to see and how disappointing it was that some would not be there; and he shared a few funny stories from back in the day. So, I decided it was time for me to go hear the stories for myself, meet many older Farragut graduates from the late ’40s, ’50s into the mid-’60s. There were some old annu-

als with many of my family relatives pictured on the pages with descriptions of their activities and group sport pictures. You could learn about each of them as teenagers. My father passed away in 2015, and I am so disappointed that I never went with him to the FHS Grand Reunion to hear his own stories about playing football, basketball, F.F.A. and some mischievousness, like beaning the principal in the head with a snowball or running his porch swing up the flagpole.

But I had the next best thing: his best friend and little brother “Willie,” my uncle, who shared stories of their adventures in school, on the ballfield and on the farm. **Grand Reunion invite** The Grand Reunion is traditionally for anyone who attended the old brick building on the hill that served its students from 1909 to 1976, and the tradition continues to this day. If you or your relatives attended Farragut School at any time or you are interested to see FHS history, hear stories and meet some of the Concord

community pioneers, I would encourage to you to attend the FHS Grand Reunion at Virtue Church on the first Saturday in May (May 3) from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. They ask for a \$5 donation at the door to cover the refreshment cost. You will receive a number ticket for some terrific handmade door prizes donated by classmates. Come see us and many old timers from the Concord community that attended the school on the hill. It’s great fun and you won’t be disappointed.

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Saturday

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Way Station Trail & Kingston Pike, 37934

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GARAGE SALE

Saturday, April 26

8am – Noon

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318 GARAGE SALES

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Garage Sale

Sat., April 26


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Neighborhood Garage Sale


Saturday, April 26

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Farragut, 37934

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FARRAGUT BEER BOARD AGENDA

Farragut Town Hall | 11408 Municipal Center Drive

April 24, 2025 | 5:55 PM

I. Approval of Minutes

A. April 10, 2025


II. Beer Permit

A. Approval of a Class 1 On-Premise beer permit for Little Bangkok, 603 N. Campbell Station Road

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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STAFF/DEVELOPER AGENDA

Tuesday, April 29, 2025

Admiral Room (Room 102)

Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive

9:00 a.m. Discussion and public hearing on approval of a preliminary plat for improvements to Boyd Station Road in association with the Grove at Boyd Station Subdivision, Zoned R-1/OSMR (Rackley Engineering, Applicant)


9:45 a.m. Discussion and public hearing on approval of a site plan for a gym renovation and an expansion to the St. John Neumann Catholic School, 625 St. John Court, Zoned R-1 (Community Tectonics Architects, Inc., Applicant)

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FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN AGENDA

Farragut Town Hall | 11408 Municipal Center Drive | AGENDA | April 24, 2025

TOWN HALL RIBBON CUTTING 5:00 PM | BEER BOARD MEETING 5:55 PM | BMA MEETING 6:00 PM

I. Roll Call, Silent Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes A. April 10, 2025

IV. Mayor's Report

V. Ordinances & Resolutions

A. Resolutions 1. Approval of Resolution R-2025-07, Revised FY2025 Fee Schedule

VI. Business Items

A. Approval of a revised concept master plan as required for modifications to the commercial portion of the Kingston Pike Village Planned Commercial Development, 13106-13140 Kingston Pike, 18.5 Acres, Zoned PCD (Kingston Pike Properties 2, LLC., Applicant)

B. Approval of the Race for a Reason 5K through Sweet Briar Subdivision

C. Approval of Change Order 2 (Replacement of Mast Arm), Contract 2022-07, Farragut Advanced Traffic Management System Phase 1

D. Approval of Change Order 3 (New Electrical Services), Contract 2022-07, Farragut Advanced Traffic Management System Phase 1

E. Approval of Change Order 4 (Fiber Termination Cabinets), Contract 2022-07, Farragut Advanced Traffic Management System Phase 1

F. Approval of Change Order 1, Contract 2025-06, McFee Park Phase 4

VII. Citizens Forum

VIII. Town Administrator's Report

IX. Town Attorney's Report

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Melody's Topgolf 'Make-A-Wish' greeting; prayer



Photos by Alan Sloan



Melody is an 8-year-old girl from Harriman suffering from craniopharyngioma, which is rare, slow-growing, noncancerous brain tumors. After a warm welcome from Topgolf Knoxville employees, who held its first Make-A-Wish East Tennessee send-off at its 11400 Outlet Drive location in Farragut earlier this spring, Melody showed lots of maturity and religious gratefulness by insisting on leading a prayer

before this special greeting was over. Melody's granted wish sent her to Destin, Florida, earlier this month to swim and play in the ocean. "She has fought her condition like a champ," a Topgolf Knoxville press release stated, adding she was excited "to share time at the beach with her parents and sister, Jasmine. The anticipation of her wish coming true has made her happier."

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