



Parks raises concerns before strategic plan passes

Tammy Cheek

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved its 2026-27 strategic plan during its meeting Thursday, Feb. 26, despite concerns about ambiguity raised by resident Kim Parks.

"I want to begin by saying that strategic planning is important. Vision matters. Priorities matter. Words matter," Parks said. "... And that's exactly why I am here be-

cause the language used in the 2026 Strategic Planning Priorities document deserves closer examination.

"The document opens with a beautiful vision ... but when we move from vision to implementation, the language becomes broader and in some cases, more ambiguous.

"For example, the plan states the Town will 'identify properties that could be strategically rezoned to commercial.'

That single sentence carries enormous weight," she said. "Which properties? Under what criteria? At whose request? With what public input before identification occurs?"

The resolution for the strategic plan stemmed from a Board workshop retreat in January.

"The Town of Farragut initiated its first strategic plan in 2010 and hired Raftelis Consulting to facilitate updating the plan in 2017 and 2023,"

Town administrator David Smoak said. "The Farragut strategic plan helps identify the vision, mission and values of the organization and guides decision-making by prioritizing critical success factors the Town needs to pursue over the next few years.

"Each department in the Town will set its priorities for the year based on these critical success factors, which will also help guide the Town's budget priorities

heading into FY2027 and beyond," he said.

"The Town's strategic plan starts with a vision statement of who we are as a community: 'Farragut — setting the standard for quality of life with a beautiful, close-knit, connected community where individuals, families and businesses thrive,'" Smoak read from the document.

The Town's mission and values, as an organi-



Parks

See PARKS on Page 2A



Tammy Cheek

Patrick Duffy, left, and Linda Purl launched Duffy's Dough at Kroger Marketplace in Farragut. They are pictured with Kroger patron Dennis Beal, right.

Local races heating up

Tammy Cheek

tcheek@farragutpress.com

While potential candidates still have time to back out of local elections, the races already are heating up as people pick up petitions to run for Farragut offices, as well as Knox County and state offices, in the Tuesday, May 6 election.

So far, current Alderman Alex Cain has picked up and returned his petition to also run for mayor, and former Vice Mayor Louise Povlin picked up the petition on Monday, Feb. 23, to run for mayor, according to Knox County election administrator Chris Davis.

"[Cain] has enough signatures to qualify to run for mayor on the ballot," Davis said. "We've not heard hide nor hair from Sean Murphy since he picked up [the petition to run for mayor]."

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen seats up for election are mayor,



Cain



LaCroix

Ward 1 alderman, currently held by Scott Meyer, and Ward 2 alderman, currently held by Joe LaCroix.

Davis noted Murphy also picked up the paperwork to run for the South Ward alderman seat.

See LOCAL on Page 6A

From screen to sourdough

Tammy Cheek

tcheek@farragutpress.com

TV icons Patrick Duffy and Linda Purl made their mark in Hollywood.

Now, they are focused on leaving a legacy.

That legacy brought them to Kroger Marketplace in Farragut on Monday, Feb. 23, for the launch of Duffy's Dough, a ready-to-bake sourdough bread line sold at Kroger, with 100 percent of profits donated to hunger relief organizations nationwide.

Earlier that day, the couple partnered with Knox County Community Action Committee in Knoxville, delivering meals and supporting hunger relief efforts in Knoxville and Nashville.

The bread traces back to a 70-year-old Alaskan

starter given to Duffy's mother when the family lived in Alaska.

"Many people may remember Patrick from 'Dallas' or 'Step by Step,' and Linda Purl was Fonzie's girlfriend on 'Happy Days.' She was also on 'Matlock' and 'The Office,'" said Lauren Bell, head of communications and public affairs for The Kroger Co.

After 50 years in entertainment, Duffy said the couple began thinking about what came next.

"A friend told us he was in the legacy portion of his life and career," Duffy said. "He didn't want to do things that didn't have a lasting impact. That made perfect sense to us."

See SOURDOUGH on Page 6A

CIP keeps focus on infrastructure

Tammy Cheek

tcheek@farragutpress.com

The Town of Farragut is looking at six-year Capital Investment Program projects coming up from 2027 through 2032, which include parks, roads and stormwater improvements.

An update on the Town's CIP budget highlighted Farragut Board of Mayor and Alderman's next budget workshop, which took place before the Board's regu-

lar workshop Thursday, Feb. 26.

"The way we budget for this is the actual monies in the budget for [Fiscal Year] '27 are what plan for," Town administrator David Smoak said. "It's what we put in the budget.

"All future years out are what we plan, and we estimate very conservatively on how much we think we're going to get in revenues and expenditures," he said. "But those can change from

year to year, and they will change from year to year.

"The main thing of our long-term strategy is to keep our CIP in the black," Smoak said.

Among the general government projects, the Board can expect projects costing \$450,000.

In Parks and Recreation, Smoak said for FY 2027, "We are estimating about \$1.9 million in projects to be completed or started and completed for a total six-year CIP of

around \$7 million."

Among the parks projects, the Board is looking at \$65,000 to replace fencing in Anchor Park in 2027, and \$106,000 to renovate Mayor Bob Leonard Park's baseball diamonds in 2027, as well as \$80,000 in 2028 and 2029; and \$32,000 in 2030 and \$200,000 in 2031.

Additionally, the Town will start Phase 5 of the dog park at McFee Park. Cost of construction is

See CIP on Page 3A

Staff Reports

editor@farragutpress.com

Time is drawing near to vote for Town of Farragut, Knox County and state officials in local elections.

Knox County Election Commission administrator Chris Davis said the first day to register to vote before the election is Monday, April 26, while the first day of the early voting period is Wednesday, April 15.

The last day of early voting is Thursday, April 30. The final day to request an absentee ballot

is Saturday, April 25.

"We're relocating one of the precincts out of Farragut High School," Davis said. "There are two precincts currently that vote at Farragut High School.

"We're splitting them up, and we're going to move one of those precincts to vote over at the Korean Church of Knoxville, 108 Farlow Drive, right in front of Costco [across the street]," he said.

However, for other precincts, "it will be business as usual," Davis said.



Enhance your hearing experience

Personalize your hearing experience with the new ReSound Smart 3D app. Available on the iPad, iPhone, iPod touch and Apple everything you need to make a quick adjustment of your hearing aid settings to better engage with the world around you.



The Tower at Park West
9430 Park West Blvd., Suite 335
Knoxville, TN 37923
(865) 693-6065 ext. 125

Fort Sanders Professional Bldg.
501 20th St., Suite 204
Knoxville, TN 37916
(865) 693-6065 ext. 280

Lenoir City Location
576 Fort Loudoun Medical Center Dr.
Suite 207 | Lenoir City, TN 37772
(865) 292-3560

5 locations to serve you. For more info go to www.phctennessee.com

Letters to the editor

To the Editor:

Last week I was unable to attend a Farragut Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting due to illness and prepared the following presentation read at the meeting.

Recently there was much publicity about condemning property to build sidewalks or walkways. I know government has authority by eminent domain for roads, utilities, and schools; but the use of eminent domain for sidewalks and walkways is wrong. I don't know if it's legal, but I do believe it is wrong except sidewalks for school.

For the past several years, I heard many times about "this is what the founders wanted" or "this is what the founders would do". As one of the seven founders I can verify those statements are not always true. The founders were seven people with some very important common opinions, but also some differing opinions.

Unfortunately, only three of the founders remain. I can assure you all, or at least almost all of the founders, did not support condemning property for walkways. We tried to be very respectful of property owners.

The first walkway constructed by the town was along Turkey Creek Road 45 years ago. It ended at the sharp curve because it could not be built due to topographical restraints. Too costly and too much damage would be done to several residential properties. Now the Town is proposing obtaining property using eminent

domain and building a very expensive walkway.

Farragut is not an urban environment where people walk to work, stores, restaurants, and schools. Almost all of the use of walkways is for recreation. Sidewalks and walkways are valuable but not a necessity except adjacent to schools.

Our roads and streets are in need of more repair and resurfacing than can be done with currently budgeted funds. I suggest you use the funds for roads and streets.

On August 12th 2025 I sent an email with my concerns to everyone on the BOMA. I was not confrontational- just expressing a citizen's opinion. Only Alderman Alex Cain responded.

I will end with a historical quote by a great man: Ronald Reagan.

"Government has an inborn tendency to grow. And, left to itself, it will grow beyond the control of the people. Only constant complaint by the people will inhibit its growth."

I need to add a clarification about corresponding or meeting with BOMA members. Several months before my email to the BOMA Mayor Williams took time out of his busy schedule to meet and discuss numerous town issues. Unfortunately we did not talk very much about sidewalks. I appreciate the time he spent with me.

~ Eric Johnson
Farragut

Parks

From page 1A

zation, are defined as "an appealing and engaged community set apart by a dedicated team committed to integrity, adaptability and friendly service," he said.

"Finally, the Town has identified five critical success factors essential for fostering a thriving and sustainable community," he added.

- Those factors include:
 - Connecting the community with excellent parks, greenways, trails, sidewalks and recreation programs.
 - Enhancing the Town's financial position.
 - Collaborating at the local, state and federal levels.
 - Supporting and caring for our team.
 - Advancing a high-quality and well-maintained community.

"In focusing on these key areas, the Town's goal is to enhance the quality of life of

our residents, position ourselves for long-term stability with the ability to invest in essential community services, foster strategic partnerships and effective governance, enhance workplace culture and service delivery and ensure a safe, attractive and welcoming community," Smoak said.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met Jan. 23 to discuss policy and project priorities for the upcoming fiscal year during its workshop retreat.

In other business, the Board:

- Honored the late Blount County Sheriff's Deputy Justin Mowery, a Farragut native and Farragut High School Class of 2013 graduate, for his dedication as a deputy who died in the line of duty while on patrol Dec. 28, 2025.
- Approved a 5K Race for a Reason on Sunday, April 26, beginning at Mountain High Outfitters, 11367 Parkside Drive, with the route running through parts of Farragut.

To the Editor:

I have a rebuttal for Farragut Mayor Ron Williams and former Vice Mayor Louise Povlin on their constant Washington double talk. In last week's letter to the editor Mayor Ron claims residents are confusing "two different concepts, namely road improvement projects undertaken by the Town as capital improvement projects and zoning laws that govern how citizens can use their property."

No Mayor, we are not confusing anything, we know a trick when we see one. The Farragut Press reported way back in 2024 when the Mayor changed the town budget for the Turkey Creek Road greenway to the Turkey Creek Road Multi-Modla road project was just a lame obvious attempt to evade state law on eminent domain which the town got sued by Turkey Creek Road land-owners.

In last Thursday's Mayor and Alderman meeting for-

mer Vice Mayor Louise Povlin gave one of her prepared statements claiming, "There is no approved plan on the Turkey Creek greenway". Ms. Povlin, no one ever said there was an approved plan. What residents have expressed their outrage with is the numerous covert attempts to ram a greenway plan through.

The Turkey Creek greenway was on the May 2024 FMPC agenda NOT for discussion, but for a first and only up or down vote where Ms. Povlin made the motion to approve with no plans available on the wall projection screen. The only reason the vote was not held is prominent attorney John Neal told the Planning Commission if the town took one more step on the greenway he would file a lawsuit. In the next Mayor and Alderman meeting the board approved \$500,000 for eminent domain on Turkey Creek Road and Mr. Neal filed the lawsuit.

The Farragut Press report-

ed all of this here: <https://www.farragutpress.com/articles/2024/07/13940>

On the covert shenanigans the town did after the lawsuit was filed to evade state law. What the public does not know is that the town contacted the State Attorney General to void the eminent domain law which he refused, asked the town's State Representative to void the law which failed, and a few weeks ago asked the town's State Senator to void the law but the Senator pulled the bill after loud local protests.

Is it too much to ask the Mayor and former Vice mayor to stop the endless word salads? To stop the double talk? You've been caught at each attempt. Including last week's attempt to end the Agricultural zoning in Farragut.

~ Mike Mitchell
Farragut

Mansour Hasan, State Farm Agent presents

The Good Neighbor Character Award

Braylon C.

Congratulations to Braylon C., a Second Grader from Farragut Primary School, for winning the Good Neighbor Character Award presented by Mansour Hasan, State Farm Agent. Braylon was selected for this award by demonstrating patience. "Braylon is an exceptional student at Farragut Primary School," said his teacher, Mrs. Key. "He exemplifies the qualities of patience and hard work in the classroom. He is a good friend to his peers and an excellent helper to his teachers. We are so proud of Braylon for demonstrating patience daily!"



Mansour Hasan  **State Farm**

10811 Kingston Pike | Knoxville, TN 37934 | Bus: 865-690-7100 | mansour@myknoxvilleinsurance.com

GIVE YOUR SAVINGS A BOOST.

Ready to build your funds faster? Lock in a special rate with one of our federally insured* CDs, then watch your money grow.

4.00% APY**

7-MONTH CERTIFICATE

3.85% APY**

13-MONTH CERTIFICATE

Limited-Time Offer

Visit citizensbank24.com, scan here, or stop by your local branch to get started.





*FDIC insured to the maximum allowed by law. The standard deposit insurance amount is \$250,000 per depositor, per FDIC-insured bank, per ownership category. **Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective as of March 1, 2026. A minimum balance of \$2,500 is required. Fees may reduce earnings. Penalties for early withdrawal may apply. Terms and rates available for a limited time. APYs are not available to brokers, institutional investors or public funds.



YOUR TENNESSEE PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER

<p>Publisher</p> <p>Tony Cox865-218-8883 tc Cox@republicnewspapers.com</p> <p>Editorial Department</p> <p>Tammy Check, Writer 865-218-8873 tcheck@farragutpress.com</p> <p>Jake Nichols, Writer 865-218-8880 jnichols@farragutpress.com</p> <p>Production Department</p> <p>Tony Christen, Production Manager 865-218-8872 production@farragutpress.com</p> <p>Cindy Wilfert, Designer 865-218-8872</p> <p>Circulation</p> <p>Tony Christen, Circulation Manager 865-218-8872 production@farragutpress.com</p>	<p>General Manager</p> <p>Kathy Hartman .. 865-218-8878 khartman@farragutpress.com</p> <p>Advertising Department</p> <p>Glen Coleman, Account Executive 865-218-8884 gcoleman@farragutpress.com</p> <p>Laura Sayers, Account Executive..... 865-218-8879 lsayers@farragutpress.com</p> <p>Charlene Waggoner, Account Executive..... 865-218-8877 cwaggoner@farragutpress.com</p> <p>Linda Tirban, Classified Display, Service Directory 865-218-8881 linda@farragutpress.com</p> <p>Receptionist</p> <p>Terrie Ware865-218-8871 Monday – Wednesday, Friday receptionist@farragutpress.com</p>
---	--

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

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

Deadline for Letters to the Editor and Presstalks is Monday at 10 a.m. for that Wednesday's edition.

Presstalk rules: Keep calls to a 90-second maximum · e-mails to 250 words maximum
Libelous & malicious comments will not be published; profanity will be edited out · Comments are anonymous
Names of individuals (including public figures) will not be published

Letter to the Editor rules: Must not exceed 400 words · Include name, address & telephone number to be verified
All Letters to the Editor from any citizen must have a minimum four-week period between publication
Must not have inaccurate information, such as wrong statistics, from which to form an opinion
We reserve the right to reject publication based on factors including threats, name-calling and foul language

Full rules can be viewed at farragutpress.com under Opinion and Presstalk.

Obituary Information and Deadlines: Send obituary & photo, if applicable, to editor@farragutpress.com.
The cost is \$25 for the first 200 words and 25 cents for each additional word thereafter. The cost to submit a photo is \$10. We only use thumbnail "head and upper chest" portrait photos. The submission deadline for obituaries is 10 a.m. on Monday for that Wednesday edition. Payment must be received by 10 a.m. on Tuesday for that Wednesday edition. Call 865-675-6397 or email editor@farragutpress.com with questions.

Find our 2026 policy for submission of political profiles at farragutpress.com.

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

farragutpress is published weekly at 11863 Kingston Pike Farragut, TN 37934

PoliceReports

■ A West Knoxville woman reported Feb. 18 that a check she mailed for property taxes at the Farragut Post Office, 11409 Municipal Center Drive, was stolen and altered. The complainant told deputies she placed a check made payable to the Knox County Trustee in a mailbox at the post office. She later received notice that her property taxes had not been paid. After contacting her bank, she learned the check had been stolen and forged, with the payee changed but the amount remaining the same.

The check was deposited into a bank account, and the complainant believes it may have been deposited using a mobile device. The case is being investigated as theft, fraud and forgery.

■ A Farragut woman reported Feb. 22 that her backyard fence was damaged at a home on North Fox Den Drive between 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. The complainant told deputies she recently went through a divorce and believes her ex-husband may be responsible. She reported no video footage

of the incident. The damage was estimated at \$300. The case was listed as vandalism, and the victim declined to cooperate further.

■ A Farragut man reported Feb. 23 that an unknown suspect used his and his wife's names to sign electronic documents to list property for sale in Huntsville, Alabama. The complainant said he discovered the issue Feb. 20 while visiting his children and seeing a "for sale" sign on property he owns. The real estate agent advised that signatures and com-

munication were completed online. The Huntsville Police Department has been contacted and advised that he would need to file a report with his local law enforcement agency. The case is being investigated as felony identity theft.

■ A woman reported Feb. 24 that a check she dropped off at the Farragut Post Office, 11409 Municipal Center Drive, was stolen and altered. The complainant said the check, originally written to her sister, had the payee changed and was deposited. The amount remained

the same. The reported loss was \$10,000. The case is being investigated as theft, fraud and forgery.

■ A second complainant reported Feb. 24 that a check dropped off at the Farragut Post Office, 11409 Municipal Center Drive, was stolen and altered. The complainant said the check, made payable to a credit card account, was stolen, the payee was changed and the check was deposited into a bank account. The case is being investigated as theft, forgery and fraud.

CIP From page 1A

\$400,000, but there is a state grant of \$200,000 for the project.

Another project being scheduled in 2027 is the McFee Road park property, for which \$400,000 has been budgeted. Another \$1,625,000 is budgeted for 2028 and \$350,000 in 2029 for the project.

In 2028, the Town is looking to replace Anchor Park's playground with ADA accessible equipment at an anticipated cost of \$425,000. There also is a planned MBLP east and west ball diamond fencing project anticipated to cost \$70,000 in 2028.

However, "our largest portion, by far, is our transportation and infrastructure projects," he said. "Those are everything, when it comes to roads, stormwater, sidewalks, greenways, you name it," Smoak added. "We've got quite a few projects in FY 27; and frankly, we've got quite a few projects carrying forward from FY '26.

In 2027, the Board is looking to add another Sugarwood Drive access to Kingston Pike, expected to cost \$1.8 million; work on traffic monitoring cameras, \$119,000; Turkey

Creek Road multi-modal improvements with a \$500,000 cost in 2027 and \$2.2 million cost in 2028; and the Watt Road Roundabout project, \$970,000.

In July 2024, Knoxville attorney John Neal filed a complaint in Knox County Chancery Court concerning the Town's budgeted plans for Turkey Creek greenway/road improvements. Plaintiffs were Shirley Harkins, David Galbraith and Howard and Bobbie Tipton. The case is still pending.

The Virtue Road Phase III multi-modal improvement project (from Brookmere to Boyd Station) is scheduled to cost \$8,246,513 in 2028.

Additionally, Smoak said he expects there will be a \$300,000 cost in 2027 for land acquisition.

Also, the Board is scheduling a Boring Road closure of the Kingston Pike access in 2027, expected to cost \$50,000. At Boring and Smith roads, the Town is planning improvements with an anticipated cost of \$75,000 in 2027.

The Board also is looking at an Evans Road multi-modal improvement project, starting in 2029 to cost \$820,000 for design and engineering. Construction is planned for 2031 with a cost of \$2.5 million that year.



More than care

A better way to live each day

We handle the details so your loved one can feel at **HOME**.

Personalized Clinical Care, Farm-to-Table Meals, and Engaging Activities

HARDIN VALLEY
Morning Pointe
Assisted Living & Memory Care

Assisted Living:
(865) 343-0081
Memory Care:
(865) 343-0409



NO MATTER HOW IT HAPPENED

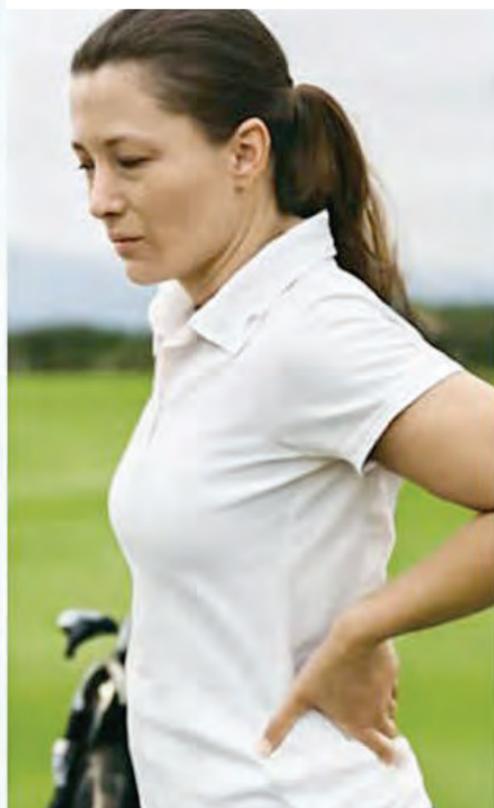
AUTO ACCIDENT



WORK INJURY



WEEKEND WARRIOR



We've got your back



TENNESSEE SPINE
SPECIALISTS

For advanced minimally invasive treatment options,
CALL US TODAY

6223 Highland Place Way, Suite 102, Knoxville, TN 37919 | 865-424-2007 | www.tnspinespecialists.com

Ready to elevate your visibility?



Amplify your reach—pair your print ad with a targeted Facebook campaign and get in front of thousands of engaged, local decision-makers!

Call Kathy at 865-218-8878 for more information.

farragutpress



Tammy Cheek

Fifth Third Bank is making the former Turner Homes building at 11820 Kingston Pike, in front of Village Green shopping center, its own as a new bank branch, expected to open in August.

New Farragut branch for Fifth Third Bank

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

The former Turner Homes building in front of Village Green shopping center has new owners, as Fifth Third Bank recently acquired the building as a Farragut branch.

“We’re thrilled to open a new Fifth Third branch in Farragut,” said Brian O’Meara, vice president and regional marketing manager for Fifth Third Bank, adding the branch is expected to open in August.

Turner Homes recently moved to larger space, opening up its building, previously a bank, at 11820 Kingston Pike, in front of Village Green, to new possibilities.

The building already has

been in the banking business, although it got its start as a grocery store.

“It was built in 1978, as a White Store,” said Jerry Bodie, executive vice president of White Realty & Service Corporation, which manages the Village Green property.

Then, in the 1970s, it became Regions Bank before it was transferred to Park National Bank in the early 1980s, according to Bodie.

There were several banks that came and went before Turner Homes moved in.

“Our recent Turkey Creek and Chapman branch openings in Knoxville showed how our modern design focuses

See FIFTH THIRD on Page 6A

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Parlor Doughnuts, 106 Biddle Farms Blvd., continues to wow Farragut customers.

What sets the business apart? “The doughnut itself,” franchisee Saad Ahmed answered. “The doughnut is a light, airy, flaky doughnut. It’s not like a traditional cake doughnut. The doughnuts are a lot larger in size.

“Most people have a ‘wow’ factor when they look at our doughnuts,” he said. “We have 24 flavors, which is also a lot more than your regular doughnut shop.”

The best-selling doughnut nationwide, through the whole brand, is the French toast, according to Ahmed.

“Then, my personal favorite is strawberry shortcake,” he said.

Other sweet offerings are maple bacon, sandy beach, carnival, honey glazed, chocolate chocolate, campfire, peanut butter cup, among many others.

For those looking for something different, Parlor released a new line of savory layered doughnuts last month to satisfy those cravings.

“That is something you don’t expect at a doughnut shop for sure,” he said.

Customers can choose from margherita, OG pepperoni, pig & fig, chicken bacon ranch, buffalo chicken and Hawai-



ian BBQ chicken, as well as parmesan minis and a savory combo.

“With the style of doughnut we have — light, airy and flaky

— savory doughnuts fit so well it,” Ahmed said. “In fact, even before savory doughnuts was

See PARLOR on Page 6A

Tennova Turkey Creek invests \$3 million in Emergency Department expansion



Photo submitted

Tennova’s team working on the Turkey Creek Medical Center ER expansion include, from left: Tennova Healthcare CEO Tony Benton; Suzanne Thames, TCMC chief financial officer for Tennova; Stacie Roderick, R.N. at TCMC; Travis Simmons, TCMC chief nursing officer; Joseph Bullens, TCMC chief operating officer; and John Pope, M.D., Turkey Creek Medical Center ED medical director.

Staff Reports
editor@farragutpress.com

Tennova Healthcare’s Turkey Creek Medical Center is expanding its emergency department with an investment of \$3 million, adding an additional eight rooms with full trauma care capabilities within a more than 3,000-square-foot expansion.

The project will increase total emergency room capacity to 20 rooms, according Grant Farrimond, Tennova marketing director.

“With construction under way, the expanded space is scheduled to open mid-year to serve patients needing emergency care,” he said.

In 2025 alone, “Turkey Creek Medical Center provided

emergency care for more than 22,000 patients, with more than 1,500 of those metro Knoxville area residents requiring specialized trauma care,” Farrimond added.

Tennova Healthcare CEO Tony Benton said this expansion will increase greatly the medical center’s ability to efficiently help those needing immediate emergent care.

“As our Level III Trauma program continues to expand, this much needed project will provide the space to accommodate the growing needs of our patient population and medical professionals,” Benton said. “The quality and safety of our patients, visitors, employees and physicians are our top priority throughout this work.

“Our ED team, from physicians to clinicians and support staff, is always focused on timely care with keen attention to low wait times and making the patient experience seamless from check in to treatment,” he said. “Our consistent goal is to continue providing the high-quality level of service our patients have come to expect.”

“This expansion will continue to allow Turkey Creek Medical Center to deliver on its 30-minute ER service pledge, enhancing patient satisfaction and accommodating the growing number of patients needing emergency care,” Farrimond said.

“As Knoxville has grown, so has the number of people

See TENNOVA ER on Page 5A

Business Expo 2026
Wednesday, April 22 | 12-4 pm
THE VENUE AT LENOIR CITY
7690 Creekwood Park Blvd, Lenoir City, TN 37772

PRESENTED BY
FARRAGUT WEST KNOX
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Presenting Sponsor:
Slamdot
Proven Digital Marketing Strategies
Over 20+ Years of Business

BOOTH SPACES OPEN
to Members & Non-Member Businesses
but are filling quickly!
Reserve yours now and get your business in front of 500+ attendees!

The Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce is excited to welcome businesses and attendees to our
2026 Business EXPO
The expo will take place on
Wednesday, April 22, 2026
from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm
The Venue at Lenoir City at 7690 Creekwood Park Blvd.

Business Sponsors: CertaPro Painters; LCUB; Y-12 Federal Credit Union
Community Sponsors: Simply Magical Vacations by Amy; Kat’s Lash Lounge & Wax Studio; NeedsToGo; UT Federal Credit Union
Media Sponsors: Farragutpress & WFIV
Swag bags sponsored by: Graphic Creations

TICKETS:
Members: attend free w/ pre-registration.
Non-Members: 2 tickets for \$5 w/ pre-registration
\$5 at the door w/o pre-registration
Visit farragutchamber.com > events for tickets

SWAG BAGS for the first 300 attendees at the door



Tennova ER
From page 4A

who seek emergency care at our hospital,” said John Pope M.D., Turkey Creek Medical Center ED medical director. “With more space, our medical staff, nurses and other caregivers will be able to see more patients while also helping reduce their overall visit time.”

As part of the hospital’s continued efforts to support its designation as a Level III Trauma Center, “Turkey Creek Medical Center continues strengthening partnerships with local EMS agencies

Photo submitted

Tennova Healthcare is in the process of expanding its emergency department at Turkey Creek Medical Center near Farragut.

and enhancing coordination to ensure patients receive timely, high-quality emergency care from the field to the hospital,” Farrimond said. “To further support these initiatives and prepare for the expanded ED operations, the hospital has recently recruited 15 additional positions within its emergency department.”

To make room for the expanded ED footprint, a few departments will be relocating to other areas of the TCMC campus with minimal disruption for both guests and staff alike, according to Farrimond.

Parlor
From page 4A

an idea for the brand, I thought that in my head a long time ago, so the brand did what everyone was thinking.

“And, we’re going to be rolling out other seasonal options on that in the future,” he said. “Now, it gives our customers a real lunch option.”

For instance, people can come by for a dozen margherita or pepperoni doughnuts instead of a pizza.

Secondly, Ahmed said what sets Parlor apart is “the atmosphere, design and vibe of the shop.”

“When you think of a doughnut shop, this is not what you’d think,” he said. “When you think of a coffee shop, you do.”

Along with their doughnuts, he said Parlor “has a very expansive coffee menu, as well, and our coffee can compete with the local coffee shops in the area.”

The menu includes specialty and craft coffees and drinks.

“We’re constantly expanding that menu,” Ahmed said.

Parlor Doughnuts is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days

a week.

Also, the business offers catering for parties, weddings, baby showers and gender reveals.

“We can make those doughnuts custom,” Ahmed said.

He opened the Farragut store Valentine’s Day 2025.

“It’s going great, just going through the cycles of learning how to operate this,” he said.

“We have our first store in downtown [Knoxville], so just learning how to juggle that, making sure we are able to be consistent in our customer service, the doughnuts, cleanliness, overall customer experience.”

Ahmed decided to open his second location in Farragut because he loves the community.

“I think Parlor fits the Farragut community, and Farragut fits Parlor’s brand,” he said. So when he heard about the Biddle Farms at Town Center, he said, ‘Why not?’ We said this would be the perfect spot for Parlor Doughnuts, and it’s worked out well for us.”

For more information, call 865-392-8392 or visit its website at parlordoughnuts.com

Fifth Third
From page 4A

on welcoming spaces and real conversations with customers — something we’re excited to bring to Farragut.”

O’Meara said this opening is “part of our larger expansion strategy, where we’re adding over 200 branches in fast growing communities across the Southeast.”

As such, “Farragut is an ideal market to expand into,” he said. “When deciding where to invest in new branches, we use in-depth data analysis combined with the on-the-ground

market knowledge to identify high growth areas where people want in person banking — and Farragut absolutely meets those criteria.”

For the Town, “the new branch will offer convenient access to full-service banking in a modern, welcoming space designed to make financial conversations easier,” O’Meara said. “This location — the third of 11 new branches we are opening in the greater Knoxville area — is part of Fifth Third’s larger investment in Tennessee communities as we expand across the state.

“Because our site selection focuses on growing areas, this branch is being placed where residents and businesses can genuinely use it,” he said.

The Farragut branch offers:

- A modern, open layout that encourages conversations rather than standing in teller lines.

- Technology that blends digital convenience with personal service.

- Knowledgeable bankers who can help with daily needs and long term planning.

- Convenient hours Monday through Saturday.

Got Business Briefs?

Send press releases to editor@farragutpress.com

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



Join NHC for an Easter Egg Hunt!

Hop on over for our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 28th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Families are invited to enjoy an afternoon of egg-citing fun filled with colorful eggs and spring-time cheer. The event will be held at 122 Cavette Hill Lane in Farragut. Please turn left when entering campus - parking is available in front of each entrance. We can’t wait to celebrate with you!

To learn more about NHC and their Farragut-area communities, contact Harriet Amonette at harriet.amonette@nhccare.com or go to nhccare.com.



Estate Planning
Wills, Trusts, Probate, Conservatorships, Special Needs Trusts



Cathy Warmbrod
Attorney
McDonald, Levy & Taylor

MLT
McDonald, Levy & Taylor, PLLC
MY LEGAL TEAM

10805 Kingston Pike, Suite 200 | Knoxville, TN 37934 | Next to Costco
Phone: 865-966-4343 | www.mltlaw.com

Tennessee HOME REPAIR & REMODELING Co., Inc.
Licensed, Bonded & Insured • Lic:#00007016

A business built on **hard work.**
A reputation built **on quality.**
All Work Guaranteed!
Over 30 Years Experience



“We are a Complete Home Repair, Remodeling & Maintenance Co.”

ROOF REPAIR Specialists

“Call today for a FREE estimate!”
865-274-3791
Email: tennesseehomerepair@yahoo.com

farragutpress is now accepting political profile submissions for the 2026 election cycle.

As the 2026 election season approaches, farragutpress is providing political candidates with an opportunity to share their message directly with readers through candidate profiles published in the newspaper.

- Each candidate may submit one profile, and the written content should be 400 words or fewer.
- One photograph may accompany the profile.
- While the newspaper will not alter the substance or message of submitted profiles, it reserves the right to make spelling and grammar corrections as needed / AP style.
- All submissions will be reviewed by the Publisher prior to print deadlines to ensure they meet established standards.
- Candidates need to provide contact information with their submission in case clarification or follow-up is necessary.

Candidates may email their political profiles to editor@farragutpress.com

Deadline for profiles is Friday by 12 p.m. prior to the following week’s publication.




11863 Kingston Pike | Farragut, TN 37801 | 865-675-6397 | farragutpress.com



We’re Here to Get You There.

Our local advisors work side-by-side with you to get your financial plan where you want it to be.

Call Us at 865-218-8400 to Start Planning.

rkcapital.com

Rather & Kittrell is a Registered Investment Advisor



Sourdough

From page 1A

Around that time, Duffy had been bringing homemade sourdough rolls — made from the longtime family starter — to dinner parties.

“So we thought, maybe that’s it,” he said. “Let’s try a small bread situation and donate all the profits to charity.”

They began baking out of Purl’s garage but quickly outgrew the space. With advice from business friends, they created 200 all-in-one kits with dehydrated starter and sold them online.

“And we sold out,” Duffy said.

The story went viral, but demand soon exceeded what they could produce.

“With the starter, once people have it, they never have to buy it again,” Purl said. “So we knew we needed to find a bakery effort willing to take us on.”

They were introduced to Kroger, whose charitable mission appealed to them.

“We knew something about their Zero Hunger | Zero Waste policy,” Purl said. “They are serious about giving back in

each community they serve.”

What they expected to be a 20-minute pitch in Cincinnati turned into a four-hour meeting with Kroger’s board and a comprehensive licensing agreement.

“They liked the bread,” Duffy said, “but more they liked that our goal was to give away 100 percent of the profits.”

During their Tennessee vis-

it, the couple learned that one in seven adults and one in six children face hunger in the state.

They toured local efforts, such as Meals on Wheels and Knox County CAC, where workers begin at 5:30 a.m., preparing thousands of meals and delivering more than 1,000 meals daily to seniors, schools, Boys and Girls Clubs and others in need.

Local

From page 1A

In the alderman race, “Joseph ‘Joey’ Ruffalo has enough signatures to be on the ballot in Ward I — North Kingston Pike,” the election administrator said. “South of Kingston Pike, gosh a lot of people have picked up [petitions].”

In the South Ward alderman race, current Alderman Joe LaCroix has returned his petition to run for that seat. Other contenders are Matthew Par-

sons, Murphy, Randal Roberts and Greg Wiberley.

“It’s getting busy,” Davis noted.

In the Knox County race for mayor, County Commissioners Kim Frazier, representing the At-Large Seat 11, and Larsen Jay, representing At Large Seat 10; School Board member Betsy Henderson, representing District 6, are running on the Republican ballot while Beau Hawk is running on the Democratic ballot. They will face off in the General

Election on Aug. 6.

Farragut residents will not be voting on District 5 Commission or District 5 School Board seats, currently held by Angela Russell and Lauren Morgan respectively, as they are not on the ballot for the May election.

“That was two years ago,” Davis noted, adding they will not be up for election until 2028.

However, Farragut residents will get to vote on a couple of at-large seats, which serve the entire county.

Currently, there are four candidates running for sheriff: David Amburn, Mike Davis, Brent Gibson and former sheriff, Jimmy “JJ” Jones, all Republican candidates.

“They’ve all qualified; they’ve all met the Police Officer Standards of Training,” the Election Commission administrator said. “All four will presumably be on the ballot.”

The first day to pick up a petition for the Farragut election was Friday, Jan. 9, while the deadline to pick up and return

a petition is noon Tuesday, March 10. Still, “It’s literally two weeks from today that candidates have to finish up their paperwork for Town of Farragut to run for office,” Davis said.

The deadline to withdraw from the race is noon, Tuesday, March 17, according to Knox County Election Commission. Davis said on that date, the Election Commission will approve all the candidates, and the ballot will be set.



PRESENTING SPONSOR:

Summer Programs
to Strengthen Reading and Math Skills
Enrolling NOW!

Huntington
Your Tutoring Solution
A McGrath Family Business

117 N. Peters Road | Knoxville, TN 37923
Call (865) 691-6688 Today
www.huntingtonhelps.com

the Y YMCA

**For a better you.
For a better community.
For a better country.**

The Y. For a better us.
5 Knoxville locations. Hundreds of group classes. No contracts. Stop by the Y and see what you’ve been missing.

www.YMCAetn.org

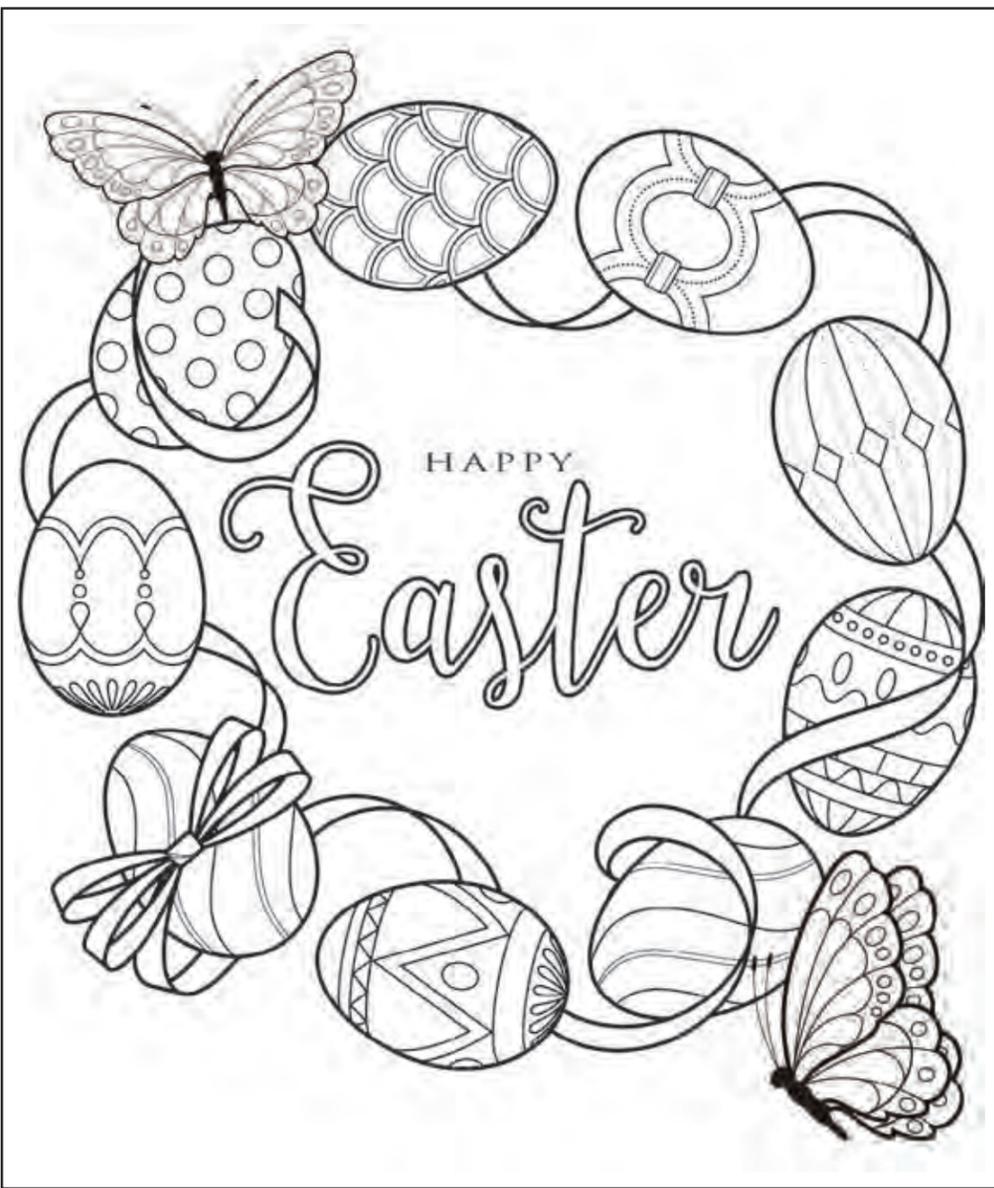
Happy Easter from

THE VILLAGES OF FARRAGUT

TheVillagesFarragut.com
865.671.2500

NHC PLACE FARRAGUT

122 Cavette Hill Lane
Knoxville, TN 37934
865-777-9000
www.nhcfarragut.com



GOING THE EXTRA MILE FOR YOU

Help us better serve you more quickly during an outage or emergency. Please register with our Outage Management System.

Call 1-844-Our-LCUB and choose Option 1.
IT JUST TAKES A MINUTE TO BE PREPARED!

LCUB
Doing the Extra Mile

Above All In Service

Greg Scalf, Agency Owner

Knoxville Insurance Group

220 South Peters Road | Knoxville TN 37923
www.knoxvilleinsurancegroup.com
P 865.694.9788

Elect Richie Beeler
Knox County Clerk

Paid for by Committee to Elect Richie Beeler - Chris Julian, Treasurer

Easter Coloring Contest Rules

1. Entries will be judged on a basis of originality and creativity. Decisions of the judges are final.
2. Prizes awarded: 1st, 2nd and 3rd
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, March 26, 2026**

105.3 WFIV

“alexa, play WFIV.”

Tune In to Farragut’s Home for Good Times and Great Music...
105.3 FM WFIV

To Advertise on 105.3 WFIV, call:
Darrell Bryan, Director of Sales
darrell@wfiv.com • 865-218-5609

Entry Form

Name _____ Age _____

Parent/Guardian _____

(Please print and sign)

School _____ Grade _____

Primary Contact Number _____

Email _____

Category (Please Circle One): **Ages 4-5 • Ages 6-8 • Ages 9-11 • Adults 12-112 • Special Needs**

Downloadable Copy Available at www.farragutpress.com

To advertise in our Hip-Hoppity Easter Coloring Contest, call 865-218-8878

Mail or Deliver to:
farragutpress
11863 Kingston Pk.
Farragut, TN 37934



Jake Nichols

Farragut senior pitcher Travis Brummitt Jr. (22) fires a pitch toward the plate during Monday's season opener at Knoxville Catholic.

Ads explode for season-opening victory

Jake Nichols

jnichols@farragutpress.com

Travis Brummitt Jr. reared back and fired a fastball right down the middle Monday, Feb. 23, recording his first strike of the year on the first pitch of the season.

More than two hours later, the Farragut senior ripped a 373-foot solo shot toward Weigel's on Fox Lonas Road.

The home run made up just one part of an explosive ending for FHS (1-0), as the Admirals began their push for a fifth straight Class 4A state title with an 8-0 rout over

Knoxville Catholic (0-1).

Brummitt, a Pellissippi State signee, picked up the win to begin his final year in navy. Together, he and fellow Admiral hurlers, Braiden Meredith and Cash Shroeder, allowed just four hits with 14 strikeouts.

"He did a good job, and that's what we're expecting from him, to hit every game and pitch once a week," second-year coach Garrett Copeland said of Brummitt. "That's what we're hoping from him all year. And all our pitchers did a good job, only giving up four hits with 14 strikeouts in seven

innings. They competed in the strike zone, which is what we ask of them."

Brummitt gave up three hits across three innings of work, fanning four. Shroeder and Meredith struck out seven and three, respectively, as they each issued one walk.

Their gritty performance kept the Irish at bay while Farragut worked out some kinks at the plate.

Prior to seven runs in the last two innings, the Admirals' only

See ADMIRALS on Page 2B

Ads, Dawgs sectional bound

Jake Nichols

jnichols@farragutpress.com

One win from state. That is the mantra the Farragut and Bearden girls basketball teams are taking into the rest of this week, having clinched Region 2-AAAA semifinal wins Monday night, Feb. 23.

For Farragut, Saturday, March 7, will mark the first sectional appearance since 2024. For Bearden, it's a seventh straight sectional appearance. But before those unfold, the teams will meet Wednesday, March 11, in the region championship for their fourth clash this season.

To reach this point, each team has experienced a very different journey. At 30-3, the Lady Bulldogs have blitzed through their schedule. They have won 19 games by 20 or more points, even winning their last two games by a combined score of 148-53.

So focused was Bearden that, after a 70-30 win over Powell in the region semis, players barely cracked smiles as they headed to the locker room.

Natalya Hodge poured in 25 points while Emma Rainey and Baylie Myers scored 12 and 11 points, respectively.

"I think they're locked in, and this is their expectation," Bearden coach Justin Underwood said. "Extremely proud of how they defended tonight. Powell has a lot of kids that can score it, so I thought we were great defensively."



Jake Nichols

Farragut guard KJ McNealy (22) moves past Bearden's Theola Mills for a layup during a regular season matchup at Farragut High School. The schools will meet again in the Region 2-AAAA championship Wednesday, but they will each play in the sectional round on Saturday, March 11, too.

So did Farragut, though the Lady Admirals found more success at the free-throw line in a 54-47 victory over Oak Ridge. That win is one part of a 23-10 campaign

that began with a litany of injuries last summer — yet could end in the team's latest state tournament berth.

In their push to get there, the Lady Admirals

shot a whopping 29 free-throws against the Lady Wildcats. They hit 20 to give themselves a bit of a cushion.

See SECTIONAL on Page 2B



Jake Nichols

Farragut senior Brock Lockhart (5) celebrates with Brody Gruver (3) after scoring a goal against Christian Academy of Knoxville on Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Farragut fires early, never looks back

Jake Nichols

jnichols@farragutpress.com

The Farragut lacrosse players are quite familiar with mud, having slogged through plenty of it en route to a Region 1-AA title last season.

Still, when faced with the possibility of a rain-soaked season opener last Thursday, second-year coach Ben Sachs

opted to move the match up one day.

The shift proved wise, as FHS stormed past Christian Academy of Knoxville 20-4 on Feb. 25, at the Farragut lacrosse field.

The win came under a slate gray sky that matched the color of the Ads' helmets. Ultimately,

See FARRAGUT on Page 2B

Hawks soar to first-ever region tournament victory

Jake Nichols

jnichols@farragutpress.com

Relief hit Andy Arendt like a ton of bricks on Saturday, Feb. 28. Then Kymani Smith came next.

In a video shared by Diamond Clear Media, Smith — a freshman for Hardin Valley Academy — barreled into Arendt, who lifted his point guard in a bear hug to celebrate the Hawks' 57-55 win over Central in the Region 2-AAAA quarterfinals.

The Feb. 28 win put Hardin Valley into Tuesday's semifinal matchup with Farragut, but it also locked up the Hawks' first region tournament win in school history.

"When people talk about Hardin Valley basketball in the future, they'll talk about this group," Arendt said Sunday. "And it's something we need to take pride in and understand the significance. This is a big

See HAWKS on Page 3B

Local football standouts earn CAREacter nods

Jake Nichols

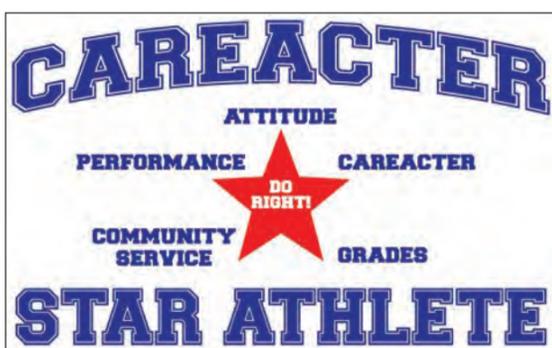
jnichols@farragutpress.com

This past football season, several area student-athletes were recognized for their efforts on the field. But the Care 365 program also takes time to recognize them for their work in other areas. The CAREacter Star Athlete program is based on a five-point star

system that includes the "basic traits of a true champion": attitude, character, grades, community service and performance.

Athletes from all seven schools under the farragutpress coverage area were recognized. They are listed with each school name falling in al-

See CARE on Page 3B



Submitted

COMMUNITY-VOTED
BEST MORTGAGE
LENDER

Home Loans done right.

(And East Tennessee agrees.)

Meet our Home Loan Officers! ☎ (865) 544-5400 ✉ tvacreditunion.com

KNOXVILLE
TVA EMPLOYEES
CREDIT UNION

NMLS 167911. Restrictions apply. Not a government-affiliated agency. All applications subject to underwriting guidelines and approval. Rates based on creditworthiness. Ask for details.

Admirals From page 1B

run came off a sliding score by Caleb Van Lant on a passed ball in the top of the second. Otherwise, FHS put runners on with walks and hits by pitch. But groundouts and strikeouts prevented any more damage for the first five innings in 2026, as a jumble of nerves seemed to zip through the visiting dugout.

"In the beginning, we just had bad approaches at the plate," Copeland lamented. "Our guys were excited to be playing again, but unfortunately, baseball isn't really an excitement sport. So I think it took a couple times through the order to let the jitters and nerves get out of their system and settle in. They love to play and compete, and it means a lot to them."

"So I think we were a little too anxious trying to force things to happen rather than just playing, and it just took a few times to make that happen."

Once things began to click, Farragut capitalized. Matthew Morrison pinch-hit in the top

of the sixth, and Van Lant scored his second run of the game on a wild pitch to make the score 2-0.

Neyland Williams pushed the lead to 3-0 moments later, sprinting home after Morrison knocked a sacrifice fly to center.

Jake Harris added two more runs on a two-out, two-RBI single to left, scoring Zain Kureshi-Smith and Mason Shelton. One inning later, Brummitt blasted a 1-1 pitch for a 6-0 lead before two straight singles put runners on first and second.

Finally, Cole Creasman hit a two-RBI double to score Van Lant and Williams, and Meredith recorded three strikeouts with one walk in the bottom of the seventh to cap off things.

The onslaught forced Catholic to burn through its bullpen, rotating through five different arms in less than two innings.

Brummitt ended the night at 2-for-3 with an RBI, a walk and the homer while Van Lant went 2-for-4 with 1-for-2 efforts from Williams and Creasy.

For Catholic, Connor York went 2-for-3 at the plate, and Conor Hussey went 1-for-1.

Sectional From page 1B

Oak Ridge did not go away easily, taking multiple leads throughout the night. But then again, that is what FHS has come to expect from an ORHS team that eliminated Farragut in this same round last season.

"Anytime you play a team you lost to, season-ending or not, it's a lot more motivation," senior KJ McNealy said. "And two years ago, we beat them here and sent them home on the same court. It's a lot of repetitive stuff, but it always feels good to beat a team we've lost to."

McNealy led the Lady Ads with 20 points and 16 boards while Trinity Curry totaled 14 points. The seniors worked together to overcome an Oak Ridge team that saw 35 points from Evaiya Mitchell with no more than five from anyone else.

"She's really, really good," FHS coach Jason Mayfield said of Mitchell. "She had 26 on us and 17 before tonight. Anna Corum was doing a really good job on her."

FHS also did a good job converting when necessary, as a poor shooting night did not determine the final result.

"Earlier in the season, we lost these games when we shot

the ball like this," Mayfield noted. "We're a lot more determined now but we still struggled around the rim. We just couldn't buy anything. But we've had these weird games since Christmas, just toughing things out. We have to perform better, but a win is a win."

And with these wins, both teams will regroup for Wednesday while readying for their biggest tests yet on Saturday night.

Bearden will look to punch its fifth state tournament ticket in the last six years, while FHS will be looking for its first Murphy Center visit in two years.

Altogether, the paths and teams may be different for these west Knoxville rivals — and that will certainly be the case Wednesday.

But after that, each team has the same goal for this weekend: win one more.

"We've played in this round twice since I've been here, so it's always good to know you're one game away," McNealy summarized. "Win or lose on Wednesday, we are one game away from state. I know it would be great to have my season end in Murfreesboro. It would mean a lot for this group with as much as we have overcome."

Farragut From page 1B

those clouds gave way to a spitting rain but only after the final horn sounded.

"We played a lot of games in the mud last year, and the field treated us well," Sachs said with a grin. "I was kind of torn because that creates a good environment for us to bond. So even though it's supposed to rain really hard (Thursday), moving it up allowed our fans to come out and enjoy it before that."

Prior to the postgame downpour, the Admirals' offense struck like lightning.

Sophomore Finn Sachs scored the first goal of the season less than 30 seconds into the game. Less than three minutes later, FHS led 4-0 off two straight goals from senior Brock Lockhart.

The duo combined for 10 goals on the night with five each from Lockhart and Sachs.

"Brock went right at the goal," Ben Sachs said. "He's

one of our captains, and it makes a big difference when he steps up and puts his best foot forward right out of the gate."

The FHS coach offered similar praise for Finn Sachs, who is currently the second-ranked attackman in the state of Tennessee on MaxPreps.

"His stats reflect the support and trust his upperclassmen have in his skills," Ben Sachs said. "Finn realizes that without other players like Brock Lockhart and Matthew Kitchiner, these type of stats are difficult to have."

Kitchiner, a freshman, scored four times Wednesday. Also, he and Sachs tied for a team-high three assists, while senior Bennett Elton, freshman Pierce Ward and junior Alex Babb found the net once apiece.

Their output helped Farragut outlast the Warriors, who later cut into Admirals' lead to make it 4-2. But FHS bounced back with nine straight goals to end the half, five in the first 5:09 of the second quarter.

Bearden advances with ease

Ken Lay

Correspondent

A dominant season continued to steamroll on for the Bearden High School's boys basketball team Saturday night, Feb. 28, in the first round of the Region 2-4A Tournament.

The Bulldogs made short work of Powell, dispatching the Panthers, 78-39, at Bearden High School.

The Bulldogs' victory over Powell assured a sweep for District 4-4A in the opening round of the regional. Bearden, Oak Ridge, Farragut and Hardin Valley all recorded wins over the top teams in District 3-4A, including the Panthers, Knoxville West, Knoxville Halls and Knox Central.

"This is going to basically be a replay of our district tournament," Bearden coach Jeremy Parrott said. "I'm not

surprised that our district won all four of those games.

"They moved Oak Ridge over here and they haven't had a challenge in that other district for a long time and I'm not surprised that Hardin Valley beat Central."

The Bulldogs (33-1) suffered their only loss to St. Thomas Aquinas (Florida) at an elite tournament in the Tri-Cities

See **BEARDEN** on Page 3B

Catholic survives at Lipscomb

Ken Lay

Correspondent

Battling one of the state's top teams in a hostile environment in a Division II-AA State Quarterfinal game, Knoxville Catholic High School's boys basketball team survived and advanced to this week's State Final Four.

The Irish had a roller-coast-

er ride of a game in a 64-55 victory at Lipscomb Academy Saturday, Feb. 28, in what coach Travis Mains labeled a team victory.

"All of the kids contributed something," Mains said after the Irish punched their ticket to the Volunteer State's grand state at Austin Peay State University's F&M Bank Arena in Clarksville. "It was truly a

complete team victory.

"Everybody played their roles."

Catholic (24-6) led by seven points heading into the fourth quarter, but it was far from over as the Mustangs opened the final frame on a 9-0 run to take a narrow lead.

"We had a seven-point lead going into the fourth quar-

See **CATHOLIC** on Page 3B

Warrior seasons end in DII-A quarterfinals

Jake Nichols

jnichols@farragutpress.com

It was a tough weekend for both basketball teams at Christian Academy of Knoxville, as both Warrior programs saw their seasons end in the Division II-A state quarterfinals.

J.D. Johnson's Warriors lost 45-37 against St. George's at CAK. On the other end of the state, Abby Williams' team met its end in a 57-53 loss to University School of Jackson.

Williams' Warriors had moved into the quarterfinals after a gritty 64-62 perfor-

mance against Middle Tennessee Christian in Murfreesboro.

Meanwhile, Johnson's Warriors had defeated Lakeway Christian 41-39 in Chattanooga before their season ended against the Gryphons out of Memphis.

BREAK SOME CLAYS TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY



Friday, May 15, 2026

Iron Mountain Sporting Clays





Register Now at

MISSIONOFHOPE.ORG

The 3rd Annual Sporting Clays Tournament is scheduled for **Friday, May 15**, at **Iron Mountain Sporting Clays** in **Kodak, Tennessee**. This event welcomes shooters of all skill levels for a day of friendly competition while supporting Mission of Hope's work to bring help, hope, and joy to families in need across rural Appalachia.

Individuals, teams, and sponsors are invited to register by visiting missionofhope.org/clay-tournament or by calling **865-584-7571**. Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses and individuals eager to make a meaningful impact in the community.

Have You Heard?



Visit Us At
JackJules.com

FOLLOW US

@JackJulesKnox

@JackandJulesConsignment



Jack and Jules
Is BACK!

Shop East Tennessee's BEST!

Spring & Summer
Event

MAR

5-7

2026

best consignment sale
2024 - EASTERN TN

SALE HOURS: Thursday and Friday: 10 am to 8 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm - 1/2 Price Event

SALE LOCATION: The Knoxville EXPO Center
Off 640, I-75, and Merchants Drive; 5441 Clinton Hwy., Knoxville

Shop 'Til You Drop With Over 750 Consignors!

Shop March 6th,
12 - 4
and a portion of the
proceeds will benefit:



We accept most all insurance plans.



Parkway Dental

Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

Office of Dr. Dan Lovely, Jr.

323 Fox Road, Suite 200, | Knoxville, TN 37922
865-690-5231 | www.parkwaydentaloffice.com

Shorthanded champs grind past Ensworth, set CPA rematch

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

As the defending Division II-AA state champion, Webb School of Knoxville is no stranger to postseason pressure. But after losing guard Zahnyah Rockett to a season-ending ACL injury Feb. 6, the Lady Spartans had to adjust on the fly.

They found answers in a gritty 45-41 win over Ensworth in the state quarterfinals, advancing to face Christ Presbyterian Academy — last year's title-game opponent — in Thursday's semifinals at Austin Peay. "With her, she's such a disruptor," Webb coach Greg Hernandez said of Rockett. "To lose her, it's been big trying to

figure out lineups, but the girls have really responded." Meeyah Green led Webb with 15 points while Kyndall Mays added 14 and Corisa Lowery chipped in 10. Hernandez praised the collective effort, noting Mays' key baskets and free throws and Green's unselfish play. "It was one possession at a

time," Hernandez said. "They were really physical with us. We had to grind out possessions." Now Webb turns its attention to CPA, a familiar foe. "They returned everybody, so it's a very familiar situation," Hernandez said. "We just have to guard the ball, limit possessions and find a way to impose our will."

Catholic

From page 2B

ter but they have some great basketball players and great athletes," Mains said. "They came out and scored the first nine points, and the crowd was just nuts in that cracker box." "It was a tough environment, but things didn't come unraveled for us. We had some games, like the three games against Webb, where we really fall apart. But we learned from it and we didn't fall apart." Cade Murphy led the way for Catholic's offense as he scored 21 points. He also posted a double-double as he pulled down 10 rebounds. Landon Lee added 14 points for the Irish, who advanced to the state quarterfinals with an 81-55 victory at home over Christian Brothers School.

Bearden

From page 2B

over the winter holiday break. Justin Nordin scored 26 points for Bearden while Sean Capshaw had 20 for the Bulldogs in a game whose outcome was never in doubt. "I think it helped us having a home game," Parrott said. "You always want to be at home in those situations in the first round."

Hawks

From page 1B

deal for us and hopefully it becomes the standard." Tennessee Tech baseball signee Jax Sparks led HVA with 19 points, while Smith totaled 12 with eight points each from Mike Fritts and Kristian Oliver, who also led the team with nine rebounds. "We really struggled in the last four minutes of the game to just hold onto the ball," Arendt added. "It got really physical, and with our lack of weight, we struggle with that sometimes; Central threw us around like rag dolls — but we did enough to hang on." The physical nature of the game spoke to Arendt's relief, which he detailed as he drove to practice. When he arrived, he began preparing the Hawks

for Tuesday's tilt with FHS. "I hope they're not satisfied, but you never know with teenagers," he said. "Farragut is a better team than we are on paper, but you still have to go play the game. So we'll give great effort and find out what happens." That game will tip off after press time, so results will be available online. Regardless of the result, though, Arendt reinforced his pride in his team — and in Smith specifically. "He probably thought I would jump and shoulder bump him in that moment, but he might not realize I leave the ground," Arendt said with a chuckle. "So when he jumped, I just bear-hugged him. He's a special kid and a stud." "Kymani chose Hardin Valley because he knew he would have opportunity here, and he



Photo courtesy of Hawk Aerial Imaging
The Hardin Valley boys basketball team celebrated its first region tournament victory in program history on Saturday night, Feb. 28.

liked us. The relationship is crucial between a point guard and head coach, so I'm excited about his future. He's a dream to coach."

CARE

From page 1B

phabetical order: At Bearden, these athletes are Will Taylor, Grant Cross, Seth Henry, Alonzo Sanchez

and Paxton Parrott. CAK's stars are Gabe Linkous, Cooper Houser, Benton Blevins, Tucker Darga and Kyler Cook. Over at Concord Christian, Andrew Lumsdaine, Allistair Middlebrook, Eli Wolfe, Jude

Wiggins and Pedro Sabat were all recognized. Farragut's athletes include Owen Petoskey, Noah Haag, Fletcher Haddad, Aaron Heatherly and Ryan McCue. The Hardin Valley athletes are Samuel Mann, Brody

Lamb, Dylan Umansky, Andrew Perkins and Mikael Arce. Catholic selections are Brogan Corley, Brooks Johnston, George Mancini, Mitch Cannon and Mark Bartholomew. Finally, Webb athletes are

Shavar Young, Marvin Hicke, Michael Pemberton, Jay Lowery and Baxter Johnson. Congratulations to these student-athletes for their hard work on and off the field this past season.

Ready to Boost Your Energy and Recovery?

Health & Wellness
Peptide Therapy
Hormone Therapy

Anti-Aging
Beauty Treatments
Laser Treatments

Now offering deep tissue laser therapy for pain & inflammation!

MEDI SPA AT CHOTO

865-218-9000
MEDISPACHOTO.COM
1606 CHOTO MARKETS WAY, KNOXVILLE

Paola Lensgraf & Alan Lensgraf, D.C.
Founders

Johnny Brusco's Pizza

NEW YORK STYLE

ITALIAN DINNERS SALADS DELI TRAYS & MORE!

WE CATER

Any Event!

865-671-0403
1620 CHOTO MARKETS WAY
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

Shop Farragut
TOWN SAMPLER
REGISTER TODAY TO WIN \$200 in Gift Cards and Prizes from participating Farragut businesses. For more information go to www.shopfarragut.com

FHS takes Scholars' Bowl top prize

Michelle Hollenhead
Correspondent

Following an almost decade-long draught, Farragut High School's Scholars' Bowl team took top prize last fall, besting 49 teams in the 42nd season of the Tennessee Scholars' Bowl.

Under the leadership of team captain Roshan Ramanan, FHS managed to dethrone last year's champ, Webb School of Knoxville, during the semifinals, or "Philosophical 4" round. Farragut went on to defeat Dobyns-Bennett High School in the championship game.

Team members Roshan, his sister, Nisha Ramanan, Sophia Chen, Arman Oguz and Leyton Lu were presented with the Bowl's Frank Miller Memorial Trophy Wednesday, Feb. 25, by Tennessee Scholar's Bowl executive producer Ernie Roberts and show host and head writer Frank Murphy, both of East Tennessee PBS, which produces and broadcasts the show.

Additional team members are Uday Sujithkumar, Evan Conger and Jared Li.

In addition to the trophy, the team won \$1,000, which team sponsor Tiffany Booker said would be at least partially used "to purchase new buzzers for training purposes."

"We worked on our buzzer skills a lot in preparation for this year's Bowl," noted Roshan, a junior, who said the team also looked at previous questions and Bowl episodes to be on top of their game.

Each game consisted of four students answering questions



Photos submitted

Above: Farragut baseball seniors smiled for a photo on Monday, Feb. 16, during a visit to East Tennessee Children's Hospital.

Right: Farragut baseball players Aidan Flagg, Zain Kureshi-Smith and Neyland Williams play video games with children during a visit to East Tennessee Children's Hospital on Monday, Feb. 16.



Bigger than baseball

FHS seniors give back at ETCH

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

Coming into this season, the Farragut High School baseball team has a clear goal in mind: to win a fifth consecutive state title.

But before they take to the field this spring, the Admiral seniors paid a visit to East Tennessee Children's Hospital on a recent Monday morning.

The event was organized by FHS baseball parents Dr. Safina Kureshi — a pediatric pulmonologist at the hospital — and her husband, Dr. Joey Smith, an emergency medicine physician.

Kureshi noted the impact such an event can have on patients and players alike.

She has seen it numerous times with Tennessee coaches, such as Rick Barnes and Tony Vitello.

Now, her own son, Farragut senior Zain Kureshi-Smith, and his friends had a chance to make a similar impression.

"A lot of these guys will be going off to play college baseball," she said, "so this helps them get used to the public relations side and community outreach."

Kureshi-Smith is no stranger to that, hav-

St. Patrick's Day Parade planned

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut residents, Chandle Turbyville and Christy Connor-Watkins, are organizing this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade in Knoxville.

The parade will take place Saturday, March 14, starting at 1 p.m. in downtown Knoxville along Gay Street, beginning at Main Street and ending at Magnolia Avenue.

"There are many vantage points to enjoy the parade," Turbyville said.

"This is the 9th year of the St. Patrick's Parade since we brought it back in 2017," Turbyville said.

Turbyville, a Farragut High School Class of 1994 alum, and Watkins met through Watkins's husband, Josh.

"Thank you Josh," said Watkins, a 1989 graduate of Knoxville Catholic High School while Josh is a KCHS Class of 1991 graduate.

Watkins said they came up with the idea of organizing the parade while they were sitting at Clancy's, reminiscing about the parade in the '80's.

"Josh said, 'Let's bring it back,'" she recalled. "I said 'Turbyville and I will chair it.'"

The parade came together with lots of meetings with past parade organizers, the city of Knoxville and many volunteers, Watkins recalled.

"The support of our sponsors and the community has been overwhelming, and we could not do this without them," Turbyville said. "We also have an amazing commit-

See **SCHOLARS** on Page 5B

See **BASEBALL** on Page 7B

See **PARADE** on Page 5B

Spread happiness, support STAR with Horse Country plate

Staff Reports
editor@farragutpress.com

Happiness: it's what many find when they enter the gates of Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding, and now the non-profit is offering a way to take that same joy on the road with you.

A Horse Country specialty plate soon will be available, as pre-orders are currently un-

der way.

The specialty plates will be \$35 to reserve. This fee will be applied to the total cost when individuals receive their plate from the state. Purchasers will owe an additional \$26.50 — plus any local county government fees — in order to register their plate at the time of pick-up. This plate is only available to Tennessee residents.

While customized plates cur-

rently are not available, STAR is offering the opportunity to choose your number between its allotted numbers, 0001-1001, for an additional \$40 donation to help celebrate the organization's 40th year.

Once plates are ordered online, purchasers can reach out to 865-988-4711 to choose their number and make the dona-

See **HORSE COUNTRY** on Page 6B



Personal Injury
Estate Litigation & Probate
Wills, Estate Planning & Conservatorships

Whitson Smith
Attorney
McDonald, Levy & Taylor

MLT
McDonald, Levy & Taylor PLLC
MY LEGAL TEAM

10805 Kingston Pike, Suite 200 | Knoxville, TN 37934 | Next to Costco
Phone: 865-966-4343 | www.mltlaw.com

Foster's Fine Jewelry

WATCH BATTERY COUPON

\$799 Includes Battery & Installation*

7023 Kingston Pike In the West Hills Center
865-584-3966
www.fostersjewelry.com
*1.5v only (Most watches included) Must present coupon. Expires 3/31/26

Move Forward with Confidence Prepare For What's Next

Transitioning from wealth-building to retirement? We provide expert financial planning and investment management to help business owners and professionals make confident, tax-efficient decisions. As a fee-only fiduciary, your best interest is our only priority.

PATRIOT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

- ✓ Personalized financial plans built around your goals
- ✓ Fee-only fiduciary guidance
- ✓ Over 30 years of trusted experience

(865) 288-2121
patriotinvestment.com
Connect with us to get started!

Tennessee Scholars' Bowl executive producer Ernie Roberts, left, and program host and head writer Frank Murphy, right, presented the Frank Miller Memorial Trophy to FHS Scholars' Bowl team sponsor Tiffany Booker, second from left, and FHS Scholars' Bowl team members, beginning third from left, Sophia Chen, Arman Oguz, Nisha Ramanan, Leyton Lu and team captain Roshan Ramanan. Not pictured are team members Uday Sujithkumar, Evan Conger and Jared Li.

Photo by Michelle Hollenhead



Scholars
From page 4B

in literature, language, math, science, art, geography, music, sports, history and religion, and other subjects.

As the team began preparing for the current season, Roshan "showed true leadership skills," Booker said, as he reached out to Roberts when their previous sponsor had to step away from the role due to personal reasons.

"Roshan contacted me, because we had worked with the [FHS] SGA, when they helped out with the Love Kitchen, and he knew who to reach out to and where," Roberts noted.

"They got in just under the wire!" Roshan, who has been a member of the Scholars' Bowl team since he was a ninth-grader at Farragut High School — when FHS began competing in the event again the previous year following a brief hiatus — was modest in his assessment of the bowl itself.

"It was a true team effort," he said. "We have strong members."

While the shows were recorded last fall, the programs

began airing on East Tennessee PBS Jan. 12, and are continuing through March 19, when the championship game will be broadcast. The Bowl was conducted in a single elimination style. The "Threshold of 32" ran Feb. 5-26; the "Smart 16" began Feb. 27 and will run through March 10; the "Educated 8" will be shown March 11-16; the "Philosophical 4" will run March 17-18; and the championship game will air March 19.

All broadcast times are weekdays at 5:30 p.m.

The Tennessee Scholars' Bowl featured students from public, private, parochial and home schoolers from Anderson, Blount, Carter, Claiborne, Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, McMinn, Monroe, Roane, Scott, Sevier, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington counties in Tennessee, as well as Whitley County in Kentucky, according to a press release.

Recent Tennessee Scholars' Bowl champions include Hardin Valley Academy in 2024 and 2021, Cedar Springs Homeschool (2020 and 2019), Webb School of Knoxville in 2018 and 2025; and FHS in 2017.

Parade
From page 4B

tee that helps drive our mission."

"It is a fun labor of love," Watkins said about organizing the event.

"It's a lot of work but the results make it all worth it" Turbyville added. "We have participants from all over. Small businesses, dance troops, families, friend groups, politicians, churches and schools.

"It's a great way to advertise to thousands of people," she added. "Sign-ups are close, Monday, March 9," Turbyville said. "As of now, we have over 80 units, which is the largest amount we have ever had. We are so excited!"

In choosing Jimmy Houston as the grand marshal, Watkins said, "The Bassmaster Classic is in town, and he is a true fishing legend and Bassmaster. We are very blessed that he is honoring us as grand marshal."

To make the event worthwhile, Turbyville said, "We wanted to make the greatest impact with the funds that we raise."

Watkins said Catholic Charities of East Tennessee have a program that will help anyone in any situation regardless of age, race, religion, orientation, disability or income. No one is turned away."

To participate in the 2026 parade, people can visit www.knoxpatrickspatrade.com.

Alzheimer's Tennessee

WALK TO MAKE ALZHEIMER'S A MEMORY

KNOXVILLE



KICKOFF

WHEN: Friday, March 6th @ Noon

WHERE: Buddy's Bearden Banquet Hall, 5806 Kingston Pike

Please Make Your Lunch Reservation by Monday, March 2nd by using the link below:

www.alzTennessee.org/KnoxLunchRSVP

Join Alzheimer's Tennessee for LUNCH to learn how you can help

Make Alzheimer's a Memory!

Get Tips, Tools and FUNdraising supplies to get your team started on the right foot.

Knoxville Walk to Make Alzheimer's a Memory

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

@ CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Honor your loved ones and support local families living with Alzheimer's and dementia.

Visit www.alzTennessee.org/KnoxWalk for details and sign up today.






Serving Farragut and West Knoxville since 2005

865.675.3474

info@waycoolhvac.com | www.waycoolhvac.com

PROUD MEMBER OF THE **FARRAGUT WEST KNOX**



Building brands starts here

SINCE 1987

866.922.8221 | GRAPHICCREATIONS.COM | KNOXVILLE & OAK RIDGE LOCATIONS



The **MORNING SHOW**
with **DARRELL**

JOIN US FOR:

- YOUR FAVORITE 70'S AND 80'S MUSIC
- PETE MICHAELS TRAFFIC • LOCAL INFORMATION AND WEATHER
- LOCAL INTERVIEWS • FOX NEWS

105.3 WFIV
good times. great music.

Email: darrell@wfiv.com • WFIV 105.3 • 865-218-5609




Caring and Coping
Caregiver Workshop for Families & Professionals

Knoxville: Tuesday, March 17

Laurel Church of Christ | 3457 Kingston Pike | Knoxville, TN
8:30 am Registration | Lunch is Provided | Program Ends at 2 pm

Caregivers are invited for a **FREE** half day of education, encouragement and inspiration. Learn from leading, local experts.

Register at alzTennessee.org/Workshops or call **(865) 544-6288**

Alzheimer's Tennessee Main Office:
5801 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919 | Phone: 865.544.6288
www.alzTennessee.org | www.facebook.com/AlzTN



Photo submitted

FHS tops number of National Merit Finalists

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut High School's cream of the crop continues to increase.

This year, "we are proud to recognize 18 National Merit Finalists for 2026, the highest total for a single year in school history," said Laura Austin, FHS college and career facilitator.

The finalists are: Jessie An, Sophia Chen, Ethan Guo, Grace Im, Sruti Kamu-

jula, Isabel Kao, Hisato Kurosaki, Jared Li, Nuoyan Li, Alex Lin, Albert Liu, Leyton Lu, Adithya Sastry, Dorian Shultz, Yunpeng Tan, Nate Williamson, Emily Xu and Frank Yan.

"More than 1.3 million juniors from approximately 20,000 high schools entered the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2024 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which serves as the initial screening for program

entrants," Austin said. "The nationwide pool of semifinalists — representing less than 1 percent of U.S. high school seniors — includes the highest-scoring students in each state," she said. "From this distinguished group, more than 15,000 students advanced to finalist standing. "The selection of approximately 6,870 Merit Scholarship winners from among these Finalists is now under way," Austin added.

Horse Country

From page 4B

tion. Numbers will be chosen on a first-come, first-served basis.

STAR, entering its 40th year in March, is a 501(c)3 non-profit offering a place where breakthroughs can happen, where healing through horses is possible and where each participant has something that is uniquely their own, according to a STAR press release.

"It's happy because it makes me happy, it makes him happy, and it's just so uplifting for us," one participant's mother said. "Even driving out here, [my son is] so excited about it. He's never unhappy to be here, even if he's not feeling his best. This is always uplifting for him."

"STAR's mission is to foster personal achievement by providing therapeutic experiences through horse-related activities for persons with disabilities or other special challenges; and for participants, those things all come together alongside their equine partner," the press release stated.

"Being in a place where limits fade away is unexplainable," STAR director of programs Brittany Ferrell added. "You have to experience it for yourself."

"It's different for everybody — the volunteers, the participants, the horses even," she said. "Everyone who walks through these doors experi-

ences something different. It's unexplainable. It's pretty evident that it's special.

"Therapeutic riding offers benefits that far outweigh the happiness of the moment, making the impact of Shangri-La even more special," she said. "It truly becomes a paradise where goals can be reached for every participant."

And now, STAR's impact can be seen across highways of Tennessee through this one-of-a-kind specialty plate, which will celebrate the healing power of horses.

"Designed with a rolling hills landscape background, it's a beautiful nod to Tennessee's equestrian heritage," the press release stated.

Once 1,000 plates are pre-ordered, production of the plates will begin and Tennessee residents will be able to show their love for horses and support STAR's mission along the way.

"A portion of every plate sold will be donated directly to STAR, helping the organization continue as a true equine-assisted Shangri-La," the release stated. "Every pre-ordered license plate helps STAR continue to allow participants to find their haven of growth and joy through horses."

More information regarding the Tennessee Horse Country specialty license plate may be found by visiting STAR's website at <https://www.rideatstar.org/horse-country> or by calling the office at 865-988-4711.

ACT / SAT / PSAT

Helping students improve test scores for 40 years.

Taking reservations for individual tutoring for March/April/June ACT

Michael K. Smith, Ph.D.



Celebrating 10,000 students tutored since 2004!



www.testprepxperts.com
mike@testprepxperts.com
865-694-4108

A COMMUNITY DESIGNED WITH YOUR LOVED ONE IN MIND



Assisted Living | Memory Care | Respite | Rehab



Visit our award-winning campus today! (865) 777-9000 • WWW.NHCFARRAGUT.COM

ROSE MORTUARY

With compassion and comfort, we have been proudly serving the families of this community since 1884.

Broadway Chapel
1421 N. Broadway
523-2121

Mann Heritage Chapel
6200 Kingston Pike
588-8578

www.rosemortuary.com

Robert Starkey, Kent Marcum, Frank Davis,
Keith Richards, William Martin, A.H. Pickle

A LOCALLY OWNED FAMILY BUSINESS

Worship & Praise

Call Linda at 865-218-8881 to place your ad

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

225 Jamestowne Blvd.
Farragut 966-9626
SUNDAY WORSHIP
9 a.m. & 11:11 a.m.
www.faithloves.org



12915 Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37934
865-671-1885

Worship Times
9:30 am
and
11:00 am

For more information go to
www.christcov.org

Sunday Bible Class 9:30 AM
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM
Nursery & Children's Worship Provided
Wednesday Bible Study 7 to 8 p.m.
Weekday Preschool - Monday-Thursday



136 Smith Rd. • 865-966-5025 • farragutchurch.org

FIRST FARRAGUT

Worship Service
Sundays at 10:30 AM
ffumc.org/events
12733 Kingston Pike
865-966-8430 • www.ffumc.org

NEW COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH

Fredrick E. Brabson, Sr., Senior Pastor

Worship Complex
10319 Starkey Lane
Knoxville, TN 37932

Contact Information

Church: (865) 671-3370

Fax: (865) 966-2072

Email: newcovenant@newcovenantbc.com

Website: www.newcovenantbc.com

Weekly In-Person Services

Sun: Family Bible Hour (9:30 AM)

Sun: Worship Service (11:00 AM)

Recorded Services



On ZOOM

Wed: Prayer Meeting & Bible Study (6:45 PM)

Wed: Cultivate (7:00 PM)



"Winning Souls and Changing Lives for Jesus Christ is a Total Family Ministry"



11020 Roane Drive

Sunday
Worship Services

Traditional & Contemporary Worship
9:00 and 11:00 AM | Concurrently
All Worship Services on-site and online.
Nursery available for both services.

11:00 AM Kids Church (K-5th)

ConcordUnited.org

Watch our services on
Youtube.com/ConcordUnited



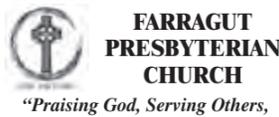
416 N. Campbell
Station Road
Sundays @10:30 am

Experience life in Jesus:
Love, Joy, Peace, and
the Power of the Spirit!

Celebration Service:
Sundays, 10:30 am

Empowered Classes:
Wednesdays, 7:00 pm

www.westgatechurchknox.com



"Praising God, Serving Others,
Growing in Faith"

Family Friendly
Casual Worship
9 a.m.

With a children's program
for ages 3 and up.

Traditional Sunday Worship
11 a.m.

Livestreams at fpcn.org

Loving Nursery from
birth to age 3 at both services

209 Jamestowne Blvd.

Located behind Village Green Shopping Ctr.
(865)966-9547 • fpcn.org



WORSHIP SERVICES

SATURDAY | 5:30P

SUNDAY | 9:30 & 11:00A

MID-WEEK TIMES

WEDNESDAY | 6:30-8:30P

Middle School Ministry

High School Ministry

The WELL (Prayer & Worship)

[f](https://www.facebook.com/TwoRiversTN) [i](https://www.instagram.com/TwoRiversTN) [t](https://www.tiktok.com/@TwoRiversTN) /TwoRiversTN

Web: 2RC.tv | P: 865.777.2121

275 Harrison Ln., Lenoir City, TN 37772

Baseball
From page 4B

ing organized an athletic equipment drive each of the past five years.

"I just wanted to put a smile on a kid's face," Kureshi-Smith said. "I really love to give back, and it warms my heart. To see what my parents do, I see how they treat people and it makes me want to give back as well."

The Farragut players approached slowly at first during their visit, showing hesitance in their interactions with children across the hospital.

But by the end of the hour, they were playing video games with patients and tossing the foam baseballs they gave out as they passed.

"I love to see the players engage," said Cheryl Allmon, director of Volunteer Services and Programs at ETCH. "They were pretty shy at first, but now they're all over the place, playing and laughing with the kids."

"Then I look at it from the parents' perspective, too," Allmon added. "Kids don't know how sick they are sometimes, so they don't worry. Parents

worry. So when they can see their children laughing and engaging, it's a relief and a comfort for them, too."

Later, as players grazed on candy in Kureshi's office, they, too, noted the impact of an event this meaningful.

"If we're able to bring some good into the world, it can help in our own lives, too," senior catcher Jake Harris said. "It really brings us together as a team. We've done Wreaths Across America, too, so we're using it to be good in the community and put ourselves out there."

Harris emphasized that these events help bring the players closer, thus leading to better chemistry on the diamond.

"Half of the game of baseball is just knowing who you're playing with and trusting the guys around you, so the trust we develop with things like this carries over to the locker room and the field," he said. "I've played on teams where I don't really know anybody, and we were not very successful. But this one, I feel like I have a bond with each and every one of these guys."

Now, each of the Admirals' seniors has a bond with the patients at East Tennessee Children's Hospital, too.

And that will last even longer than the shine on the next trophy the Ads are pursuing this season.

"Sometimes we get caught up in the championships when you've got kids in here fighting for their lives," Allmon summarized. "Sometimes you have to look outside what's going on in your world to see there's a bigger picture — and that you can make it better."

classifieds

To place your Classified ad in farragutpress call 865-675-6397.

203 HELP WANTED



is seeking an

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Full time/Part time position available.

The candidate should be comfortable speaking to business professionals and possess good written and verbal communication skills. Must be organized and self motivated.

Sales or customer service experience preferred, but will train the right individual.

Send resume to

khartman@farragutpress.com

Classified Advertising Rates

Line Ads
Private Party 15 words \$47/4 weeks
Commercial 25 words \$57/4 weeks
Each additional word 25¢ per week
Display Ads
\$12.00 per column inch

Classified Advertising Deadlines

Line Ads
Mondays, 11:00 am
Display Ads
Space & Copy: Fridays, noon

Classified Payments

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

These Cards Gladly Accepted:



11408 MUNICIPAL CENTER DRIVE | FARRAGUT, TN 37934 | 865.966.7057 | WWW.TOWNOFFARRAGUT.ORG

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ON PROPOSED CODE OF ORDINANCES

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing on the adoption of municipal code of ordinances will be held by the Board of Mayor & Aldermen of the Town of Farragut, Tennessee, at 6:00 p.m. on the 26th day of March 2026, at the Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive, Farragut, TN 37934, to hear citizen comments on the following ordinances:

1. Ordinance 26-06, an ordinance to amend the Farragut Code of Ordinances, Chapter 111 – Stormwater Management Control, Section 111-7. Design Standards for Detention and/or Retention Ponds, to add a new section that would provide an option for removing the requirement for stormwater detention in the lower portion of a specified watershed where engineering documentation can demonstrate that this would have a positive effect on overall stormwater management due to the timing of stormwater runoff

A copy of the proposed code of ordinances is available online at www.townoffarragut.org or the recorder's office for anyone who desires to examine it in advance of the hearing.

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.

service directory

misc. services

Service Directory Advertising Rates

- 1 Block.....\$65/mo.
 - 2 Block.....\$120/mo.
 - 3 Block.....\$180/mo.
 - 4 Block.....\$235/mo.
 - 6 Block.....\$350/mo.
 - 8 Block.....\$465/mo.
- Spot color \$5/mo.
Process color \$15/mo.

Service Directory Advertising Deadlines

Display Ads
Space & Copy:
Fridays, noon

Service Directory Payments

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

These Cards Gladly Accepted:



WE BUY HOUSES
865-444-8804

BACON
Residential & Commercial
• Junk Removal
• Demolition
• Hauling
FREE QUOTES
REED BACON
Owner, Operator
Text or Call
865.254.4464
www.baconjunkremoval.com

TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RELOCATION SERVICES
AFFORDABLE AND DEPENDABLE
INSURED. LICENSED
WALLY LESSIG, OWNER
PHONE 865/320-4616
TWMILDIFEREL@GMAIL.COM KNOX, LOUDON, AND BLOUNT COUNTIES

Mills Lawn Care
Residential & Commercial
BOOK NOW MOWING MULCHING
Spring & Summer Cleanup
• Pruning
• Bush Hogging • Mulch
Delivery Available
CALL TODAY
Free Consultation & Quote
865-242-2695
Gary & Tammy Mills, Owners

like us on facebook at facebook.com/farragutpress

FATHER & SON LAWN CARE
A Complete Lawn Service
We Specialize in Mowing Large Properties and Quality Lawn Maintenance
Make Appointments NOW For Spring
AERATION
We provide our aeration services with our own commercial ride-on aeration equipment
• Slit Seeding • Over Seeding • Fertilizing
Licensed & Insured
Call Robin 865-705-3856 • Blake 865-963-8351

Residential & Commercial Landscape Design
DESIGN INSTALL MAINTAIN
DREAM GARDENS
• Custom Landscaping & Beds
• Professional Installation
• Plants, Shrubs, Flowers, Trees
• River Rock, Mulch, Pine Straw
• Sod, Seed & Restoration
• Outdoor Lighting Systems
• Irrigation & Drain Systems
• Pavers, Walkways, Retaining Walls
• Patios, Fire Pits, Mailbox Areas
• Parking Areas & Entrance Ways
• Bed Refreshing, Weeding, Pruning
• Seasonal Cleanup & more, just ask!
Transform your outdoor space, dreams come true!
DREAM GARDENS INC.
Reed Strozier - 865-258-1844
Licensed, Bonded & Insured in TN.

home repair & improvement

Let us remodel your bathroom!
Enjoy a bathroom for your lifestyle
HomeTek
West Knoxville/Farragut's Premiere Contractor
BUILD - IMPROVE - REMODEL
865-368-2869
Licensed & Insured
Nominated in City View Magazine "Best of the Best" 2013-2025

Howard Mitchell
Painting & Drywall
Interior & Exterior
30 Years experience
Pressure Washing
Make Appointments Now for FREE Fall Estimates
Licensed & Insured
References Available
Honest • Reliable • Neat • Clean
865-202-8350

RANDY THE PAINTER
FREE ESTIMATES Call: 865-522-3222 Text: 865-455-5022
★ Interiors & Exteriors Painting
★ Drywall, Sheetrock, Wood Repair & Soft Roof Washing
★ We Paint Vinyl Siding
★ FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED
★★★★★ 5 star Google Reviews
Licensed & Insured • 46 Yrs Experience

HANDYMAN SERVICES
Cross Home Repairs Off Your List
• FREE Estimates
• Licensed & Insured
• 20+ Years Experience
• 5★ Rated
• No Job Too Small
Call Or Text 865-973-9798
WEST KNOX HANDYMAN
HOME SERVICES • REPAIR
www.westknoxhandyman.com

Serving East Tennessee since 1974
Termite & Pest Otis Control Service
Locally Owned & Operated
Serving East Tennessee for over 50 years!
Licensed by TWRA and TN Department of Agriculture
CALL TODAY
865-690-1662
Visit us on Facebook
www.otispestcontrol.net

Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly Residential & Commercial Pest Control
• Termite Control
• Mosquito Control
• Wildlife Removal
• Pre-Construction

Mention this ad for 25% off first monthly or quarterly pest control service.

HOME REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT
Pilgrim Painting
Repaint Specialist
Commercial & Residential
Serving Knoxville & the Farragut area for 29 years
Licensed • Bonded & Insured
We take the Pain Out of painting!
We do Home Improvement Projects in addition to:
• Interior/Exterior Painting
• Pressure Washing
• Staining
• Drywall & Carpentry
FREE ESTIMATES 865-291-8434
www.pilgrimpaintingknoxville.com
Major credit cards & online payments accepted
Home Improvement License #291843

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT: All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act and the Tennessee Human Rights Act, which make it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

The farragutpress is not responsible for errors in an advertisement if not corrected by the first week after the ad appears. This newspaper is not responsible or liable whatsoever for any claim made by an ad or for any of the services, products or opportunities offered by our advertisers. We do not endorse or promote the purchase or sale of any product, service, company or individual that chooses to advertise in this newspaper, and we reserve the right to refuse any/all advertising we deem inappropriate or unacceptable by our company standards.

like us on facebook at facebook.com/farragutpress or visit www.farragutpress.com

ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL'S Daddy Daughter Dance

More than 250 fathers and their daughters gathered in St. John Neumann Catholic School's gymnasium Saturday, Feb. 7, for the school's annual Daddy Daughter Dance. "That's the biggest one we've had," said Patrick Wade, SJN director of development. He added everything went well.

"People volunteered for the event, so it's a well-oiled machine," he said.

Fathers and daughters enjoyed dancing to the latest hits and some old classics, such as the Bird Dance; having their photos taken and enjoying refreshments.

See more photos from the dance in the Community section of the February 18 issue of farragutpress.



Patrick Louthan and daughter Belle, 8, do the Bird Dance



Jon Walton and daughter Emily, 3



Jared Winn and daughter Ava Winn, 10



Craig Hamilton and daughter Alice Hamilton, 7



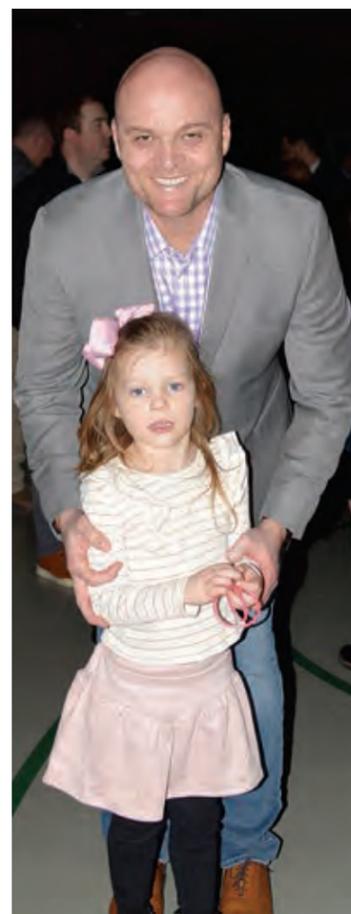
From left, Jemma Atkinson, Annabelle Metz, Bristol Brice, Blaire Snonson, Abbey Sounders and Lillian Chandler



Scarlett Keelen, 9 and dad Trenton Keelen



Michael Holland and daughter, Lily, 5



Jesse McClellan and daughter Emma, 4

Talk of the Town

A Publication of the Town of Farragut



Spring 2026



Get ready for springtime fun with Farragut Parks & Rec

Once things start turning green, Farragut Parks & Rec “springs” into action to present some of your favorite activities. From outdoor recreational activities to outlets for creative expression, Farragut has you covered!

Don't wait to purchase tickets for the **Shamrock Ball**, which is March 21 at the Farragut

Community Center. Tickets are available at townoffarragut.org/register through Sunday, March 15, while they last and are not available at the door. This annual father-daughter dance has two sessions: 3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. There will be music, light refreshments, a craft and photos. Tickets are \$30 for a couple and \$5 for each additional family member.

Kids 12 and under are invited to the **Bob Watt Youth Fishing Rodeo** at Anchor Park on

Saturday, May 9, to take on the challenge of sinking their hook into the biggest fish! Prizes will be awarded for different age groups. This event is free, but registration is required. Register at townoffarragut.org/register for one of two timeslots: 7:30-8:30 a.m. or 9-10 a.m.

The Town of Farragut provides worms for bait, and a limited number of fishing poles will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants are encouraged to bring their



own poles. Participants may also bring their own bait.

Showcase your creativity at the **Art & Photography Show**, sponsored by the Town's Arts & Beautification Committee, at the community center. Show hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday, April 18, and 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, April 19. Awards will be given in multiple categories in both 2-D art and photography. Applications for submissions will be accepted through April 3. Visit townoffarragut.org/townevents to apply online or print a form. Completed forms can be mailed or dropped off at the Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.).

Consider being a sponsor for the Art & Photography Show! Learn more at townoffarragut.org/townevents.

Chalk the Plaza, a celebration of creativity, community and fun is 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

See SPRINGTIME on Page 2



Farragut loves trees

The Town of Farragut was named a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to effective urban forest management. As a requirement of that designation, the Town celebrates Arbor Day!

This year's Arbor Day event will be held on March 20 at Farragut Intermediate School and will include an essay contest and a presentation by the State Division of Forestry for 3rd

graders. The top essays from each class will be displayed in the Farragut Town Hall rotunda March 16-20.

At its March 12 meeting, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen will proclaim March 20 to be Arbor Day in the Town of Farragut. We invite you to celebrate Arbor Day with the Town by planting a tree!

If you love trees, please con-

See TREES on Page 3

Creebank project at Founders Park improves the health of Turkey Creek

A project at Founders Park at Campbell Station will improve the Turkey Creek Watershed and demonstrate how to establish a riparian buffer – something Farragut residents can recreate, says Town of Farragut Stormwater Coordinator Cliff Mann.

The Town, along with the City of Knoxville and Knox County, received a federal Section 319 grant (a program established under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act to control water pollution) to improve the Turkey Creek Watershed. Erosion issues along Turkey Creek at Founders Park have long been a concern, so receiving the grant (a cost share that requires at least 25 percent of the project to be covered by local funds or manpower) is a real benefit to the Town, says Mann.

The project addressed 270 feet of eroded creekbank in the southern end of the park.



To create a buffer, the slope of the creekbank needed to be decreased. Some of the work was done by hand, but some required excavation. Volunteer Erosion Control excavated 120 feet of the steepest bank.

After the more gradual slope was created, coir logs (biodegradable cylinders made from

packed coconut fibers with no plastics) and matting made of the same material were put in place to control erosion. Gaps in the matting were filled with native plants, says Mann.

“Their root systems go deep, way deeper than the roots of

See CREEK on Page 2

Baker School student interns with the Town of Farragut

Claire McCarthy, a member of the inaugural class of UT's Howard H. Baker Jr. School of Public Policy and Public Affairs, is interning this semester with the Town of Farragut Community Development Department. She is a sophomore studying



McCarthy

Public Affairs.

As part of her internship, Claire will work with Community Development and Tourism staff on the formation of the Town Center Cooperative, a group of business owners, residents and Town staff that will help support each other and coordinate public events at Biddle Farms.

Claire's interest in public service came from government and global politics teachers from West High School's International Baccalaureate pro-

gram. She also participated in Tennessee's YMCA Youth in Government Program in high school.

This summer, she will intern in Senator Tim Burchett's office as a participant in the Baker School's Washington Internship Program.

Being a student at the Baker School gives her hope. Even though students have a broad range of policy opinions, partisanship is a non-issue, she says.

“I love being there. It's a really positive environment.”

Board sets priorities for the coming fiscal year

On Jan. 23, the Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BMA) met to discuss priorities for FY2027, which begins July 1, 2026. Each of these priorities is based on the Town's Strategic Planning Framework. All Town of Farragut initiatives are based on this framework, which is made up of these Critical Success Factors:

- Connecting our Community with Excellent Parks, Greenways, Trails, Sidewalks and Recreation Programs
- Enhancing the Town's Financial Position
- Collaborating at a Local, State and Federal Level
- Supporting and Caring for our Team
- Advancing a High-Quality and Well-Maintained Community

See FISCAL on Page 3

WHO TO CALL

Town of Farragut Contacts

(All Town of Farragut phones have an 865 area code)

Ron Williams, Mayor..... 966-0214 (rwilliams@townoffarragut.org)
 Drew Burnette, Alderman (Ward II) 203-5048 (dburnette@townoffarragut.org)
 Alex Cain, Alderman (Ward I)966-7057 (acain@townoffarragut.org)
 Joe LaCroix (Ward II).....773-4847 (elacroix@townoffarragut.org)
 Scott Meyer, Vice Mayor, Alderman (Ward I) ..288-0694 (smeyer@townoffarragut.org)
 David Smoak, Town Administrator..... 966-7057 (dsmoak@townoffarragut.org)

Administration, Engineering,.....Phone 966-7057, Fax 675-2096
Community Development and Public Works

Alcohol License/Permits Crissy Fletcher (cfletcher@townoffarragut.org)
 Finances

Accounts Receivable Pam Hall (phall@townoffarragut.org)

Citizen Requests..... Allison Scott (ascott@townoffarragut.org)

Engineering.....Darryl Smith (dsmith@townoffarragut.org)

Event Permits Maria Rayas (mrayas@townoffarragut.org)

Farragut Court..... Allison Scott (ascott@townoffarragut.org)
 Maria Rayas (mrayas@townoffarragut.org)

Landscaping Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)
 Sign PermitsBart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)

Farragut Museum.....Kristi Vining (museum@townoffarragut.org)

Personnel Michelle Pence (mpence@townoffarragut.org)

Planning Requirements Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)
 Zoning & SubdivisionsBart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)

Public Relations..... Wendy Smith (media@townoffarragut.org)

Stormwater Quality..... Cliff Mann (cmann@townoffarragut.org)

Traffic Enforcement Program.....Jennifer Davis (jdavis@townoffarragut.org)

TourismHallie Reid (visitfarragut@townoffarragut.org)

Building Inspections and Permits..... Maria Rayas (mrayas@townoffarragut.org)

Building Codes Pete Bruce (pbruce@townoffarragut.org)
Elliott Sievers (esievers@townoffarragut.org)
Karl Swierzko (kswierzko@townoffarragut.org)
Andrew Weaver (aweaver@townoffarragut.org)

Fire Safety/Inspections..... Charles Wilson (cwilson@townoffarragut.org)

Codes Enforcement/ Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)
 Property MaintenanceJon Ramirez (jramirez@townoffarragut.org)

Town Hall
 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday
 11408 Municipal Center Drive
 General email: towninfo@townoffarragut.org
 Website: townoffarragut.org

Campbell Station Inn
 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday (closed daily 1-2 p.m.)
 11409 Kingstone Pike
 Website: visitfarragut.org
 VisitFarragut@townoffarragut.org

Farragut Community Center
 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 1-4 p.m. Sunday
 239 Jamestowne Blvd.
 Website: townoffarragut.org/parksandrec
 General Parks & Rec information on programming and events:
 ParksandRecInfo@townoffarragut.org
 Athletic field reservations: AthleticFieldReservations@townoffarragut.org
 Pavilion rentals:PicnicReservations@townoffarragut.org
 Community Center rentals:
 CommunityCenterRentals@townoffarragut.org

Anchor Park: 11730 Turkey Creek Road

Founders Park: 405 N. Campbell Station Road

Mayor Bob Leonard Park
 Main Entrance: 301 Watt Road, Farragut
 West Entrance: 700 Harrison Lane, Loudon

McFee Park: 917 McFee Road

Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza: 11409 Kingston Pike

BlueCross Healthy Place at Farragut Town Hall: 11408 Municipal Center Drive

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.

Tourism Talk

The Town of Farragut’s tourism team has exciting updates to share!

- **Campbell Station Inn:** The Visit Farragut team is thrilled to welcome you to the Campbell Station Inn, which is now open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Stop by to explore this beautifully restored historic landmark and learn more about the amazing restaurants, shops, parks and attractions our town has to offer.
- **Rentals:** Looking for a unique space to host a small event, business meeting or special gathering? The Avery Russell Room at the Campbell Station Inn is now available for rentals. For details and availability, please email visitfarragut@townoffarragut.org.
- **New programs:** The tourism team is launching monthly programs focused on art, history and culture at the Campbell Station Inn. Be sure to follow Visit Farragut on social media to stay up to date on upcoming events and activities.

Check out these opportunities for our business partners!

- **Website refresh:** The Visit Farragut website is undergoing a major refresh, with a focus on usability and modernization. If you are a new business in town or need to update your current listing, please contact visitfarragut@townoffarragut.org to ensure your information is accurate.
- **New Visitor Guide:** We are curating an updated Visitor Guide to better serve guests while they are in town. If you are a new business or have recently relocated, please email us with your updated information so we can include the correct details.
- **Photo share:** We have made it easier than ever to share photos of your business with the Visit Farragut team for potential features in our Visitor Guide, on social media, and on VisitFarragut.org. Use the QR code (right) to upload and share your content.



Meet Me *at the* Museum



Have you been to the Farragut Museum yet? Meet me at the Museum for these exciting happenings:

- At 11 a.m. on March 24, Sequoyah Birthplace Museum Director Charlie Rhodarmer will talk about Sequoyah’s development of the Cherokee syllabary, an original writing system for a spoken language, for History Hour.
- At 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 21, Col. Ed Lowe, author of “A Fine Opportunity Lost,” will speak on James Longstreet’s East Tennessee campaign from 1863-1864, including the Battle of Campbell Station, for History Hour.
- “Farragut Focus: A Creative Community” is open through the end of April at the Farragut Museum. The exhibit highlights artists from Farragut. These are movers and shakers in the world of performing, musical, visual and literary arts.
- A special “on location” History Hour is at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 13! Pleasant Forest Cemetery Director Dave Stinton offers a tour of Pleasant Forest Cemetery, established in 1796. Learn about the history of the cemetery and the people buried there, including a Revolutionary War soldier and Tennessee’s second governor. Parking is limited, so please walk or carpool.
- At 11 a.m. on Tuesday, June 23, renowned author/speaker/podcaster Dr. Tim Holder will discuss the nation’s first six presidents for History Hour.

The Museum is always seeking volunteers to serve as docents. Museum hours are 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Follow the Farragut Museum on Facebook and Instagram for the most up-to-date information!

Springtime

From page 1

Saturday, May 16, at Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza! Enjoy delicious bites from food trucks, browse unique pieces from local art vendors, and let the little ones have a blast in the kids’ zone – all while

watching talented artists transform the sidewalks into stunning masterpieces. A mini art market and food trucks are available throughout the event. This fun and lighthearted competition is perfect for amateur artists! Registration opens in March, so stay tuned for details.

Creek

From page 1

nonnative species like privet and bush honeysuckle, which provides better bank stabilization.”

Once the buffer matures, the creek will be protected from erosion and runoff by a wide section of trees, grasses and shrubs that will also provide essential wildlife habitat. Because playing in the creek at Founders Park is a popular pastime, there will be points of access for those who want to stick their toes in the water, Mann says.

The project has been used as an educational opportunity. Local entities, in-

cluding the UT Institute of Agriculture, hosted a creekbank repair workshop at Founders Park in early March. Participants learned about the process of creating a riparian buffer while helping with the installation.

While the buffer is growing, the area will be protected by a post and cable fence. A permanent sign will be installed to document the process used to improve the creekbank. Mann hopes the project will encourage others to help protect the Turkey Creek Watershed.

“I’d like to see property owners and HOAs create their own riparian buffers along the creeks that are adjacent to their properties,” he says.

The Talk of the Town is a quarterly publication produced by the Town of Farragut.

For more information about this publication, please contact Wendy Smith at 865-966-7057 or media@townoffarragut.org.

SPRING 2026 PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- Unless otherwise noted, register for classes and special events at townoffarragut.org/register, in person at the Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.) or by phone (865-218-3376). **All classes held at the community center require a free membership. Farragut residency is NOT required for membership. Please stop by the community center during regular hours or arrive early for class to register!**
- Payment is due at the time of registration. Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted.
- The Town of Farragut is not responsible for costs associated with the purchase of supplies when a class is canceled.

- All events are held at the Farragut Community Center unless otherwise noted, and all league sports are held at Mayor Bob Leonard Park unless otherwise noted.
- Some events may be canceled or postponed in the event of inclement weather. Please see Farragut Parks & Rec social media (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) for updated information.
- Punch cards for community center gym programs may be purchased at the recreation office. Twenty punches are just \$30, and punch cards may be shared by family or friends.
- **No refunds are given for programs and classes.**

ADULTS

Design a Wreath Workshop

Wednesday, April 15; 6-7 p.m.
Wednesday, June 10; 6-7 p.m.
Ages 16 and up \$15 per person
Design and create your own wreath! One per registrant and all decorating supplies are provided. Pre-registration is required; sign up for each day separately. April's workshop includes colorful floral themes. June's workshop includes Independence Day décor and floral themes.

Chair Yoga for the Wise

Mondays, April 6-June 29; 5-6 p.m.
Ages 50 and up, \$75 for 13 classes
Students will engage in a 60-minute embodied movement session aimed at having fun while connecting our minds with our bodies and breath via movement. Students need to wear clothing that allows for movement and bring a workout/yoga mat, water bottle and towel.

Meditation & Mindfulness for All Levels

Mondays, April 6-June 29; 6-6:45 p.m.
Ages 18 and up; \$75 for all classes
Students will learn about and receive the opportunity to engage in various meditation and mindful practices of increasing difficulty. Students will need to bring a water bottle and wear comfortable clothes.

FAMILY

Mahjong and Gaming Club

Every other Tuesday;
3:30-5:30 p.m.
Ages 9 and up, free
Learn mahjong, tong-its, chess, checkers and other organized board games. For the full schedule, visit townoffarragut.org/register.

Earth Day Adventure Challenge

April 18-26
Wednesday, April 22; 9-6 p.m.
All ages; Free
Celebrate Earth Day all week with Farragut Parks & Rec! On Saturday, pick up an Adventure Challenge sheet at the community center. Complete at least eight tasks before Sunday, April 26, and win a nature-themed Parks & Rec sticker!

Line Dancing

April 10, May 7, June 5, 6-9 p.m.
Ages 8 and up; \$5 per person
We will use our projector to display the steps and instructions needed to learn. The goal is for community members to have fun dancing together.

FITNESS

Rise and Shine Yoga

Mondays and Fridays,
8:15-9:15 a.m.
Ages 16 and up; \$4 per person
Rise and shine! Start your day off right with a morning yoga class led by registered yoga teacher Mindy Wise or Jenny Trussell. Bring a yoga mat, water and a positive attitude!

Sunrise Stretch

Wednesdays, 8:15-9:15 a.m.
Ages 16 and up; free

Start your day off right with a sunrise yoga session! This 60-minute class is the perfect way to start the day for beginning to advanced yogis with registered yoga teacher Jenny Trussell. Bring a mat (blanket and props are optional) and a smile for each participant.

Total Fitness

Tuesdays and Thursdays,
8:30-9:30 a.m.
Ages 16 and up; \$4 per person
Join Rachel Piotrowski, certified group exercise instructor and personal trainer, for a total-body fitness class! This class is tailored to individuals of all fitness levels and focuses on functional exercises to improve overall strength and balance. Please bring hand weights or other weighted objects for your workout. Don't forget water and a mat.

Embodied Movement

For Kids: Thursdays, April 9-July 2; 3-4 p.m.; ages 5-7
For Youth: Thursdays, April 9-July 2; 4-5 p.m.; ages 8-12
\$75 for all classes
Students will engage in a 60-minute embodied movement session aimed at having fun while connecting our minds with our bodies and breath via movement. Students need to wear clothing that allows for movement and bring a workout/yoga mat, water bottle and towel.

OPEN GYM

Drop-in Dodgeball

Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.
Ages 18 and up; \$2 per player
Make friends and get exercise by playing a weekly game of dodgeball. We will divide into two teams and play classic dodgeball. We look forward to playing with you!

Family Basketball

Thursdays, 4-6 p.m.
All ages; \$2 per person
No need to pre-register – just bring a ball and get ready to play! This session is specifically for youth and families to shoot around and play without the intensity of pickup open gyms.

Pickleball Open Gym

Mondays and Fridays, noon-3 p.m.
Wednesdays, 4-9 p.m.
Ages 14 and up; \$4 per person
Grab a paddle and get ready to play! During this time, the gym is on the challenge court system. Limited equipment is available for checkout and nets are provided. To maximize community use, players may experience wait times.

Pickup Basketball

Thursdays, 6:30-9 p.m.
Ages 14 and up; \$4 per person
No need to pre-register – just bring a ball and get ready to play! To maximize community use, players may experience wait times. This session is specifically for individuals who want to play scrimmage-style, non-refereed games.

Pickup Volleyball

Mondays, 6:30-9 p.m.
Ages 14 and up; \$4 per person

Limited equipment is available for checkout and nets are provided. To maximize community use, users may experience wait times. This session is specifically for individuals who want to play scrimmage-style, non-refereed games.

YOUTH

Afterschool Art

Wednesdays, through April 29,
3:30-5 p.m.
Ages 6 to 12; \$4 per child
Each week, our school-aged artists will create a new project with varying mediums. All skill levels are welcome! Preregistration is not required.

Art Adventures

Tuesdays, Through April 28,
2-3:30 p.m.
Tuesdays, June-July, 2-3:30 p.m.
Ages 6 to 12; \$4 per child
Each week, our school-aged artists will create a new project with varying mediums. All skill levels are welcome! Preregistration is not required.

Beginner Ballet

Level 1: Thursdays, 3-4 p.m.; ages 4-6
Level 2: Thursdays, 4-5 p.m.; ages 7-12
\$30 per month
Beginner Ballet teaches the fundamentals of ballet and focuses on grace, flexibility, teamwork and creativity. Please come to class with hair pulled back, tights, leotard, ballet shoes and a smile!

Elementary Homeschool PE

Grades K-5 (ages 6 to 10)
Tuesdays, through May 12,
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, through May 13,
1-2 p.m.
\$2 per child
This homeschool PE class features sports and group games that emphasize teamwork, good sportsmanship, physical activity and fun! Participants must be at least 6 years old to participate. Preregistration is not required.

Middle School Homeschool PE

Grades 6-8 (ages 11-14)
Wednesdays, through May 13,
2:30-3:30 p.m.
\$2 per child
This homeschool PE class emphasizes organized sports, competition and physical activity, while still including plenty of group games, teamwork and fun! Preregistration is not required.

Toddler Takeover

Tuesdays and Thursdays,
10-11 a.m.
Ages walking to 5 years;
\$2 per child
Join us for this guardian-supervised indoor playtime and let your child explore our bright, colorful, age-appropriate equipment!

Youth Free Play

Mondays, 4-5 p.m.
Tuesdays, 5-6:30 p.m.
Ages 4-12; \$2 per child
During youth free play, kids can play, explore, and stay active in our

open gym. With plenty of space and fun activities, it's the perfect way to burn energy and have a blast!

Learn to Ride a Bike Workshop

Mayor Bob Leonard Park
Monday, May 4 & 11, 4:30-6 p.m.
Ages 5-8; \$5 per child
This course helps kids learn to ride a bicycle. (Only 10 spots are available). Meet at Mayor Bob Leonard Park by the East Diamond. Bring your own bicycle and a helmet! Please remove training wheels before arrival.

Kids Craft Camp

May 26-30, 2-4 p.m.
Ages 8-14; \$25 per child
Kids learn and practice different crafts. This is a great opportunity to find new crafts and work with your hands. All supplies are provided. Pre-registration is required; please register each child individually.

Learn a Sport Series

Various locations (Farragut parks and community center)
May 26-June 23, Tuesdays,
4:30-5:15pm
Ages 5-8; \$10 per child
Ready, set, play! In this active and exciting five-week series, kids get hands-on experience with a different sport each week. Each session (basketball, soccer, kickball, flag football and volleyball) is led by experienced instructors in a fun, supportive environment. No prior experience needed.

Youth Chess Club

April 7-28, Tuesdays, 4:30-5:15pm
Ages 6-10; \$5 per child
This four-week chess program introduces young players to the basics of chess through interactive lessons and guided play. Designed for beginners – no experience needed, just a readiness to learn and play.

H.A.B.I.T. Dog Reading

Mondays in April, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Ages 5-13; \$2 per child
Join a H.A.B.I.T. (Human-Animal Bond in Tennessee) dog for reading hour! This is a great opportunity to improve read-aloud skills and socialization. Parents must stay with participants during this program.

Dino Day

Monday, June 1, 12-2 p.m.
Ages 4-12; \$4 per child
Do you or your kids love dinosaurs? Come celebrate National Dinosaur Day with us! Enjoy crafts, activities and special speakers! Light refreshments provided.

Community Service

Wednesdays in June, 3-4 p.m.
Ages 8-14; free
Kids can experience the joy of service by joining the Community Service Club! The club meets every Wednesday in June and includes small, individual projects as well as group projects designed to better participants and the community.

Science Fair

Friday, May 22, 4-6 p.m.
Ages 8-13; \$10
Kids submit one project on a

scientific topic of their choice. Participants must fill out the application to participate. Age categories depend on the ages of those who apply. A photo is required with the application. No live animals, elephant toothpaste or any other fizzing or exploding projects.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Farragut Art & Photography Show

Saturday, April 18-Sunday, April 19
(See Get Ready for Springtime Fun on page 1 for more info.)

Craft Exchange

Friday, April 24, 6-8 p.m.
All ages; free
Bring any of your leftover or no longer needed craft supplies and trade them for supplies you will use! Meet fellow creatives and work together to trade supplies. You must bring things to trade to participate.

Teen Paint Night

Friday, May 1, 6-7:30 p.m.
Ages 10-17; \$5 per person
Teens are invited to Farragut Community Center for a paint-along! Participants will create a painted masterpiece on a canvas and light refreshments will be served. Registration is required. All supplies are provided. Parents are not required to stay.

Youth Art Show

Wednesday, May 6, 6-8 p.m.
Ages 5-12; free
Join us in celebrating the young creatives who have taken part in our art classes! Family and friends are invited to come view the art projects of the Art Adventures and Afterschool Art classes. Please register all participating artists to receive submission information.

Bob Watt Youth Fishing Rodeo

Anchor Park
Saturday, May 9, 7:30-8:30 a.m., 9-10 a.m.
(See Get Ready for Springtime Fun on page 1 for more info.)

Farragut's Kid Try-Athlon

McFee Park
Saturday, June 13, 8-10 a.m.
Ages 4-6, 7-10; \$20 per child
Registration deadline: May 7
Bike, run and splash your way to the finish line! This non-competitive event will allow young athletes to experience aspects of a triathlon. No swimming will take place. For more information, visit townoffarragut.org/townevents.

Youth Dodgeball Tournament

June 16, Tuesday, 4-6pm
Ages 8-12; \$10 per team (5 players required per team)
This youth dodgeball tournament is open to all skill levels. Teams will compete in a double-elimination format, giving everyone multiple chances to play and advance. All equipment is provided – just bring your team spirit and get ready to play.

Trees

From page 1

consider the Town's Adopt A Tree program. Participants may adopt an existing tree at the Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza, the BlueCross Healthy Place at Town Hall, McFee Park or Anchor Park that will be marked

with a plaque. You can even choose your own tree!

The adopted tree will be covered by a warranty so it will be around to provide shade and honor your loved one for years to come. To learn more about this program, visit townoffarragut.org/adoptprograms.

Fiscal

From page 1

The BMA agreed on a list of priorities for each of the Critical Success Factors, and the list

was adopted by resolution at the Feb. 26 board meeting. View the list of priorities at townoffarragut.org/strategicplan to see how the Town of Farragut is working for you!

2026 Election information

Early voting for the Knox County Primary Election is Wednesday, April 15, through Thursday, April 30. The Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.) has been added as an early voting location. Election day is Tuesday, May 5. See knoxcounty.org/election for information about offices on the ballot and voting hours.

Farragut municipal elec-

tions will be held in conjunction with the Federal/State Primary and Knox County General Election on Thursday, Aug. 6. The offices of mayor and two aldermen (one from each ward) will be filled this year. (Ward 1 is comprised of residents north of Kingston Pike; Ward 2 is comprised of residents south of Kingston Pike.)

The Federal/State General

Election is Tuesday, Nov. 3.

For information about voter registration, see knoxcounty.org/election (choose Voter Resources) or visit the Knox County Clerk's office on the first floor of Farragut Town Hall. More information about upcoming elections is available at knoxcounty.org/election or by calling the Knox County Election Commission at 865-215-2480.

Community Center Corner



Spring is coming soon, and it's the perfect time to try something new at the Farragut Community Center! Longer days and warmer weather make it easy to get active and connect with others. From fitness classes and open gym opportunities to youth and family programming, there is something happening here for every age and interest.

Check out our spring fitness schedule to find new ways to keep moving! Yoga meets three mornings each week to help improve flexibility and focus, while Total Fitness provides a dynamic full-body workout focused on strength, cardio and endurance. Open Gym times throughout the week give individuals and families the ability to enjoy basketball, pickleball and volleyball in a fun, drop-in setting.

Youth and family programs bring opportunities for creativity, skill-building and active play. Whether you are trying something new or returning to a favorite activity, the Farragut Community Center is the place to stay active and engaged this spring. Visit townoffarragut.org/programs to view the full schedule and register.

Parks & Recreation

New Parks & Rec programs for all ages

Each quarter, the Parks & Recreation Department creates new programs for all ages, and this spring, we hope you'll join in on the fun at the Farragut Community Center! Opportunities for you and your family to get out and about include Line Dancing, Kids Craft Camp, a Science Fair and the Commu-

nity Service Club.

During our line dancing class, participants learn and practice specific line dances on April 10, May 7 and June 5. The program continues throughout the year.

If your kids are crafty and want to learn something new, sign them up for Kids Craft Camp at the end of May. This

is a great opportunity for them to stay busy and learn about a variety of arts and crafts. Maybe they'll discover a new summer hobby!

Encourage the joy of discovery by registering kids for a Science Fair at the community center on May 22! Participants submit one project on

a scientific topic of their choice. There are multiple age categories.

Mark your calendars! This summer, kids can experience the joy of service by joining the Community Service Club for ages 8-14. The club meets every Wednesday in June and includes small, individual projects as well

as group projects designed to better participants and the community.

For more information about these highlighted programs, or to view the complete list of opportunities for this quarter, visit townoffarragut.org/programs.

The McFee Park splashpad opens in April



The McFee Park splashpad, Farragut's best spot to beat the heat, opens for play on Saturday, April 25! The splashpad operates daily from 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

There will be scheduled maintenance closures from 2-3 p.m. throughout the week. Make sure to follow Farragut Parks & Rec on social media to check for possible closures before heading out with the family.

Childcare businesses planning to take a trip to the splashpad must make a pavilion reservation to ensure there is space for everyone. Reservations for childcare businesses are available Mondays and Wednes-

days between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Please reach out to the Parks & Rec Department at (865) 218-3376 to make reservations.

Parking near the pavilions and splashpad is now more accessible thanks to a new and expanded upper parking lot. Parking is available in the lower lot near the park entrance as well. For safety purposes, please park only in designated spaces.

Pavilion rentals at McFee Park do not include rental of the splashpad. The splashpad is always open to the public during operating hours.

For more information about Farragut's park amenities, visit townoffarragut.org/parks.



Help keep your community clean

The Town of Farragut takes pride in its beauty and cleanliness. Our roads, greenways and natural resources are kept to a higher standard, in part, thanks to our caring citizens. Farragut offers numerous ways for your business, civic club, church, neighborhood association or family to join the effort to keep Farragut an exceptional place to live and play by enrolling in these programs:

Adopt-A-Mile - Volunteers adopt approximately one mile of Farragut roadway and agree to clean the road at least once a quarter for a two-year period. Participants must be at least 11 years old, sign a liability release form and be trained in the safety rules by the group coordinator

before the first scheduled pick up. The Town will place two signs identifying the group that has adopted that mile and provide all safety equipment and supplies for the cleanup.

Adopt-A-Greenway - Sections of the Town's four main greenways are available to adopt. Groups, individuals or families agree to clean a section of the greenway at least once a quarter for a two-year period. The Town will provide all the necessary supplies and identify the adopting group with a sign located on that section of the greenway.

Adopt-A-Stream - Adopting groups conduct two stream cleanups each year. The group coordinator will attend a simple and brief training to learn

Adopt-A-Stream protocols and coordinate their implementation. The Town will provide supplies, signage, technical guidance and maintenance of documentation of the group's efforts. This program operates under the auspices of the Water Quality Forum, a consortium of agencies, organizations, schools, businesses and citizens working to protect and restore our regional waterways.

For more information or to sign up for Adopt-A-Mile or Adopt-A-Greenway, contact Ryan Rhodus at rrhodus@townoffarragut.org. To inquire about Adopt-A-Stream, contact Cliff Mann at cmann@townoffarragut.org. Both can be reached at 865-966-7057.

Independence Day Parade registration available April 1

The Town of Farragut Independence Day Parade is Saturday, July 4, and registration to participate in the parade begins Wednesday, April 1, at townoffarragut.org/register or in person at the Farragut Community Center during regular business hours (8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, and 1-4 p.m. on

Sunday).

Due to the overwhelming popularity of this parade, entries are limited to the first 90 registrants. **Friday, June 26, is the last day to register if spaces are still available.** All entries receive a confirmation email once the online registration is processed.

Parade lineup numbers will

be available at townoffarragut.org and posted at the community center at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, July 1. Parade lineup numbers will not be given over the phone.

To add your name (or group name) to the parade email list, contact Arleen Higginbotham at 865-218-3375 or ParksandRecInfo@townoffarragut.org.

