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## Mayor presses for more deputies, local precinct

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Since last year and even earlier, Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen have heard complaints from Town residents, asking for more law enforcement presence.

To address those law enforcement concerns, Farragut Mayor Ron Williams sent a letter on March 27 to Sheriff Tom Spangler, explaining his concerns.

However, Williams said he has not had a response from the sheriff's office. Likewise, the farragutpress also reached out to the sheriff's office through communications director Kimberly Glenn, who said she passed on the request for comment to the sheriff, but the farragutpress also has not received a response from the sheriff.

"We are aware that the sheriff is ill, but he does have a full staff and a PR person who is

capable of a reply to the questions in the News Sentinel," Williams said. He listed the following concerns taking priority: Speeding, reckless driving, red light and stop sign violations, noise ordinance violations, thefts, all break-ins, serving of summons, meeting security, etc.

As Town has not had a response, the mayor said the Board of Mayor and Aldermen are asking for a Municipal Technical Advisory Service

study and are waiting for those results.

When the Town was incorporated, it decided to rely on coverage from Knox County Sheriff's Office rather than establish its own police force to avoid a Town property tax.

KCSO closed down its West Precinct, located in Pinnacle at Turkey Creek in the Town, in October 2025. At that same time, they also lost the KCSO captain who served as a liaison between the Town and KCSO.

Additionally, the mayor said there has been no police coverage in the Town. He is asking for cooperation from KCSO. At least one Board meeting, a resident has asked why there are no deputies patrolling the streets and recounted the times motorists raced in front of his home.

Most recently, residents and the Board's concerns mounted, so that Williams penned his

See FARRAGUT on Page 7A

## Knox County early voting enters final day

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Knox County residents have one more day to vote early for candidates seeking county offices, as early voting ends Thursday, April 30.

Farragut residents can vote from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 29, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, April 30, at Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd. According to Chris Davis, Knox County Election administrator, the final day to request an absentee ballot was Saturday, April 25.

For the Tuesday, May 5, Primary election, "We're relocating one of the precincts out of Far-

ragut High School," Davis said. "There are two precincts currently that vote at Farragut High School."

He explained the Election Commission office is splitting up the two precincts.

"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.

It will be business as usual for other precincts.

With the Town election still to come in August, area residents are focusing on Knox County seats for the Primary election.

The winner of the Re-

See VOTING on Page 2A



Jake Nichols

Joe Carson, 72, was a member of a 70-plus 3-on-3 Senior Olympic basketball team that won gold at last summer's National Senior Games in Des Moines, Iowa. Recently, Carson was honored with a Senate Joint Resolution to recognize his efforts.

## Still playing, still winning

### Carson earns state honor at 72

**Jake Nichols**  
jnichols@farragutpress.com

On a recent afternoon, Joe Carson opened his mailbox in Concord and pulled out an envelope.

Inside, the 72-year-old found a document with the State of Tennessee's official seal. It was a Senate Joint Resolution, written to recognize his efforts in the 2026 National Senior Olympic Games.

Last summer, Carson joined forces with players from North Carolina to win a gold medal in 3-on-3 basketball at the games in Des Moines, Iowa.

His hard work was first recognized in a story in the farragutpress in August 2025. Since then, Carson noted he has seen the team picture from that story in an Instagram post from his alma mater, the University of Rochester, and a magazine from his fraternity at the school.

The resolution was signed by Sen. Richard Briggs, who came to know Carson through his wife and her work on the school board.

"When the farragutpress story came out about my gold medal, I sent a copy of that to (Briggs) and boom — last week I get this in the mail," Carson said.

He said he felt like the winner in "The Tortoise and the Hare," having remained persistent with hoops despite a lackluster start.

"I'm really not all that athletic," Carson said. "My team got the gold, but I was not the star. But here I am still playing at my age, and most of the guys I played with in high school and college hung it up decades ago.

"I'm a slow white guy, which is good in a way because there's not a lot of wear and tear on the joints," Carson added. "It's kind of like the tortoise and the hare, you know? At the very end of my

career, I become a 50-year 'overnight' success in basketball."

A native of Brooklyn, Carson grew up in the same era as Tennessee greats and fellow New York natives Bernard King and Ernie Grunfeld.

While Carson did not face those two in games in parks or at Brooklyn Preparatory High School, he faced similar players who would go on to find success in college and the pros.

"That was the capital of the universe at the time for high school basketball," he recalled fondly.

Those players prodded him to accept a Division III offer in Rochester, but a freshman-year injury brought his career to a halt.

Years later, after moving to East Tennessee to work at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Carson rediscovered the game. By

See PLAYING on Page 6A



Tammy Cheek

During a Thursday, April 23 meeting of Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Dian Hall, candidate for Ward 1 Alderman, asked the Board to record its workshops for people who cannot attend them.

## Farragut board calls special meeting after agenda error

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Because of a clerical error, Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen scheduled a special called meeting for 6 p.m. Thursday, May 7, in Farragut Town Hall Board Room to act on agenda items planned for the Thursday, April 23, meeting.

Instead, they used the meeting to address issues concerning a

proposed hiring of an economic development director.

Town administrator David Smoak said the agenda that was published in the farragutpress was dated April 9 when it should have been dated April 23, "although all the agenda items are properly noticed; they're on the agenda.

"Out of abundance of caution, I would just ask

See BOARD on Page 4A



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# Jamestowne Boulevard signal to improve safety, traffic flow

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut residents and senior center visitors should have an easier time turning from Jamestowne Boulevard onto North Campbell Station Road once the Town installs a traffic signal at that intersection.

The Farragut Municipal Planning Commission got the project started when it unanimously approved design plans presented by Town engineer Darryl Smith during its meeting Thursday, April 16. Mayor Ron Williams made the motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Scott Meyer, to approve the plans.

Smith said the purpose of the signal is to improve access. "This has the added benefit of creating gaps in northbound traffic in front of Eddie Courtney Lane," he said.

"Since my office window looks right at this, kids jaywalk across Campbell Station Road after school through

this intersection all the time," Commissioner Jeff Devlin said. Devlin works with Rural Metro, which is across from Jamestowne Boulevard. "So this signal is needed."

"Hopefully, they'll stop jaywalking and avoid getting hit by cars," Devlin added.

"This project does include signalized crosswalks," Smith said.

"I'll add for everyone's education," Commissioner Louise Povlin, a Farragut mayoral candidate, said. "The middle school's emergency off-campus location is either Faith Lutheran Church or the Farragut Community Center, so now we have a safe way for educators to practice getting there. Trying to do that without lights is very difficult."

"It means a fire drill would be pretty handy, having that crosswalk," Williams added.

"Obviously, with the fire station right there, is there a way to ..." Povlin began to ask.

"It has pre-emption," Devlin said.

Concord Christian School's recent musical, "Prince of Egypt," depicted Moses' time in Egypt. An article, which ran on Page 3B in the Community section of farragutpress' Wednesday,

## Voting From page 1A

publican Primary in the mayoral race, whether that be County Commission At-Large Seat 10 Larsen Jay, 6th District School Board member Betsy Henderson or Commissioner At-Large Seat 11 Kim Frazier, will then run against Democrat Beau Hawk in the Aug. 6 General Election.

Candidates for the following County Commission offices, which are up for grabs, are: Gina Oster and Sheri Super, District 3; Barry Beeler, Buddy Burkhardt and Justin Mash in District 7; Justin Cofer, Kimberly Glenn and Ronnie Rochelle for At-Large Seat 10; and Garrett Holt and Liz Tombras for At-large Seat 11.

Additionally, voters will decide on a new sheriff from

## Corrections

April 8, issue provided an incorrect description of the musical. We regret the error.

In the April 22 issue, we ran a story on Hard Knox Roller Derby and incorrectly identified one person.

Kisha Durst goes by "Bushwhacker," not "Bushwacker," as identified. We regret the error and thank Kisha for her time in this story.

the following Republican candidates: David Amburn, Mike Davis, Brent Gibson and former sheriff, Jimmy "JJ" Jones.

Other offices include Republican candidates in the following offices: Richie Beeler, John J. Duncan, Rodney Lane, John Whitehead for Knox County Clerk; Emily F. Abbott, 6th Judicial District 1 Criminal Court judge; Mike Hammond, Criminal Court Clerk; Justin Biggs, Barry Hawkins and Nick McBride for trustee; Andrea Kline and Rhonda Lee for Division V General Sessions judge; Charlie Susano, Circuit, Civil Sessions and Juvenile Court Clerk; Sherry Witt, Register of Deeds; and Board of Education: Charles Frazier, District 1; Ashley Sartelle; District 4; Kevin Crateau, Lee Ann Eaves, Thierry Sommer in Dis-

trict 6; Steve Triplett, District 7; Kristi Kristy and Bill Sofield, District 9.

Democratic candidates are: Brandon Huckaby for County Commission District 3; William Cooper for County Commission District 7; Katrina Sharp for County Commission At-Large Seat 10; Vivian Underwood Shipe for County Commission At-Large Seat 11; Stephen Hood for trustee; Ben H. Houston II for General Sessions Judge Division IV; John Butler, O'Tavais "OT" Harris and Breyana Holloway for Board of Education District 1; Katherine Bike for Board District 4; Cadence Collins for Board District 6; Amy Fenner for Board District 7; and Brandy Jenkins for Board District 9.

## KCSO policereports

### Theft, fraud and forgery reported at Municipal Center Drive

On April 18, a woman reported between March 27 and April 18 that a check she mailed from the Farragut Post Office, 11409 Municipal Center Drive, was stolen, altered and cashed without authorization. The complainant said the check, originally written to a credit card company for \$1,853.11, was "washed" and changed to another name before being cashed through a bank. Authorities are inves-

tigating the incident as theft, fraud and forgery.

### Packages reported stolen from Southwick Circle mailbox

A Farragut woman reported April 16 that multiple packages were stolen from a mailbox on Southwick Circle. The complainant said she placed six packages in the mailbox late that morning, but they were gone within about 30 minutes. The items were valued at about \$267.

See POLICE on Page 5A

Mansour Hasan, State Farm Agent presents

## The Good Neighbor Character Award

### Ford T.

Congratulations to Ford T., a First Grader from Farragut Primary School, for winning the Good Neighbor Character Award presented by Mansour Hasan, State Farm Agent. Ford was selected for this honor by his teacher for embodying kindness. "Ford is a fantastic first grader! He spreads joy and kindness like confetti," said his teacher, Mrs. Maner. "Ford is a great friend and helper, and he is hilarious! He is often found cleaning up around the classroom without being asked and is the first to offer comfort to a friend in need. His insight and compassion warm our hearts, and we are so glad he is part of our classroom family!"



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**Board**

From page 1A

that we defer tonight's items that the Board was going to be voting on for the next meeting or for a special called meeting," Smoak said.

Mayor Ron Williams made the motion to hold a called meeting, and it was seconded by Alderman Joe LaCroix.

Then, Williams brought up a subject "that needs to be discussed. This is as good a time to go ahead and do it since we don't have anything else that we're going to be talking about."

"Before our April 19 meeting, the Board had a workshop to continue our budget discussions, including proposed new staff positions," he said. "These workshops, just like those we've held since February, exist so Board members can raise concerns, ask questions and offer suggestions."

At the April 9 workshop, among the proposed staff positions, Board members discussed the proposed economic development coordinator.

"Throughout that discussion, Alderman [Alex] Cain offered no comments, no questions, no concerns, no feedback on the role ... responsibilities or the cost," Williams said. "That's why I'm surprised to open the April 15 farragutpress to find a letter from Alderman Cain outlining the extensive concerns about this very position."

"This letter included detailed assertions about the role, assertions that were not raised during our workshop and several statements that, in my view, mischaracterize the duties of the economic development coordinator," the mayor said. "Some of those misstatements, since then, have been circulated on social media."

"To ensure the public receives accurate information, I believe this Board should revisit this discussion in open session," he said. "If the job description needs clarification, this is the appropriate venue to do it."

"And given Alderman Cain expressed his concerns, I ask that he share with the Board and the community the specific details and reasoning behind his position," Williams said. "To do so would allow us to correct the record and provide clear, factual information about this important role."

"After we looked at it, I went home and thought about it some more," Cain explained. "That's why I wrote the letter

like I did because I felt that this exactly was what was needed for this type of position was a discussion in a public forum.

"A workshop is great, but it's not available to people that can't make it," he said. "They can't see it at home. They may not be able to make it at 5 o'clock, and I felt that this was going to be the best spot to debate and discuss this position."

"At that point, I felt it was necessary that people understood what was being proposed," Cain said.

One resident, Dian Hall (and candidate for North Ward alderman), addressed the Board during the Citizens Forum segment at the end of the meeting, asking that the Board's workshops be recorded for people, like herself, who cannot attend.

"I'm surprised that we're going to bring this up like this tonight," Cain said. "I do think that we need to have a good, open discussion about it because it's an awful lot of money to be put into the budget for a position, a staff member," he said in regard to the \$115,936 annual salary proposed for the economic development coordinator.

"And then, if you turn around and look at the mission of the Farragut Business Alliance and the mission of the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce, they fall in almost the same type of professional work as the general definition of this job description," he added. "We provide them with a lot of money out of our budget to do exactly what this job entails," Cain said.

"I think we need to give Mr. Smoak and staff clear guidance on where the Board stands and where we need to go," Alderman Joe LaCroix said.

"I think there's been a discombobulated effort for business development in Farragut for a while," Vice Mayor Scott Meyer said. "I think this position meets that need."

He said he sees the position as a point of contact for businesses to reach out to get through the Town's departments.

Williams related the Town's economic development history and added Farragut Business Alliance and Chamber do not recruit businesses into Town, and the Town's Tourism Department recruits visitors.

"So we haven't had anyone to get out there and sell Farragut," he said. "Us being a sales tax-based town, it's critical that we have constant income coming in from the sales tax."

# Letter to the editor

Dear Editor

Candidate Povlin's letter (04/22/26-4A; Farragut Press) repeats the same argument in different wording, with the hope that Farragut citizens are cerebrally shy and ill-noticing. Her insistence that de novo establishment of a new Economic Development Coordinator wouldn't duplicate already city-subsidized Chamber, Shop Farragut, or Visit Farragut falls apart as soon as one evidentiarily compares documented responsibilities.

Indeed, the Town already capitalizes the noted organizations whose missions include business growth, sales-tax generation, promotion, investment, business support, visibility, tourism, and community engagement. Yet this new position is described as "handling business engagement, commercial development, business retention, corridor activity, economic indicators, redevelopment, and coordination with partners."

Povlin's letter struggles to suggest that swapping words like "promotion" for "engagement," "support" for "retention," or "growth" for "development" somehow creates a brand-new role. It does not. These are not exclusive functions; they are redundant with politically convenient "peculiarities." This is the sophistry of political conjuring. Neologisms won't change a superfluous need for the job position.

The letter also claims Farragut has no formal economic development strategy or staff member coordinating such. That appears untrue. In addition to the noted Town-funded groups, Farragut employs a Tourism Manager,

having a clearly defined business development role and responsibilities.

So, what is true?

Either the noted groups are already doing meaningful development work on behalf of Farragut, or they are not.

- If they are, then this new position is, de facto, duplicative.

- If they are not, then taxpayers should be asking why the Town is subsidizing failing enterprises.

You cannot claim "no duplication" while listing responsibilities that effectively replicate the work of the currently Town-funded groups, and Tourism Manager. And replication costs (\$115,936) are not a small adjustment where the position will function as yet another taxpayer-funded government layer.

The plain-language reality is that the Town already funds the noted groups to manage business promotion, tourism, marketing, revenue-driving activities, enhance visibility and support networking. Now it wants taxpayers to fund a position that counterfeits the same duties. Describing this effort as "coordination" is manifestly, political prestidigitation.

If the current groups are effective, this job is unnecessary. If they are ineffective, the Town must demand accountability of the groups it already underwrites before creating a new \$115,936 position.

Povlin's letter does not resolve any issue — it may be viewed as simply reiterative deception.

~ Dr. F. O. Cope, Farragut, TN

presstalk 865-671-TALK (8255)  
or editor@farragutpress.com

Thursday night's BOMA meeting raised serious concerns about process, transparency and respect for public notice.

The agenda had the wrong date on it and the agenda items were postponed. In my view, once that happened, there was no agenda. BOMA should not have moved into a detailed discussion about a budget-related position that was not properly noticed to the public.

Yet the mayor, vice mayor and other aldermen pressed forward with what appeared to be political theater. The discussion covered the proposed

economic development coordinator position, its cost, duties, possible duplication with the Chamber, FBA, Visit Farragut and whether the role could involve business recruitment, commercial development, developers, property owners, realtors and "selling Farragut."

That was not a casual update. That was policy. That was budget business. That was deliberation and it deserved clear public notice.

What made it worse was that much of the discussion appeared aimed at responding to the Ward 1 Alderman's letter in farragutpress instead of handling the matter through a

properly noticed agenda item.

I fully support the Ward 1 Alderman's decision to raise his concerns publicly. Workshops may be public, but many residents cannot attend a 5 p.m. workshop or watch from home. The newspaper is a legitimate public forum.

His concerns were fair. If it takes a full-time position to help people navigate the Town's system, maybe the problem is the system, not staffing.

Before adding a nearly \$125,000 taxpayer-funded position, the Town should prioritize proper notice and responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

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

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Call 865-675-6397 or email editor@farragutpress.com with questions.

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

# Planning commission rejects office rezoning proposal

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Jeffrey Marzolf's plans to establish an office at 11830 Kingston Pike, behind the new Turner Homes development, were denied when Farragut Municipal Planning Commission unanimously voted against recommending his request to the Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen during FMPC's meeting Thursday, April 16.

Marzolf, owner and financial planner with Marzolf Investment, asked FMPC to amend the Future Land Use Map designation for the 1.1-acre parcel from Very Low Density Residential to Office/Light Industrial and to rezone the property from General Single-Family Residential (R-2) to Office (O-1).

However, the request faced objections from Farragut Crossing Homeowners Associ-

ation and hesitation from commissioners.

"I'm super sympathetic with the concept of it being a buffer zone," Commissioner Jeff Devlin said. "I'm not particularly worried about future use of it."

He said he voted against the request because of the precedent set when the property was zoned residential.

"For me, I'm going to stick with the decision

that was made years ago," Devlin added.

Commissioner Shannon Preston asked Community Development director Mark Shipley if a buffer could be added to the property.

Shipley said office zoning would require a 25-foot buffer.

"You really wouldn't need a buffer zoning district," he added.

"Could we limit the usable space more?" Preston asked.

"I wouldn't recommend it," Shipley said. "You need to vote up or down."

Although Commissioner Jon Greene made a motion, seconded by Preston for the sake of discussion, to approve the requests, the motion failed.

Commissioners Noah Myers and Vice Mayor Scott Meyer both recused themselves from the vote.

See PLANNING on Page 6A

## Police

From page 2A

### Man reports \$23K scam tied to online vehicle purchase

A man reported April 16 that he was defrauded out of \$23,400 after attempting to purchase a camping trailer through an online marketplace. The victim said he wired money to a suspect who failed to deliver the trailer and later stopped cooperating. The case is being investigated as fraud.

### Clothing reported stolen from former residence on Lakehurst Lane

A woman reported April 15 that two packages containing

clothing were stolen after being mistakenly delivered to her former residence on Lakehurst Lane. The complainant said the items, including a shirt and pajamas, were delivered in March and April but were not recovered.

### Vehicle taken from Roane Drive, later recovered

A Farragut man reported April 16 that his vehicle was taken overnight from the Roane Drive area. The complainant said his son "snuck into his room and stole the keys" without permission and drove the vehicle. Authorities later located the vehicle, and the suspect was taken into custody.

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## FWKCC 2026 EXPO Sponsor Spotlight



Presented by Slamdot, the Farragut West Knox Chamber Business EXPO brought together 82 businesses and more than 600 attendees on April 22, creating opportunities for networking and connection across the region.

Slamdot, the presenting sponsor, is a digital marketing agency specializing in website design, SEO and Google Ads, helping small businesses grow through targeted online strategies.

First Century Bank, EXPO sponsor, has served East Tennessee for more than a century as a family-owned community bank built on a "Customer First" philosophy.

The Chamber thanks all sponsors, participating businesses, attendees, and the EXPO Committee, chaired by Charlene Waggoner of City Wide Facility Solutions, for their support and dedication in making the EXPO a success.

**Planning**  
From page 5A

“The current owner is a broker with my real estate company,” Myers said. Meyer said Marzolf is his financial planner.

Speaking on behalf of Marzolf, property owner Troy Stavros supported the request.

While acknowledging concerns “regarding the unknown future of the parcel,” Stavros said the proposal would help protect nearby properties.

“Our property looks out on this property,” Stavros said. “By rezoning it to a boutique office now, we secure a predictable neighbor with professional Monday-through-Friday hours that end at 6 o’clock.

“With the office staying in its current location, where the existing house is ... we don’t have to worry about something big being built behind us,” he said. “[Marzolf] is going to be using the existing building for his office.

“Also, opposing the change leaves the property’s future to chance, potentially allowing for residential uses that could create more of a 24/7 nuisance rather than a proposed low-

impact office.”

Marzolf said his effort to use the property as an office has been a “walk of faith.

“Honestly, what I saw as an eyesore on a piece of ground, I saw a beautiful little office there I could fix up,” he said. “I had no idea it was going to go in all these different directions.”

“If you go out there, what you really have is, yes, you do have residential on one side and you basically have a commercial parking lot and road on the other,” Marzolf said. “It’s not residential, and it’s really not office. What it is, it’s a buffer.”

However, Jim Gwyn of Farragut Crossing HOA urged the commission to deny the request.

While Gwyn said Marzolf had spoken with residents and “was open, transparent and willing to answer questions,” he said the HOA’s position is based on long-term planning considerations.

“In 2020, this Commission made a deliberate decision to update the land use plan and rezone this property from office to residential as part of a 1-acre tract,” he said. “This de-



Map provided by Town of Farragut

Farragut Municipal Planning Commission voted down a request by Jeffrey Marzolf to change the Town’s Future Land Use Map and zone to allow for an office at 11830 Kingston Pike during its meeting Thursday, April 16. The property outlined in red is the property Marzolf wanted changed.

cision was made with community input and with support of our HOA. The intent was clear: to create a residential buffer between Kingston Pike, the Farragut Crossing neighborhood and the adjacent homes of Linda Heights.

“Nothing about the surrounding residential neighborhood has changed since 2020,” Gwyn said. “The conditions that justify that buffer still exist today.

“Our second concern is con-

sistency with the Town zoning ordinance,” he added.

ShIPLEY reminded Commissioners the item had been discussed during a workshop at last month’s meeting.

“This area has been used as both residential and office historically,” he said. “This is a separate lot that was originally part of a larger tract zoned office before it was rezoned to R-2, which matches Farragut Crossing and Linda Heights subdivisions, in 2020.

**Playing**  
From page 1A

age 60, he wanted to see if he could still dunk.

He soon discovered 3-on-3 and, eventually, became part of the team that won gold.

Now, he serves as an ambassador for the Tennessee Senior Olympics while continuing to play in the gym at First Baptist Concord on Sunday afternoons.

Carson emphasized the Senior Olympics start at age 50 with no ceiling, as there have even been participants as old as 102 years old. To find out more, visit <http://www.tnse-niorolympics.com>.

Carson wants to post the news in senior centers and other areas, hopeful that people would be willing to give different Senior Olympic options a try.

As for the newly found fame?

“I don’t really seek the lime-light, but hey, it’s there,” Carson joked. “I’ll enjoy it. It’s not like there’s any NIL for Senior Olympic basketball.”



The Town of Farragut, Tennessee, hereby provides certain financial information for the 2026-2027 fiscal year budget in accordance with the requirements of T.C.A. § 6-56-206.

GENERAL FUND	Actual FY2025	Estimated Actual FY2026	Budget FY2027
<b>Revenues</b>			
Local Taxes	\$ 10,899,674	\$ 10,763,802	\$ 11,032,897
State Sales Tax	2,958,707	2,910,000	3,300,000
Wholesale Beer, Liquor & Mixed Drink Tax	1,680,536	1,670,800	1,715,000
Intergovernmental	842,848	783,445	765,045
Building Permits & Licenses	793,835	672,000	689,400
Recreation Fees	513,816	480,100	495,000
Traffic Enforcement Program & Fines	32,448	64,000	64,000
Rent	182,974	156,203	161,962
Miscellaneous	1,355,760	1,101,032	1,002,100
<b>Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>\$ 19,260,598</b>	<b>\$ 18,601,382</b>	<b>\$ 19,225,404</b>
<b>Appropriations</b>			
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Legislative	\$ 30,610	\$ 47,110	\$ 67,350
Town Court	53,585	52,615	66,258
Administration	684,196	769,214	851,506
Finance	475,838	525,689	501,932
Information Technology	620,564	852,151	1,101,772
Human Resources	289,964	451,286	524,210
Communications	222,059	239,869	294,480
Engineering	908,137	1,048,053	1,130,678
Community Development	1,254,805	1,382,319	1,676,537
General Government	269,131	378,550	387,550
Public Works	1,758,149	2,283,905	2,322,567
Non-Departmental	779,457	707,200	915,200
Community Center	568,713	639,350	729,904
Parks Department	1,890,066	2,262,150	2,364,634
Economic Development	112,500	103,500	225,481
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>			
Transfers Out - to other funds	7,675,000	6,375,000	7,385,000
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 17,592,774</b>	<b>\$ 18,117,961</b>	<b>\$ 20,545,059</b>
<b>Change in Fund Balance (Revenues - Appropriations)</b>	<b>1,667,824</b>	<b>483,421</b>	<b>(1,319,655)</b>
<b>Beginning Fund Balance July 1</b>	<b>32,722,861</b>	<b>34,390,685</b>	<b>34,874,106</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance June 30</b>	<b>\$ 34,390,685</b>	<b>\$ 34,874,106</b>	<b>\$ 33,554,451</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance as a % of Total Appropriations</b>	<b>195.5%</b>	<b>192.5%</b>	<b>163.3%</b>
<b>Number of FTE Employees</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>77</b>

STATE STREET AID FUND	Actual FY2025	Estimated Actual FY2026	Budget FY2027
<b>Revenues</b>			
State Gas and Motor Fuel Taxes	\$ 823,644	\$ 850,917	\$ 928,000
Interest Earnings	142,336	120,000	122,400
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>			
Transfers In - from other funds	1,500,000	-	-
<b>Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>\$ 2,465,980</b>	<b>\$ 970,917</b>	<b>\$ 1,050,400</b>
<b>Appropriations</b>			
Road & Sidewalk Maintenance	\$ 1,490,877	\$ 2,294,754	\$ 2,283,000
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 1,490,877</b>	<b>\$ 2,294,754</b>	<b>\$ 2,283,000</b>
<b>Change in Fund Balance (Revenues - Appropriations)</b>	<b>975,103</b>	<b>(1,323,837)</b>	<b>(1,232,600)</b>
<b>Beginning Fund Balance July 1</b>	<b>2,842,847</b>	<b>3,817,950</b>	<b>2,494,113</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance June 30</b>	<b>\$ 3,817,950</b>	<b>\$ 2,494,113</b>	<b>\$ 1,261,513</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance as a % of Total Appropriations</b>	<b>256.1%</b>	<b>108.7%</b>	<b>55.3%</b>

TOURISM FUND	Actual FY2025	Estimated Actual FY2026	Budget FY2027
<b>Revenues</b>			
Room Occupancy	\$ 536,280	\$ 555,000	\$ 557,000
Event Tickets/Fees	10,486	-	-
Interest Earnings	53,953	50,000	30,000
Museum & Gift Shop Revenue	-	2,800	4,300
ARPA Grant Funding	33,318	47,500	21,249
<b>Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>\$ 634,037</b>	<b>\$ 655,300</b>	<b>\$ 612,549</b>
<b>Appropriations</b>			
Tourism	\$ 474,461	\$ 900,626	\$ 1,078,021
Farragut Museum	36,910	54,625	122,963
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 511,371</b>	<b>\$ 955,251</b>	<b>\$ 1,200,984</b>
<b>Change in Fund Balance (Revenues - Appropriations)</b>	<b>122,666</b>	<b>(299,951)</b>	<b>(588,435)</b>
<b>Beginning Fund Balance July 1</b>	<b>1,100,761</b>	<b>1,223,427</b>	<b>923,476</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance June 30</b>	<b>\$ 1,223,427</b>	<b>\$ 923,476</b>	<b>\$ 335,041</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance as a % of Total Appropriations</b>	<b>239.2%</b>	<b>96.7%</b>	<b>27.9%</b>

ADA CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	Actual FY2025	Estimated Actual FY2026	Budget FY2027
<b>Revenues</b>			
Interest	\$ 31,474	\$ 29,000	\$ 20,000
Transfers In - from other funds	150,000	150,000	150,000
<b>Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>\$ 181,474</b>	<b>\$ 179,000</b>	<b>\$ 170,000</b>
<b>Appropriations</b>			
ADA Improvements	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Change in Fund Balance (Revenues - Appropriations)</b>	<b>181,474</b>	<b>179,000</b>	<b>170,000</b>
<b>Beginning Fund Balance July 1</b>	<b>561,477</b>	<b>742,951</b>	<b>921,951</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance June 30</b>	<b>\$ 742,951</b>	<b>\$ 921,951</b>	<b>\$ 1,091,951</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance as a % of Total Appropriations</b>	<b>7429509900.0%</b>	<b>9219509800.0%</b>	<b>10919509700%</b>

EQUIPMENT FUND	Actual FY2025	Estimated Actual FY2026	Budget FY2027
<b>Revenues</b>			
Interest	\$ 64,496	\$ 40,000	\$ 36,000
Sale of Equipment	36,750	10,000	10,000
Transfers In - from other funds	725,000	225,000	235,000
<b>Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>\$ 826,246</b>	<b>\$ 275,000</b>	<b>\$ 281,000</b>
<b>Appropriations</b>			
Major Equipment	\$ 324,553	\$ 488,000	\$ 265,000
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 324,553</b>	<b>\$ 488,000</b>	<b>\$ 265,000</b>
<b>Change in Fund Balance (Revenues - Appropriations)</b>	<b>501,693</b>	<b>(213,000)</b>	<b>16,000</b>
<b>Beginning Fund Balance July 1</b>	<b>989,533</b>	<b>1,491,226</b>	<b>1,278,226</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance June 30</b>	<b>\$ 1,491,226</b>	<b>\$ 1,278,226</b>	<b>\$ 1,294,226</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance as a % of Total Appropriations</b>	<b>459.5%</b>	<b>261.9%</b>	<b>488.4%</b>

INSURANCE FUND	Actual FY2025	Estimated Actual FY2026	Budget FY2027
<b>Revenues</b>			
Interest	\$ 19,496	\$ 20,400	\$ 10,000
Transfers In - from other funds	50,000	-	-
<b>Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>\$ 69,496</b>	<b>\$ 20,400</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>
<b>Appropriations</b>			
Retirement Benefit	\$ 34,677	\$ 30,000	\$ 103,000
OPEB Administrative Expense	-	-	5,400
OPEB Health Cost	8,979	52,000	30,000
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 43,656</b>	<b>\$ 82,000</b>	<b>\$ 138,400</b>
<b>Change in Fund Balance (Revenues - Appropriations)</b>	<b>25,840</b>	<b>(61,600)</b>	<b>(128,400)</b>
<b>Beginning Fund Balance July 1</b>	<b>386,660</b>	<b>412,500</b>	<b>350,900</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance June 30</b>	<b>\$ 412,500</b>	<b>\$ 350,900</b>	<b>\$ 222,500</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance as a % of Total Appropriations</b>	<b>944.9%</b>	<b>427.9%</b>	<b>160.8%</b>

**Farragut**  
From page 1A

March 27 letter to Spangler, asking for a law enforcement presence.

His letter, provided to the farragutpress, is as follows:

“On October 16, 2025, Farragut Town administrator David Smoak and I met with Chief Deputy Bernie Lyon and Hugh Holt regarding several concerns the Town of Farragut has about changes that were made to the operations of the Knox County Sheriff’s Office (KCSO) within the Town of Farragut. The meeting generated great dialogue and discussion, and I was saddened when I learned of Chief Deputy Lyon’s passing in December. I again share my condolences to you, the staff and deputies that worked alongside Bernie as I know he is truly missed.

“It has now been five months since our meeting, and we have not had any follow-up from anyone at the Knox County Sheriff’s Office regarding my concerns. I’m not sure what was relayed to you as a result of that meeting; therefore, I am writing this letter to list

our concerns and to initiate further discussion about these issues:

1. The Knox County Sheriff’s Office had a precinct located in the Town of Farragut for over 20 years, initially in the Farragut Town Hall and most recently on Parkside Drive in the Turkey Creek shopping area. My understanding at the time was that the precinct closed due to the expiration of the lease and your office began looking at other options. Although the property owner for Turkey Creek provided what seemed like reasonable and cost-effective options to keep the precinct near its current location, my understanding is that your office chose to move the precinct to the Cedar Bluff area. My concern is the need to continue to have a physical presence for the KCSO located in the Town of Farragut, especially in the Turkey Creek area, as a deterrent for criminal activity that occurs in large retail shopping areas. My request is that you include in the KCSO budget for 2027 the resources needed to reopen a location in Farragut.

2. Since the precinct is now

closed in Farragut, the captain that was in charge there has been reassigned to other duties. Having a daily and direct contact within KCSO that can handle the concerns that are received by residents and coordinate resources to address those concerns is critical to providing quality service to the community. Chief Deputy Lyon offered to assist in this effort, but with his passing, we have not had another member of the command staff reassigned and ask that someone be appointed that we can communicate with when needed.

3. I appreciate the recent beer compliance testing that was conducted by KCSH in early March. Thankfully, all businesses located within the Town of Farragut passed this test. These compliance checks need to be conducted on a regular basis so there is consistent monitoring to keep alcoholic beverages out of the hands of minors and ensure businesses are doing their part to keep our youth safe.

4. I request a proposal from KCSO to provide two additional full-time patrols within the Farragut town limits. With

the economic and residential growth our area has experienced, now is a critical time to enhance public safety in our community. The Town of Farragut is finalizing our budget for next year and look forward to the opportunity to improve KCSO visibility and presence in the community. If this can be achieved, please provide an estimate of what these additional officers would cost so the Board of Mayor and Aldermen may consider it during our budget discussions.

Additionally, “For some reason that has not been clarified, KCSO has refused to process serve for the Town of Farragut on matters that need to be heard by our municipal court, even though the Town pays for that service each time it is used,” the mayor stated. “Because of this, the Town has had to pay for private process services over the past two years to handle these matters. We request this service, as any other entity within Knox County has this right, moving forward.

“Thank you in advance for taking the time to listen to our concerns, and I welcome the opportunity to work together

to enhance the safety of the Town of Farragut and its citizens. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions. I look forward to your prompt response.”

In a letter to respond to a concerned citizen, Williams stated: “While we hope the new sheriff will work closely with us, we would prefer to have our needs addressed now. We don’t think we should have to wait until September for law enforcement.

“In addition to better communication with the KCSO, we’d like to have a precinct in Farragut again. We don’t understand why we lost this important law enforcement presence after having a Farragut precinct for over 20 years. A precinct is needed in deep west Knox County to serve Farragut, as well as the growing population in Hardin Valley and Choto,” the mayor stated. “The Town currently has a population of 26,000, and the combined population of these three areas is likely over 60,000 property tax-paying residents. We deserve to have the same service as other parts of the county.”



There will be a public hearing and meeting concerning the budget at the Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive, on May 14 and May 28, 2026, at 6:00 PM. All citizens are welcome to attend and to participate.

The draft budget and all supporting data is available at <https://townoffarragut.org/DocumentCenter/View/8881/FY27-DRAFT-Budget-Book?bidId=> for public inspection.

865-966-7057

Pending Capital Projects	Pending Capital Projects - Total Expense	Pending Capital Projects Expense Financed by Estimated Revenues and/or Reserves	Pending Capital Projects Expense Financed by Debt Proceeds
Land Acquisition	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ -
Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
Anchor Park Fencing	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 65,000.00	\$ -
MBLP Ball Diamond Improvements	\$ 106,000.00	\$ 106,000.00	\$ -
MBLP Pathway Replacement	\$ 930,000.00	\$ 930,000.00	\$ -
McFee Park Phase 5: Dog Park	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 400,000.00	\$ -
McFee Road Property	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 400,000.00	\$ -
Adaptive Traffic Signal Upgrades	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -
Battery Backups at Priority Intersections	\$ 192,000.00	\$ 192,000.00	\$ -
Boring Road Closure	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
Boring Road Mid-Block Pedestrian Crossing	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
Boring Road/Smith Road Intersection Improvements	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -
Everett Road Greenway Connection	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
Grigsby Chapel Road/ St. John Court Intersection Improvements	\$ 700,000.00	\$ 700,000.00	\$ -
I-40/Campbell Station Interchange	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ -
Illuminated Street Signs	\$ 220,000.00	\$ 220,000.00	\$ -
Municipal Center Drive and Jamestown Blv Extension Study	\$ 126,000.00	\$ 126,000.00	\$ -
Red Mill Trailhead	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
Sonja Drive/Admiral Road Multi-Modal Improvements	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -
Stormwater Improvements	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 400,000.00	\$ -
Sugarwood Drive Access to Kingston Pike	\$ 1,800,000.00	\$ 1,800,000.00	\$ -
Traffic Monitoring Cameras	\$ 119,000.00	\$ 119,000.00	\$ -
Turkey Creek Road Multi-Modal Improvements	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ -
Watt Road Roundabout	\$ 970,000.00	\$ 970,000.00	\$ -

Proposed Future Capital Projects	Proposed Future Capital Projects - Total Expense	Proposed Future Capital Projects Expense Financed by Estimated Revenues and/or Reserves	Proposed Future Capital Projects Expense Financed by Debt Proceeds
Anchor Park Playground and ADA Access	\$ 425,000.00	\$ 425,000.00	
MBLP Ball Diamond Improvements	\$ 392,000.00	\$ 392,000.00	
MBLP Field 3 Turf Replacement	\$ 725,000.00	\$ 725,000.00	
McFee Road Property	\$ 1,975,000.00	\$ 1,975,000.00	
McFee Park Splash Pad Elements	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	
McFee Soccer Field - Synthetic Turf	\$ 1,025,000.00	\$ 1,025,000.00	
Pocket Park Development	\$ 475,000.00	\$ 475,000.00	
Adaptive Traffic Signal Upgrades	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	
Campbell Station Road/ Eddy Courtney Way Intersection Improvements	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	
Evans Road Multi-Modal Improvements	\$ 4,050,000.00	\$ 4,050,000.00	
I-40/Campbell Station Interchange	\$ 8,250,000.00	\$ 8,250,000.00	
Illuminated Street Signs	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	
KP Pedestrian Underpass at N. Fork Turkey Creek	\$ 825,000.00	\$ 825,000.00	
KP/West End Intersection Improvements	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	
Municipal Center Drive Extension to Kingston Pike	\$ 3,900,000.00	\$ 3,900,000.00	
Old Stage Road Pedestrian Crossings	\$ 335,000.00	\$ 335,000.00	
Old Stage/McFee New Signal	\$ 830,000.00	\$ 830,000.00	
Sonja Drive/Admiral Road Multi-Modal Improvements	\$ 1,975,000.00	\$ 1,975,000.00	
Stormwater Improvements	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	
Turkey Creek Road Multi-Modal Improvements	\$ 2,200,000.00	\$ 2,200,000.00	
Virtue Road-Phase II Multi-Modal Improvements (Brookmere to Boyd Station)	\$ 8,246,513.00	\$ 8,246,513.00	



# Notice of Election

## KNOX COUNTY PRIMARY ELECTIONS

May 5, 2026 • 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY		DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY	
<b>CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE 6TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DIVISION I</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Emily F. Abbott <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>SHERIFF</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> David Amburn <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Davis <input type="checkbox"/> Brent Gibson <input type="checkbox"/> Jimmy "J.J." Jones <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE 6TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DIVISION I</b> Vote for One (1)  No Candidate Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>CRIMINAL COURT CLERK</b> Vote for One (1)  No Candidate Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in
<b>COUNTY MAYOR</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Kim Frazier <input type="checkbox"/> Betsy Henderson <input type="checkbox"/> Larsen Jay <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>CIRCUIT, CIVIL SESSIONS AND JUVENILE COURT CLERK</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Charlie Susano <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>COUNTY MAYOR</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Beau Hawk <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>COUNTY CLERK</b> Vote for One (1)  No Candidate Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in
<b>COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 3</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Gina Oster <input type="checkbox"/> Sheri Super <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>CRIMINAL COURT CLERK</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Hammond <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 3</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Brandon Huckaby <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>REGISTER OF DEEDS</b> Vote for One (1)  No Candidate Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in
<b>COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 7</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Barry Beeler <input type="checkbox"/> Buddy Burkhardt <input type="checkbox"/> Justin Mash <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>COUNTY CLERK</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Richie Beeler <input type="checkbox"/> John J. Duncan <input type="checkbox"/> Rodney Lane <input type="checkbox"/> John R. Whitehead <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 7</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> William Cooper <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 1</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> John Butler <input type="checkbox"/> O'Tavais "OT" Harris <input type="checkbox"/> Breyana Holloway <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in
<b>COUNTY COMMISSION AT-LARGE SEAT 10</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Justin Cofer <input type="checkbox"/> Kimberly Glenn <input type="checkbox"/> Ronnie Rochelle <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>REGISTER OF DEEDS</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Sherry Witt <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>COUNTY COMMISSION AT-LARGE SEAT 10</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Katina Sharp <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 4</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Katherine Bike <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in
<b>COUNTY COMMISSION AT-LARGE SEAT 11</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Garrett Holt <input type="checkbox"/> Liz Tombras <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 1</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Charles Frazier <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>COUNTY COMMISSION AT-LARGE SEAT 11</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Vivian Underwood Shipe <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 6</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Cadence Collins <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in
<b>COUNTY TRUSTEE</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Justin Biggs <input type="checkbox"/> Barry Hawkins <input type="checkbox"/> Nick McBride <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 4</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Ashley Sartelle <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>COUNTY TRUSTEE</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Stephen Hood <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 7</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Amy Fenner <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in
<b>GENERAL SESSIONS JUDGE DIVISION IV</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Andrea Kline <input type="checkbox"/> Rhonda Lee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 6</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Crateau <input type="checkbox"/> Lee Ann Eaves <input type="checkbox"/> Thierry Sommer <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>GENERAL SESSIONS JUDGE DIVISION IV</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Ben H. Houston II <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 9</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Brandy Jenkins <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in
	<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 7</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Triplett <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>SHERIFF</b> Vote for One (1)  No Candidate Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<p><b>Knox County Election Commission</b> Hannah Hopper, Chair Julie Gautreau, Secretary Bob Bowman Eddie Smith Adronicus Thomas Christopher S. Davis, Administrator</p> <p>P.O. Box 51530 Knoxville, TN 37950 300 Main Street, Room 229 Knoxville, TN 37902 P: 865-215-2480</p> <p><b>Office Hours:</b> 8:00 am - 4:30 pm <a href="http://www.knoxvotes.org">www.knoxvotes.org</a></p>
	<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 9</b> Vote for One (1)  <input type="checkbox"/> Kristi Kristy <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Sofield <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	<b>CIRCUIT, CIVIL SESSIONS AND JUVENILE COURT CLERK</b> Vote for One (1)  No Candidate Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in	

A federal or State of Tennessee issued photo ID is required to vote, unless an exception applies. College student IDs will not be accepted  
To learn more about the law and its exceptions, please call 865-215-2480 or visit [www.GoVoteTN.com](http://www.GoVoteTN.com)



# Notice of Election

## KNOX COUNTY PRIMARY ELECTIONS

May 5, 2026 • 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

### Polling Places

**Precinct 6**  
Green Magnet Academy  
801 Lula Powell Drive

**Precinct 9**  
Eternal Life Harvest Center  
1801 Western Avenue

**Precinct 10-N**  
Fort Sanders School  
501 S. 21st Street

**Precinct 10-S**  
Howard H. Baker Jr. Center  
1640 Cumberland Avenue

**Precinct 10-A**  
Howard H. Baker Jr. Center  
1640 Cumberland Avenue

**Precinct 11**  
Central United Methodist  
201 Third Avenue

**Precinct 12**  
Phyllis Wheatley YWCA  
124 S. Cruze Street

**Precinct 13**  
Fair Garden Community Ctr.  
400 Fern Street

**Precinct 14**  
Austin-East High School  
2800 MLK Jr. Avenue

**Precinct 15-E**  
John T. O'Connor Ctr.  
611 Winona Street

**Precinct 15-W**  
John T. O'Connor Ctr.  
611 Winona Street

**Precinct 16-E**  
Larry Cox Senior Rec. Ctr.  
3019 Ocoee Trail

**Precinct 16-W**  
Larry Cox Senior Rec. Ctr.  
3019 Ocoee Trail

**Precinct 17**  
Christenberry Comm. Ctr.  
931 Oglewood Avenue

**Precinct 18**  
Lincoln Park Center  
535 Chickamauga Avenue

**Precinct 19**  
Thrive Lonsdale  
1317 Connecticut Avenue

**Precinct 20**  
Communications Workers of America  
1415 Elm Street

**Precinct 23**  
Westview School  
1714 Mingle Avenue

**Precinct 24-Q**  
Sequoyah Elementary School  
942 Southgate Road

**Precinct 25**  
South Knox Comm. Ctr.  
522 Maryville Pike

**Precinct 26**  
Dogwood School  
705 Tipton Avenue

**Precinct 27**  
So. Knox Optimist Club  
6135 Moore Road

**Precinct 29**  
Anderson Headstart  
4808 Prospect Road

**Precinct 30**  
Sarah Moore Greene School  
3001 Brooks Avenue

**Precinct 31**  
Chilhowee School  
5005 Asheville Highway

**Precinct 32**  
Spring Hill Primary School  
4711 Mildred Drive

**Precinct 33-N**  
Richard Yoakley School  
4415 Washington Pike

**Precinct 33-S**  
Richard Yoakley School  
4415 Washington Pike

**Precinct 34**  
Central High School  
5321 Jacksboro Pike

**Precinct 35**  
Shannondale School  
5316 Shannondale Road

**Precinct 36**  
Gresham Middle School  
500 Gresham Road

**Precinct 37**  
Inskip Elementary School  
4701 High School Road

**Precinct 39-E**  
Inskip Recreation Ctr.  
301 W. Inskip Drive

**Precinct 39-W**  
Inskip Recreation Ctr.  
301 W. Inskip Drive

**Precinct 40**  
Norwood Elementary School  
1909 Merchants Drive

**Precinct 41**  
Norwood Elementary School  
1909 Merchants Drive

**Precinct 42**  
Pleasant Ridge Elementary  
3013 Walnoaks Road

**Precinct 43**  
West Haven Elementary  
3620 Sisk Road

**Precinct 44**  
Ridgedale School  
4600 Ridgedale Road

**Precinct 45**  
Bearden Middle School  
1000 Francis Road

**Precinct 46**  
Knoxville 1st Church of Nazarene  
538 Vanosdale Road

**Precinct 47-N**  
Bearden High School  
8352 Kingston Pike

**Precinct 47-S**  
Bearden High School  
8352 Kingston Pike

**Precinct 48**  
Pond Gap School  
4530 Papermill Drive

**Precinct 49-N**  
Bearden Elementary School  
5717 Kingston Pike

**Precinct 49-S**  
Bearden Elementary School  
5717 Kingston Pike

**Precinct 50-N**  
West High School  
3326 Sutherland Avenue

**Precinct 50-S**  
West High School  
3326 Sutherland Avenue

**Precinct 51**  
Deane Hill Recreation Ctr.  
7414 Deane Hill Drive

**Precinct 55**  
Bearden Middle School  
1000 Francis Road

**Precinct 56**  
Copper Ridge Elementary School  
2502 E. Brushy Valley Road

**Precinct 57**  
Bethany Baptist Comm. Ctr.  
6705 E. Raccoon Valley Drive

**Precinct 58**  
Copper Ridge Elementary School  
2502 E. Brushy Valley Road

**Precinct 59**  
Brickey-McCloud School  
1810 Dry Gap Pike

**Precinct 60**  
Halls High School  
4321 E. Emory Road

**Precinct 61-E – NEW LOCATION**  
**Faithway Baptist Church**  
**4402 Crippen Road**

**Precinct 61-W**  
Halls High School  
4321 E. Emory Road

**Precinct 62**  
Hardin Valley Elementary School  
11445 Hardin Valley Road

**Precinct 63 – NEW LOCATION**  
**Karns High School**  
**2710 Byington Solway Road**

**Precinct 63-N**  
Karns Elementary School  
8108 Beaver Ridge Road

**Precinct 64**  
Pellissippi State Comm. College  
10915 Hardin Valley Road

**Precinct 65-E**  
Ebenezer United Methodist Church  
1001 Ebenezer Road

**Precinct 65-S**  
Ebenezer United Methodist Church  
1001 Ebenezer Road

**Precinct 65-W**  
Faith Lutheran Church  
225 Jamestowne Boulevard

**Precinct 65-SW**  
Faith Lutheran Church  
225 Jamestowne Boulevard

**Precinct 65-N**  
Farragut Primary School  
509 N. Campbell Station

**Precinct 66-NE**  
Farragut Middle School  
200 West End Avenue

**Precinct 66-NW**  
Farragut Middle School  
200 West End Avenue

**Precinct 66-SE – NEW LOCATION**  
**Korean Church of Knoxville**  
**108 Farlow Drive**

**Precinct 66-SW**  
Farragut High School  
11237 Kingston Pike

**Precinct 67**  
Cedar Bluff Middle School  
707 N. Cedar Bluff Road

**Precinct 68 – NEW LOCATION**  
**Election Commission - Downtown West**  
**1645 Downtown West Blvd, Unit 40**

**Precinct 68-E**  
Cedar Bluff Public Library  
9045 Cross Park Drive

**Precinct 69-E**  
Bluegrass Elementary School  
8901 Bluegrass Road

**Precinct 69-N**  
West Valley Middle School  
9118 George Williams Road

**Precinct 69-S**  
Northshore Elementary School  
1889 Thunderhead Road

**Precinct 69-W**  
A.L. Lotts Elementary School  
9320 Westland Drive

**Precinct 70-E**  
Amherst Elementary School  
5101 Schaad Road

**Precinct 70-W**  
Ball Camp Elementary School  
9801 Middlebrook Pike

**Precinct 71**  
Rocky Hill Elementary School  
1200 Morrell Road

**Precinct 72-E**  
Crown College  
2307 West Beaver Creek Drive

**Precinct 72-W**  
Crown College  
2307 West Beaver Creek Drive

**Precinct 73-E**  
Powell High School – Clark Duncan Complex  
2136 W. Emory Road

**Precinct 73-W**  
Powell High School – Clark Duncan Complex  
2136 W. Emory Road

**Precinct 74**  
Shannondale Elementary School  
5316 Shannondale Road

**Precinct 76**  
Sunnyview School  
412 Bagwell Road

**Precinct 78**  
Marbledale Baptist Church  
5935 Thorn Grove Pike

**Precinct 79**  
Mt. Harmony Baptist Church  
6500 Strawberry Plains Pike

**Precinct 80**  
Corryton Comm. Ctr.  
9331 Davis Road

**Precinct 81**  
Gibbs Elementary School  
7715 Tazewell Pike

**Precinct 82**  
Arminda Comm. Ctr.  
2501 Ellistown Road

**Precinct 84**  
Ritta Elementary School  
6228 Washington Pike

**Precinct 85**  
East Knox Elementary School  
9315 Rutledge Pike

**Precinct 86**  
Carter Elementary School  
8455 Strawberry Plains Pike

**Precinct 87**  
Odd Fellows Lodge Hall  
10103 Thorngrove Pike

**Precinct 89**  
Mount Olive School  
2507 Maryville Pike

**Precinct 90**  
South-Doyle High School  
2020 Tipton Station Road

**Precinct 92**  
Gap Creek Elementary School  
1920 Kimberlin Heights Road

**Precinct 93**  
New Hopewell Elementary School  
757 Kimberlin Heights Road

**Central Absentee Ballot Counting Board**  
109 Lovell Heights Road  
Meets May 5th at 10:30 a.m.

**Central Provisional Ballot Counting Board**  
109 Lovell Heights Road  
Meets May 8th at 9:00 a.m.

### KNOX COUNTY ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACE CHANGES

**PRECINCT 61-E has relocated.**  
If you live in Precinct 61-E, you now vote at:  
**Faithway Baptist Church**  
**4402 Crippen Road**

**PRECINCT 63 has relocated.**  
If you live in Precinct 63, you now vote at:  
**Karns High School**  
**2710 Byington Solway Road**

**PRECINCT 66-SE has relocated.**  
If you live in Precinct 66-SE, you now vote at:  
**Korean Church of Knoxville**  
**108 Farlow Drive**

**PRECINCT 68 has relocated.**  
If you live in Precinct 68, you now vote at:  
**Election Commission – Downtown West**  
**1645 Downtown West Blvd, Unit 40**

**PRECINCT 77 has merged with PRECINCT 78.**  
If you live in what was Precinct 77, you now vote at:  
**Precinct 78**  
**Marbledale Baptist Church**  
**5935 Thorn Grove Pike**

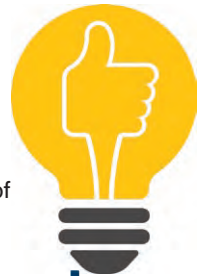
**Maps of all new Election Day Polling Places can be found at**  
**www.knoxvotes.org**



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



farragutpress

## Dressing without limits

*New boutique inspires confidence at any age*

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Launching her new online boutique, Mimi JAX Collection, on April 3, Farragut resident Mimi Jackson has found a new way to serve the community.

After a successful two weeks following the launch of her business, “I am so excited for what’s ahead with Mimi JAX Collection,” she said.

“I just launched my website April 3,” Jackson added. “I’m completely online. I’m offering women’s apparel.”

With her young spirit, “I love to dress, maybe, in a way that makes me feel younger,” she said. “I don’t ever want to be defined by my age, and I want to inspire other women to do that.”

“I want them to be confident, to choose different clothing styles than what they’ve worn before,” Jackson added. “So, while I obviously run in circles of women of my same age, my boutique is geared to women of 18 to 75.”

“My husband’s grandmother — she is 80 — she bought a pair of jeans from me,” she said. “Anybody can shop it, and that’s kind of my goal is not to be defined by an age,” she said. “If you like it; you can wear it.”

She describes the apparel as everyday wear with which one can mix and match pieces with items that are already in the customers’ closets.

On Jackson’s social media sites, she shows how they can be combined to make more than one outfit.

“That’s probably one of my personal things to do in my own closet,” she said. “That’s to pick something out and wear it completely different from the last time I wore it.”

“I know that’s not what everyone likes to do. That’s why I’m doing it for them.”

Among the brands she carries are Eesom and Entro, Umgee and Illa Illa.

Besides the merchandise, another benefit to customers is local pickup.

To order, people can visit her website, [www.mimijax.com](http://www.mimijax.com) or follow her on Facebook and Instagram at Mimi JAX Collections.

If people are unsure about the size or styling it, they can reach out to Jackson through social media channels and her email at [shopmimijax@gmail.com](mailto:shopmimijax@gmail.com)

“One of the things I’m proud of is I did this [launching the business] all by myself,” she said. “I’m so hopeful to grow it to something bigger than I can even imagine.”

Previously, Jackson was in the social work field. After graduating from the University of Tennessee and then earning her Master’s degree in social work, she was a school social worker for 10 years.

Then, she and her husband

See DRESSING on Page 11A



Tammy Cheek

Farragut resident Mimi Jackson recently launched her new home-based online boutique, Mimi JAX Collections.

## AMS Corporation announces addition of six employees

Analysis and Measurement Services Corporation (AMS) announced the recent addition of six employees in the last six months as the company continues to expand its workforce.

“Bringing new people into AMS supports our work across projects and services,” president/CEO, Dr. H. M. Hashemian, said. “Each of these hires adds capability to our team and helps us meet demand

while continuing to expand our operations.”

The hires support operations across engineering, sales, field services, data analysis and software development. The company is adding staff to support project work and customer needs.

Among the new hires, Madeline Wimmer joined AMS as

See AMS on Page 11A

## businessbriefs

• NAI Koella | RM Moore recently announced three of its brokers have been recognized by NAI Global as Top Producers Worldwide for 2025. Among those receiving this prestigious honor are president and principal broker Roger Moore, senior investment sales advisor Heidi Adams and a third NAI Koella | RM Moore senior advisor.

NAI Global identifies top producers through high-volume, performance-based

metrics across an international network of more than 300 offices and more than 5,000 brokers, according to a press release. Top producers are recognized based on their local expertise, industry specialization, market intelligence and the consistent creation of long-term value. They also must generate more than \$1,000,000 in gross commission income and represent the top 2 percent of brokers.

All three NAI Koella | RM

Moore brokers placed in the Top 80 of top producers, including Roger Moore in 29th place, Heidi Adams in 67th place and the third senior advisor placed 78th on the list.

• Pinnacle Financial Partners welcomes Austin Sanders to its Knoxville team as a trust portfolio manager in the Northshore office, where he will partner with clients to deliver personalized invest-

See BRIEFS on Page 11A

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE

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MIXER

TUESDAY, MAY 5TH FROM 4:30 TO 6PM | FARRAGUT COMMUNITY CENTER

Join us for an afternoon of networking, community connection, and local business collaboration.

Come by and meet our new Executive Director, Ashley Lynch, and learn what’s ahead for the Farragut’s business community. We look forward to see you there.

Please RSVP - [hello@shopfarragut.com](mailto:hello@shopfarragut.com) | Questions - 865-719-1088



**Dressing**  
From page 10A

moved from Tennessee to Birmingham, Alabama, where he had a job opportunity. "I stayed home with my two boys," Jackson said. "It wasn't beneficial for me to work." However, the Jacksons returned to Knoxville in 2020, and she started filling in with the social work department in Knox County Schools. "I ended up going back to work two years ago in the role of mental health counselor for kids with [Individual Education Plans] in the school system for kids who need extra help and support in the classroom," Jackson said. "But my job is ending [in May, when school lets out]," she added.

ed. "We don't have the funding." Still, "this online boutique has been a dream of mine for some years, and it just feels like everything has fallen into place for me to do it now," Jackson said. "I really wanted to start this [business] two years ago [when she had not gone back to work and was looking for her 'next thing']," she said. "It just felt like it wasn't the right time." But in October 2024, the Jacksons found their home in Concord Hills which had space to launch the business. While she is concerned about leaving the mental health world while there is such a need and she has a gift of helping others, Jackson said, "I'm excited to help women in totally different way."

**Briefs**  
From page 10A

ment strategies and long-term financial guidance. Sanders brings a decade of experience in investment and portfolio management with a strong background in serving high-net-worth and institutional clients. He joins Pinnacle from First Horizon, where he most recently served as a senior portfolio manager. His expertise includes asset allocation, portfolio construction, performance analysis and regulatory compliance. • SmartBank recently announced the promotion of Cynthia A. Cain to the position of chief operating officer,

effectively immediately. Cain brings more than three decades of experience to the role, having served most recently as SmartBank's chief accounting officer. Her institutional knowledge and extensive background in financial operations make her uniquely qualified to lead its strategic efforts. • In the flagship JD Power2026 Retail Banking Satisfaction Study, FirstBank, which has a Farragut location at 11820 Kingston Pike, has been ranked No.1 for Retail Banking Customer Satisfaction in the South Central region. This top ranking is derived from the feedback of more than 100,000 retail banking customers

across the United States. The study also noted customers rated FirstBank No. 1 for trust and for its people in the region. "Earning the JD Power Award is a powerful validation of our vision to be the cornerstone that families and businesses turn to for financial peace of mind," said Christopher Holmes, president and CEO of FirstBank. "For our customers' feedback to result in us ranking No. 1 is a significant honor. It demonstrates that our approach of pairing the latest in financial products and capabilities with a century of hometown heart truly sets the FirstBank experience apart."

**AMS**  
From page 10A

a cable technology and services engineer in November 2025. In March, the company added Tanner Harness as a sales engineer; Daniel Christie and Robert Sutherland as field services electronics technicians; Chad Witbeck as a data analysis engineer; and J. Phillip Glass as a senior software developer engineer. "The hires increase staffing across multiple functions," an AMS press release stated. "The new employees support project execution, field work, data analysis, customer engagement and

software development. "AMS is aligning staffing with project schedules and service delivery," it stated. "The company continues to add personnel as work expands across its operations in the testing of process instrumentation and control systems of nuclear power plants." AMS provides nuclear engineering services and supports plant operations through testing, engineering and data analysis. "The company continues to expand its workforce in response to demand across its service areas," the release stated.

**Business Spotlight**



**FWKCC 2026 EXPO  
Drives Connections**

Presented by Slamdot, the Farragut West Knox Chamber Business EXPO brings together 82 businesses and more than 600 attendees on April 22, creating opportunities for networking, connection and discovery among local and regional brands. Businesses showcase services, meet new customers and build relationships within the community. The Chamber thanks First Century Bank as EXPO sponsor, along with supporting sponsors, and appreciates all attendees who make the event a success each year.

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

Paid for by Alex Cain for Mayor



Cheers to all the strong women who influence strong women like us!

*Thanks Moms!*



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# HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



### Rick Terry Jewelry Designs

Rick Terry Jewelry Designs has been Knoxville's finest jeweler since 1986. Beautiful jewelry, unique designs, and quality craftsmanship lie at the heart of our family-owned and operated business. Rick Terry Jewelry Designs takes pride in each creation, each finished product, and every customer interaction, all with the hopes of being the last jeweler you will ever need. "We want to be your jeweler" is Rick Terry's motto and a philosophy that he often shares is, "If you don't know your jewelry, know your jeweler".




### The Shoppes at Homespun

The Shoppes at Homespun is made up of many entrepreneurs and professionals as well as fine crafters and artisans. Come by to support your local business community and shop our diverse selections of home decor, antiques, primitives, gifts, jewelry, vintage, and Shabby Chic furniture.



### Water into Wine

OUR PATIO IS OPEN and we invite you to celebrate our ten-year anniversary at Water into Wine. We would like to thank the community for their continued support throughout the years and the love and encouragement our community so freely shares with our team. We appreciate your kindness. Our hours of operation are Monday 3-10 pm, Tuesday - Thursday 11 am - 11 pm, Friday - Saturday 11 am - Midnight. See you soon friends!



### The Villages of Farragut

The Villages of Farragut is a senior living community with an emphasis on offering the best care possible and aging with dignity. Amenities include studio, one- or two-bedroom apartments, sunrooms and porches, beautiful kitchens, stackable washer and dryers and individually controlled thermostats. Nurse practitioner services are available on-site and all utilities are included with options to add cable TV and phone service.

This Mother's Day, remind Mom how much she means to you.




## Rick Terry Jewelry Designs

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## Serving success: FHS boys claim 2026 district title

**Jake Nichols**

*jnichols@farragutpress.com*

In its previous two matches against Maryville, the Farragut boys tennis team came up short.

Friday, April 24, Kori Faulkner made sure history did not repeat itself for a third time.

The Farragut senior outlasted Maryville's Will Huddleston 10-8 in a match breaker, snapping a 3-3 tie to give the Admirals a 4-3 win for the 2026 District 2-AA title.

Faulkner won his first set 6-4, lost the second set 6-3 and claimed the match breaker to vault FHS to program history.

He wound up in a similarly lofty perch moments later, as teammates paraded Faulkner on their shoulders after the victory.

"When they were lifting Kori, we reminded them that it's each and every one of you that got us to this point," FHS assistant tennis coach Jim Swanson said. "They all took part in the win, so that was the message we gave them."

"It took not just our one and two players," added head coach Joan Swanson, "but all 13 have been actively involved all season long."

The Lady Admirals lost 5-3 to West earlier last week in their district championship matchup. In postseason singles, Skylar Meade claimed second place in the boys' individual singles district finals, while Anika Patel and Isha Patel took second in the girls individual doubles district finals.

Individual region matches are slated for Monday and Tuesday, May 4-5,

while the boys' region matches will take place Thursday or Friday, April 30 or May 1, depending on results this week.

The Patels will take on a duo from Halls, and Meade will face Oak Ridge's Billy Bennett.

For Hardin Valley, Madison and Jaymeson Huffman are the respective top seeds for their brackets, as they will face Karns' Myra Mulholland and Halls' Chris Rodriguez, respectively.

**See FHS on Page 4B**



**Jake Nichols**

Farragut pitcher Hallie Grace Johnson (24) winds up to fire a pitch toward the plate during the Lady Admirals' Region II Challenge opener against Halls on Friday, April 24, at Bellarmy Field.

## Farragut wraps regular season with Region II Challenge

**Jake Nichols**

*jnichols@farragutpress.com*

Hallie Grace Johnson wound and fired toward the plate last week, striking out Halls' Harper Bales to begin the Region II Challenge on Friday, April 24.

It was the first of 15 strikeouts for Johnson in her next two appearances, as the Farragut Lady Admirals went 2-1 in a tournament that featured several teams from across the area.

Farragut's matchups featured a 2-0 win over Halls, a 3-1 loss to Alcoa and a 7-0 win over Powell last weekend.

FHS would have faced Clinton as well, but rain prevented the matchup after the Lady Dragons' game against Powell was called due to weather.

In Farragut's first win

of the weekend, Johnson recorded five strikeouts with two hits and two walks allowed through five innings.

At the plate, Taylor Albright went 2-for-2 with an RBI while Camryn Shrader put forth one more RBI in the leadoff spot. Rylee Raby added to the output with a hit in three plate appearances.

With two outs in the bottom of the second, Sara Matic stole second base and advanced to third on an error before Albright turned a six-pitch at-bat into an RBI double for a 1-0 lead. Three innings later, Shrader knocked an RBI double to center to score Albright for the final margin.

Against Alcoa, the Lady Ads proved un-

**See FARRAGUT on Page 2B**

## Lady Ads 'sizzling' as postseason nears



**Jake Nichols**

Farragut's Moya Sakhleh (25) and Camille Fugot (7) celebrate after Sakhleh's touchdown on Monday, April 27, at Eddie Courtney Stadium. The Lady Admirals ran away from Hardin Valley, 33-12, to cap the regular season with a four-game win streak.

**Jake Nichols**

*jnichols@farragutpress.com*

Three games into this season, the Farragut Lady Admirals had not won a game in the first TSSAA-sanctioned season of girls flag football.

At that point, negativity swirled for plenty of players — especially those who had been part of a lackluster campaign in the fall of 2024.

Fast forward to Monday, April 27, and things looked far different for the Lady Ads. Players danced and smiled with each other during Senior Night, only to wreak havoc on Hardin Valley in a 33-12 victory to cap a four-game win streak to end the regular season.

In that stretch, the Lady Ads have outscored their opponents 103-39, including a 27-14 win over previously unbeaten Clinton last Monday, April 21.

For Farragut coach G.W. Curtin, the last few outings have brought validation for the potential he has seen during practice.

But they have also reinforced the importance of trust and team chemistry, both of which have been

developed through the last few weeks.

"Every coach talks about potential," Curtin said. "Hopefully you have some in the preseason and see what you could be. But when you finally crack the egg and put it in the pan, it's not just potential anymore. You can hear the sizzle, and we have a score and game we can stand behind and build off."

If the Clinton matchup brought that egg to a sizzle, the Hardin Valley win featured a full-flavored Farragut omelet.

FHS jumped out to a 14-0 lead, taking early command Monday night. Quarterback Aydan Skelton hit Camille Fugot for a 6-0 lead on the Lady Ads' first drive, then Catherine Langlois hauled in the 1-point conversion attempt for a 7-0 advantage. The teams traded three-and-outs, only for Bella Bruton to snag an interception. It was one of several she has made from her spot at "Chicken" — a Farragut moniker for a player who, in Curtin's words, "runs around like a chicken with her head cut off."

The early pick set up a zigzagging touchdown run

**See SIZZLING on Page 2B**

## Ads, Dawgs turn back the clock to wrap regular season



**Jake Nichols**

Farragut senior Zain Kureshi-Smith (9) prepares to knock an RBI single against Pigeon Forge on Thursday, April 23. The Ads outlasted the Tigers 10-2 while Bearden fell to Baylor 4-2.

**Jake Nichols**

*jnichols@farragutpress.com*

"Craaaaack!"

The unmistakable sound exploded from Zain Kureshi-Smith's Victus 30-inch Pro Reserve Maple, as the senior used his wooden weapon to produce an RBI single and a 1-0 Farragut lead against Pigeon Forge.

In the press box, bow-tie-clad P.A. announcer Ralph Skinner cued up the next tune from a list that included Frank Sinatra's best hits and Tony Dorsey's "Boogie Woogie" from the 1940s. These were just a cou-

ple of the sounds inside the Ballpark at Farragut last week as the Admirals hosted their annual "Throwback Night" to wrap the regular-season home slate on Thursday, April 23.

The event began two decades ago under former Admirals coach Tommy Pharr, each game bringing in money for the KiMe Fund to cure young-onset Parkinson's Disease. Since their inception, the games have been sponsored by the late Pat Dorwin, a member of Farragut's 1982 state championship team, and the Farragut

Baseball Dugout Club.

In the earlier days of these matchups, every team would wear a throwback uniform, and each player used a wooden bat — a piece of equipment that was not as common for high-schoolers at the time.

While the uniform aspect is no longer in play, the bat usage still brings a unique theme that pairs with Skinner's musical playlist and discounted prices for popcorn and hot dogs at the concession stand.

"It's kind of been the same thing for a while, just a fun thing to do to

switch things up late in the year," Admirals skipper Garrett Copeland said. "I think the guys enjoy it. Wood bats have become more of the summer staple, and it wasn't quite that way when it started."

In the first game of the night, Dave Prichard's Bearden Bulldogs clashed with the Baylor Red Raiders out of Chattanooga.

The Bulldogs took a 2-1 lead early, and they threatened to take a 3-1 lead in the top of the fifth; but Noah Reichert

**See WRAP on Page 2B**

# Undermanned Dawgs outlast Ads

**Jake Nichols**

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

Through the years, Bradley Culbreth has seen plenty of fun soccer matches between Farragut and Bearden.

The rivals wrote their latest chapter on Friday, April 24. And when the clock hit zero, all the Farragut coach could do was tip his cap to the Bulldogs, who claimed a 3-1 victory despite being outnumbered during several key stretches.

“What a transition by them to be down two men and still put that effort in,” Culbreth acknowledged. “I commend them on how they played the last 20 minutes. Everybody hopes and wishes for a team that responds like that. Hopefully mine learn, which we will. When you make mistakes, good teams capitalize on it. They earned it, and (Bearden coach Ryan) Radcliffe made adjustments. Over there playing chess, as expected.”

The result leaves Farragut as the 2-seed or the 3-seed for the district tournament, depending on the West-Bearden game that took place after press time on Tuesday, April 28.

As for last Friday, Bearden made the first move when Ben Mowery scored his first varsity goal to put the Bulldogs ahead

1-0 going into halftime.

At that point, Culbreth's club did not panic — far from it, in fact.

“First half, we gave them the freedom we wanted to find matchups and drag them into the second half,” Culbreth said. “Down 1, I told them we're not in a bad situation. One opportunity changes it.”

Farragut found that opportunity soon enough, as Tyden Sanchez nailed a penalty kick to knot the score at 1 apiece.

But Bearden's Fadel Hamdan answered with a PK of his own in the second half, putting the Dawgs ahead 2-1 in a lead they would not relinquish.

With time dwindling, Timothy Styles found the back of the net on an assist from Aidan Ainsworth to mark the final margin.

Both of these goals followed early cards for Bearden, as Samuel Tabarez left the game with a red card in the first half before Matthew Wells was issued two yellow cards.

Their absences left Bearden down one player for 46 minutes and 19 seconds Friday and down two players for the final 10:46.

Both players will also miss time this week as a result — Tabarez for three games, Wells for one.

2-1 lead in the top of the second. Undeterred, Farragut stacked nine runs across three middle innings — with six in the fifth alone — to emerge victorious.

Kureshi-Smith went 3-for-4 at the plate with a pair of RBIs, but it was Mason Shelton's two-run shot in the third that gave the Ads a lead they would not relinquish. He finished 2-for-4 with three RBI.

“I think even though it's a wood bat, our approach is the same, and our approach has been good recently,” Copeland said. “A wood bat has a chance to expose some things, but I thought we did well.”

“Then Mason, the last couple weeks, has settled in and found a groove. I think it was a bit of a slower start than he wanted, but he works hard and wants the best for himself and works until he gets the best out of it.”

FHS saw a similar result on the mound, allowing just one hit with a combined eight strikeouts through four different arms: Joey Ray, Braiden Meredith, Cash Schroeder and Aidan Flagg.

“I thought our guys did a good job; they competed in the strike zone with multiple pitches,” Copeland said. “Our goal is to always challenge hitters, and they did a good job of that.”

defense for the final play.

Then they walked off the field together to prepare for this Friday's May 1 playoff matchup — Farragut's first in program history.

During the postseason, FHS could very well be pitted against a Bearden team that has seen similar success en route to a 13-1 regular-season record.

But with the turnaround the Lady Ads have staged so far, FHS (9-6) has reason to feel as good as any other team at this point in the year.

“It's really a mental shift,” Curtin said. “We're the same team athletically — we can run just as fast, jump just as high. But now the team is really starting to trust each other more. It's not about, ‘Oh, she messed up, can I go in?’ It's, ‘Hey, you've got this’ and we're helping out on the sideline when she comes off the field.”

“A lot of levelheadedness; we've come from behind in some games. And the losses we've had, I told them that we were beating Carter and Fulton and Bearden. So we've seen too that we can play with those teams, even though we lost the games. So we know now we can play with anybody.”

“A little frustrating since we still have West and Maryville next week, but trying to see the bigger picture,” Radcliffe said. “We were able to find some resiliency. As a unit, we took a big step tonight, because that was some big adversity we had to deal with. I told them at half-time the only way we would be able to win would be together.”

Thus, the chess match ratcheted up a notch or two.

Radcliffe moved some pieces around to account for the absences, focusing heavily on his forwards.

The moves paid off when Styles splashed the final shot into the net.

“We kind of shifted our formation, obviously being down some players, and put a lot of focus on our forwards having to work both sides of the ball, Radcliffe said. “We talked about not giving it up easily, helping us generate some attack, and Aidan Ainsworth was fantastic in being able to keep the ball. Then Tim's energy to join the attack and very unselfish by Aidan to play that ball across. Playing together, that was cool to see. This will be a game I think I'll remember for a long, long time.”

Meanwhile, Culbreth gave credit to his counterparts, citing his lack of aggressiveness



Carlos Reveiz/crfoto.com

Farragut's Nathan Henderson (9) fights for possession against Bearden's Isaac Martinez (7) on Friday, April 24, at Bearden High School.

in the waning moments.

“He rested at the right moments when I didn't push,” Culbreth said of Radcliffe. “I was conservative, and he got to rest his horses. I thought

it would still come and it just didn't, so I should have been more aggressive. Well-played by Radcliffe, he out-coached me. We will learn from it and get better.”

## Wrap

From page 1B

was called out at the plate, and Baylor responded with three runs over the next two innings to claim a 4-2 victory.

“I think we played really well,” Prichard said. “We're up 2-1 at one point, a chance to go up 3-1, and we get a close play at the plate with an unfortunate call. I thought we battled and took risks. The fight was good, and Colton Perkins on the mound was phenomenal.”

Isaiah Allen and Garrett Wright each went 2-for-3 for BHS with Wright smacking a solo homer in the top of the third. On the mound, Perkins gave up 10 hits with five strikeouts across six innings.

“I think we're playing our best baseball right now, and we got better today — which is hard to say when you take one on the chin against a really good team,” Prichard said. “We're playing our best going into tournament time, which is what you're supposed to do.”

Copeland noted a similar thought for his team, though the Admirals started a little more slowly than they might have preferred en route to a 10-2 victory.

Kureshi-Smith's RBI single put the Ads up 1-0 in the bottom of the first, only for Pigeon Forge to respond for a

## Sizzling

From page 1B

from Brooklyn Morris, and the conversion catch by Moya Sakhleh left FHS at a comfortable 14-point advantage.

Still, Hardin Valley refused to go away that easily. HVA defensive back Deliah Jenkins picked off Skelton during the first half, then Eden Baker returned another interception for a touchdown to end the second quarter.

After an FHS staff flag football matchup during the break, the teams traded possessions through the third quarter. Finally, Morris broke free for her second score of the night to put the Lady Ads ahead 20-6 at the end of the third. Alaina Lineberry responded with a long touchdown for the Lady Hawks, but Farragut answered right back with a 10-play touchdown drive that ended with a score from Sakhleh.

The Farragut defense forced one more stop for good measure, and Sakhleh found the end zone for her second score to pair with a conversion from Faugot to mark the final margin.

All that remained was one more stop for the FHS seniors, each of whom jumped in on

## Farragut

From page 1B

able to outlast Lady Tornado pitcher Kaylea Osborne. She rang up nine strikeouts, as Farragut's sole run came from Shrader on a leadoff homer to start the fourth.

Finally, against Powell, Johnson returned to the circle and recorded 10 strikeouts with four runs and three walks allowed through four innings.

She also went 2-for-2 at the plate with 3 RBI, while Albright, Raby and Jade Buck-

ner recorded 1 RBI apiece.

Over at Hardin Valley, the Lady Hawks outlasted Knox Catholic, 4-3, in their Region II Challenge opener last Friday.

Zoie Driver delivered a walk-off RBI single in the bottom of the sixth, making her only hit of the day count in dramatic fashion. In the circle, Avery Gran racked up 11 strikeouts while scattering five hits and three runs in a complete game.

But as exciting as that finish was, HVA's results dimmed in 8-1 and 4-1 losses to Tazewell (VA) and a 3-0 loss to Alcoa.

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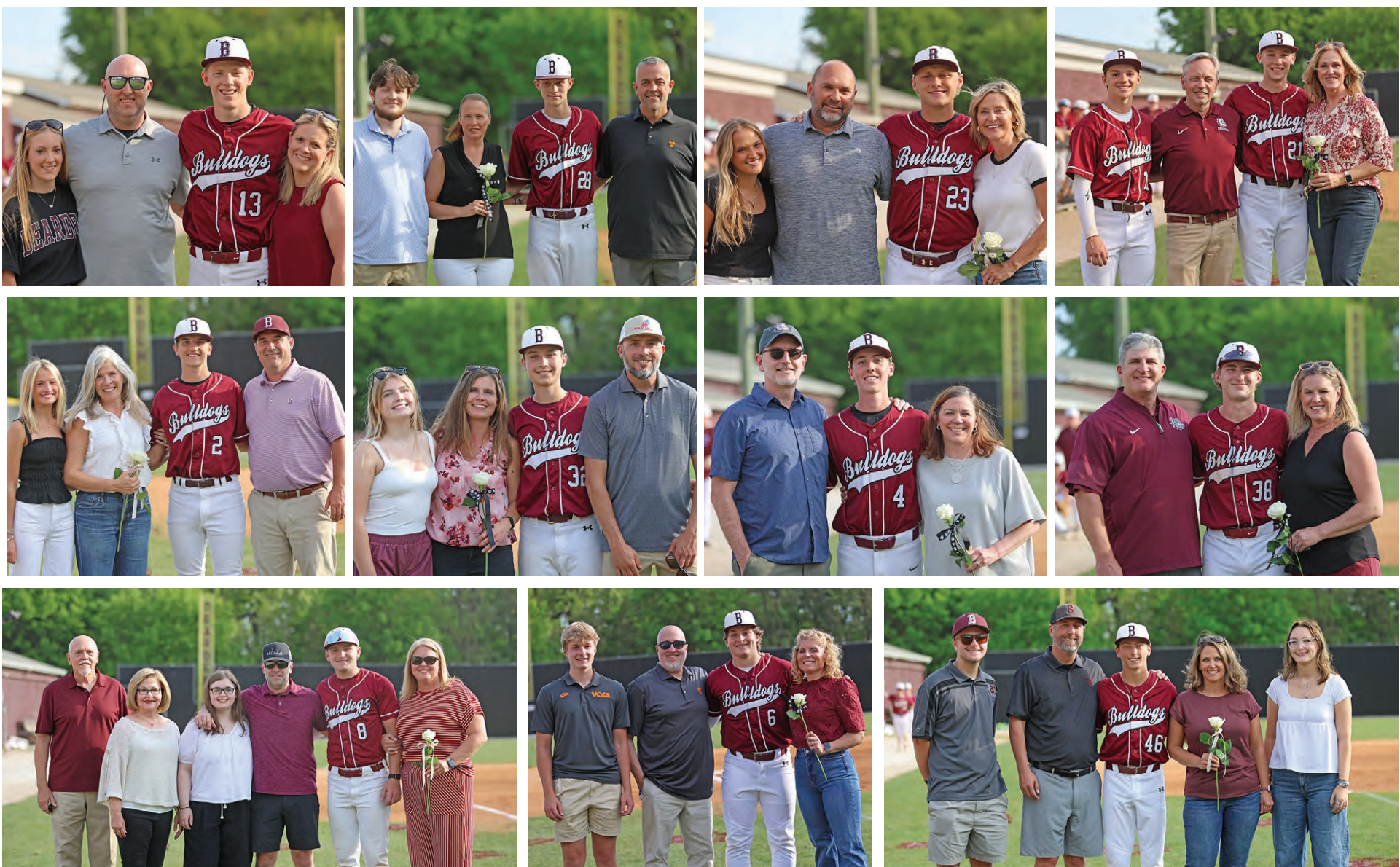
## Farragut High Schools Boys Lacrosse

The Farragut boys lacrosse team celebrated its Senior Night Friday, April 24, defeating Hardin Valley Academy 17-2. All photos by Jake Nichols.



## Bearden High School Baseball

All Bearden baseball Senior Night photos courtesy of Tammy Kregal for Bearden High School.



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# Late goals lift West past Hardin Valley

**Ken Lay**  
Correspondent

Hardin Valley Academy's boys soccer team has had a tumultuous 2026 campaign marred by adversity, including illness and injuries.

The Hawks closed out the District 4-AAA portion of their schedule Friday night with a 2-1 loss to Knoxville West at HVA.

It was Hardin Valley's 13th match of the season and the Hawks used their 13th different starting lineup.

"We've been banged up. We've been dinged up and we've been sick," said coach Ray Dover, who guided his side to the 2025 Class AAA state championship. "We rested some guys and we played some younger kids and I was really proud of our effort."

"The MVP of our team this year is our trainer, Cindi Juarez-Logan. She's worked with our kids and done some things like conditioning."

The Hawks (5-6-2 overall, 2-3-1 in the district) started fast and led, 1-0, at halftime thanks to a goal by freshman

Elijah Lakins, that was assisted by sophomore Manny Longinos.

"I used some younger kids," Dover said. "We knew coming into the 2026 season that we would have a team of 2027 that wouldn't have a lot of seniors on it, so we were able to get a glimpse into the 2027 season."

The loss had all the elements of a heartbreaking defeat as the Hawks darted out to an early lead against the Rebels, coached by Nick Kim, only to see West (12-1-3, 3-0-2) come behind with two late goals.

"I was actually really proud of our effort," Dover said. "We were up, 1-0, at halftime and West came back and scored two goals in the last 20 minutes."

"Nick has a good team. West is good. They have talent and they play hard. Our district is always tough, but this is as deep as I think I've ever seen it."

Oliver Bankston, one of the area's top players, found the back of the net for the Rebels. Luke Rappe also tallied for West and Grayson Huffaker dished out a pair of assists.



Photo courtesy of Joan Swanson

The Farragut boys tennis team defeated Maryville 4-3 last Friday, April 24, to claim the 2026 District 2-AA championship.

## FHS From page 1B

Meanwhile, the Farragut boys will take on the winner of Halls-Campbell County this week.

And whichever team FHS faces, both Farragut coaches want to see the same effort and enthusiasm they witnessed last week.

"It was a true team effort," Joan Swanson said. "They

all played hard, played to win and at the end, Kori was on their shoulders. From the freshmen to the seniors, they are a group. They celebrate together."

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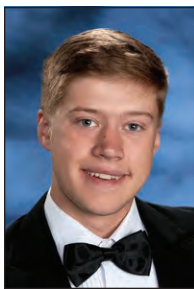
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## Jerrell named HVA salutatorian

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Hardin Valley Academy recently announced its valedictorian and salutatorian, Zainab Hasan and Levi Jerrell respectively.

The salutatorian, Jerrell, the son of Matt and Brandy Jerrell, plans to attend the University of Tennessee, where he will major in chemical engineering and minor in Chinese. His goal is to be a chemical engineer.



Jerrell

At HVA, "I really enjoyed high school because I was able to be a part of many different clubs and found a really close group of friends," the senior said. "My teachers and counselor were also incredibly supportive and were always there when I needed help, which helped grow my confidence and guide me to what I want to do next."

While in high school, Jerrell participated in the pole vault, hurdle and sprint on the track team. He is the pole vault freshman school record holder and was All-State for pole vault.

He also is president of Mu Alpha Theta, co-founder and treasurer of the Travel and Culture Club, a member of HVA's Science Bowl team, Na-

See HVA on Page 9B



Photo submitted

Retired Air Force Col. Jim O'Brien (front) was surrounded by family members, from left, Hannah Maher, Lily Jackson, Logan Botsford, and wife, Diane, at McGhee-Tyson Airport after O'Brien returned home.

## One last flight

### Farragut veteran shares HonorAir experience

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Retired Air Force Col. Jim O'Brien of Farragut had been on Honor Air Flights before but as an escort for other veterans participating in the experience.

Notwithstanding, on Wednesday, April 8, he joined other veterans to have the experience as his own when he joined 138 veterans on Flight 38 — HonorAir's last flight from McGhee-Tyson Airport to Washington D.C.

"As you might expect, my thoughts differed at each of the memorials," O'Brien related. "While I was at the Lincoln Memorial, read-

ing his Inaugural Address and the Gettysburg Address, I thought about the horrors of that war and the strength and fortitude that President [Abe] Lincoln demonstrated as he led the country through it.

"Without him, I doubt that we'd have the USA that we know today," the veteran said.

Moving along the memorials, "unfortunately, the Air Force Memorial was closed for maintenance," he said. "We drove by it, but we didn't stop. Too bad ... that memorial has special meaning for me as I donated to its construction and served 27 years."

See HONOR AIR on Page 8B

## Bearden announces top three

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Bearden High School recently announced it has two valedictorians and a salutatorian.

Yejoon Ham and Mery Diaz were designated valedictorians while Leo Nishizawa earned the salutatorian distinction.

"Regardless of what class I took or what I learned, having impactful, supportive teachers was so much more instrumental to determining how my learning experience went," said Ham, son of Young Pyo Ham and Miyoung Park.

"Also, one of the most important parts of my high school experience were the peers and friends I surrounded myself with," he said. "They had such a huge influence on how my everyday school life looked and felt."

"Furthermore, I'm so grateful to have been able to learn to find a good work-life balance that works for me," Ham



Ham



Diaz

See BEARDEN on Page 10B



Photo submitted

Cedar Springs Homeschool Group Science Olympiad team, made up of 15 students in sixth through ninth grades, are heading to compete in the nationals.

## Homeschool group headed to national stage

**Staff Reports**  
editor@farragutpress.com

Cedar Springs Homeschool Group Science Olympiad team, a middle school group, called "Division B," will be represent the state at the national Science Olympiad competition, putting these students on the national stage.

Made up of 15 students in sixth through ninth grades, the team has earned the honor of representing Tennessee after a standout performance at

the state tournament held at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, on Saturday, April 18.

Competing against 19 teams from across the state, the "Cedar Springs team didn't just win, they finished more than 25 points ahead of the next closest team, a sizable margin in a competition where top results are often separated by only a few points," a press release stated. "It also marks the team's third consecutive first-place finish."

Lauren Crause, one of the teammate's mothers said many of the students call Farragut home.

"Their success reflects months of preparation across 23 different science and engineering events," she said. "Working in pairs or trios, they tackle topics ranging from Earth sciences, like meteorology and geology, to anatomy, chemistry and mechanical design."

See HOMESCHOOL on Page 11B

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# DISCOVER LOUDON COUNTY



## Candidates make their case at Loudon County event

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

To help residents walk into the voting booth prepared on May 5, the Loudon County Chamber of Commerce presented its Meet the Candidates event at The Venue in Lenoir City on Tuesday, March 24, giving candidates an opportunity to speak to constituents.

Early voting is underway through Thursday, April 30, with thirty-six candidates seeking offices including county mayor, county commission, trustee, sheriff, circuit court clerk, county clerk, register of deeds, road superintendent, and school board. Because county commission seats are the most contested, Chamber President Rodney Grugin previously said those races would be the primary focus of the event.

The program began with the mayoral race, featuring Republican incumbent Rollen "Buddy" Bradshaw and challenger Maureen "Moe" Colvin.

Now completing his third term, Bradshaw said, "In the 12 years I've been in office, we've seen some amazing things hap-

pen. Farragut growth is coming to Loudon County. We've tried our best to slow it down to where, at least, we can control it."

He added one of his proudest accomplishments is that eight of the county's last nine audits from the state comptroller's office "have been clean."

"No other county in Tennessee can say that," Bradshaw said, attributing the results to the county's "bold, empowered employees."

"If you look at our track record, nobody does it better," he said. "We set the standard on how government should run ... as always, my door's open."

Colvin, who holds a bachelor's degree in environmental policy and dual master's degrees in cultural economics and sociology, emphasized her perspective.

"So, I know a lot about how we interact with people and our environment," she said.

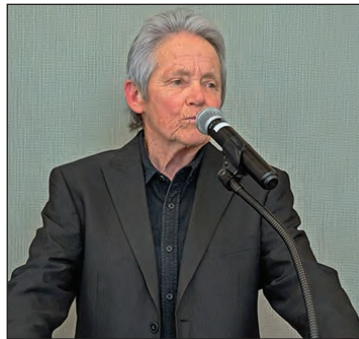
"I'm not a politician ... but I'm smart," Colvin said. "I will listen to whatever you have to say and take it to heart."

In the County Commission races, multiple seats feature two or more candidates, with



Tammy Cheek

**Counterclockwise from above:** Residents Jerry (left) and Naomi Scott talk to Blake Moore, who is seeking the Loudon County Commission District 1, Seat A, at Loudon County Chamber of Commerce's Meet the Candidates forum at The Venue in Lenoir City, Tuesday, March 24. Nikki Calvano, a Republican running for Loudon County Commission's District 1, Seat B, gave her credentials as a candidate. Republican mayoral candidate Buddy Bradshaw relates his achievements while he was in office. Maureen "Moe" Colvin, who is seeking the Loudon County mayor seat in the general election, gave her qualifications.



ten seats up for election.

In District 1, Seat A, Blake Moore, and Chase Randolph are competing in the Republican primary. The winner will face Brock Bigsby in the August general election.

"I'm an old Boy Scout," Bigsby said. "I worked for the Boy Scouts of America for 40 years, and I didn't spend 40 years in the woods tying knots. I was an administrator, running a large organization with budgets of tens of millions of dollars."

"I think that experience ... can be a valuable asset to this county," he said. "I think I can use that experience to move this county forward."

"The choice is straightforward," Moore said, noting his more than 30 years in business. "Continue down the path of rising costs and weak planning or choose leadership focused on transparency and accountability."

In District 1, Seat B, William "Bill" Geames and Bob Gross

are vying for the Republican nomination. The winner will face Democrat Nikki Calvano in the general election.

"Loudon County is growing; it's moving fast," Calvano said. "We have to be proactive. I'm here to offer you an option."

## Lunch and Learn focuses on long-term tax planning

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Loudon County Chamber of Commerce members received insights on how to avoid overpaying federal income taxes during a recent Lunch and Learn session.

Skee Orr, co-owner and financial planner with Kinetic Wealth and a Chamber member, shared those insights during the event at Lenoir City Utilities Board, 7698 Creechwood Park Blvd., Lenoir City, on Tuesday, April 7.

"Throughout my career, I have always given presenta-



Tammy Cheek

tions like this because my mom and grandmother were teachers ... they loved sharing knowledge," Orr said. "Today, we're going to talk about taxes."

"What a wonderful time of year to revisit this past season," he added.

See LUNCH on Page 7B

## Young Professionals event focuses on networking skills

**Tammy Cheek**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Starting out in business and building new contacts can be daunting for young professionals beginning their careers.

With that in mind, Young Professionals of Loudon County developed a way to help newcomers connect through its inaugural Mastering Networking event, held at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 8, at Avalon Country Club in Lenoir City.

"It's like speed dating," said Kyle Greening, YPLC Chairman and Senior Account Executive with Carriage Hill Insurance. He explained the session was designed to help participants break the ice by providing useful tips and conversation tools for everyday networking situations.

"This is the first time for this event," Greening said. "We hope to do it every year."

The setup featured chairs arranged face-to-face, allowing



Tammy Cheek

participants to sit down and talk one-on-one. Each person had three minutes before rotating to meet someone new.

Blair Sitzler, Loudon County Chamber of Commerce's Director of Tourism and Marketing, also helped explain the concept behind Mastering Net-

working. According to YPLC's website, "We will take 30 minutes to complete the speed networking rounds, with the last 30 minutes used for follow-up networking and catching up on the Masters golf tournament."

## Ribbon cutting



Tammy Cheek

Lee Ann Kennedy (with scissors), owner of Firefly Lane, and three of her crew, Roxanne Bunch (to Kennedy's right), and Kelli Rutty (to Kennedy's left), servers/bartenders, and Joanne Wojdula (to Rutty's left), celebrated their opening with a LCCC-sponsored ribbon cutting at Firefly Lane, 404 Wharf St., Wednesday, April 22. Loudon Mayor Jeff Harris (third from left), Chamber Board Chairman Matthew Coleman (front row, fourth from right) and Chamber members joined in the celebration.



## After Hours

Tammy Cheek

Susan Williams, left, Director of the Lenoir City Campus of Roane State Community College, learns about wine from Paulette Pierotti, Vice President of Tennessee Valley Winery, during a LCCC Business After Hours event at Tennessee Valley Winery, 15606 Hotchkiss Valley Road, Loudon, Tuesday evening, April 14.

## Popes at Meadow View



Tammy Cheek

Popes at Meadow View drew a crowd when it celebrated its opening with a ribbon cutting at Popes' new location, 9885 U.S. Highway 11, Lenoir City, Friday, April 10. On hand for the LCCC-sponsored event were staff and family members, Emma Langlois, Dean Langlois, Erin Maxwell, Lenoir City Councilman James Brandon, District 2 Knox County Commissioner Rosemary Quillen, owners Mike Pope and Will Pope, Sarah Pope with Whitney and Wyatt Pope and staff member Amanda Insko.

**Lunch**  
From page 6B

One key takeaway, Orr said, is learning how to avoid “paying too much” in taxes.

“I have been helping people file tax returns ... probably for 12 of my 15 years in the field,” he said. “I love looking at taxes and seeing how everything relates ... you start wondering how you can reduce that number.”

However, Orr cautioned against trying to reduce taxes after the fact.

“If you’re thinking about reducing your taxes while do-

ing your return, that is always backward-looking,” he said. “There are very few things you can do at that point to change your outcome.”

Instead, he urged a proactive approach.

“You really can’t make adjustments to the taxes you pay unless you plan ahead instead of always looking back,” Orr said.

He explained that traditional “tax planning” often focuses on minimizing taxes in the current year through deductions and filing strategies.

“These are all things you can do to make some changes,” he

said. “But sometimes people get confused about a tax deduction versus a tax deferral.

“If you defer taxes, that doesn’t mean you didn’t pay them — it means you chose not to pay today.”

Orr noted that deferring taxes when rates are low can result in paying more later if rates increase.

“Instead of thinking, ‘How can I pay the least today?’ start thinking about how you can pay less over your entire life,” he said.

He added that tax planning does not have to be complicated.

“There are great resources out there, including professionals, to help,” Orr said. “Right now, we are in a very favorable tax environment for most taxpayers.”

Orr also clarified a common misconception about tax brackets.

“Your tax bracket is not the tax rate you pay,” he said. “It’s just part of the calculation. You only pay that rate on the next dollar you earn, not your entire income.”

He also discussed the difference between paying taxes now versus deferring them.

“For the most part, we get

to choose when we pay taxes,” Orr said.

He asked whether most people pay higher tax rates while working or in retirement.

“In general, it’s while working,” he said. “In retirement, you typically have more deductions, and Social Security is not fully taxable.”

Orr recommended using retirement plans, including Roth options, as part of a long-term strategy.

“Generally speaking, it makes sense to pay taxes when rates are low and defer them when rates are higher,” he said.



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Photo submitted

At Arlington Cemetery, HonorAir founder Eddie Manis, right, and Joe Sutter, another HonorAir leader, laid a wreath in memory of Air Force Col. Charlie Harr, who died in February. Harr was active in HonorAir since its inception until he became sick in February.

### Honor Air

From page 5B

“The Korean War Memorial, the Navy Memorial and the Marine Corps Memorial are beautifully done, honoring the men and women who served and continue to serve today,” O’Brien said. “Of special significance to me and all those aboard our flight was the Vietnam War Memorial,” he said. “I have too many friends’ names engraved on that wall; and every time I visit, I get overwhelmed with emotion — as did many of my fellow veterans when we visited this memorial and the nearby Combat Nurse Memorial.”

But, overall, “I would say that I was particularly moved during our visit to the Arlington National Cemetery,” O’Brien said. “The Changing of the Guard ceremony is always meaningful. During our visit, several of us laid a wreath in honor of our friend, Col. Charlie Harr [U.S. Air Force, Retired], who died in February.

“Since I expect to be buried at Arlington after my life is over, I had a moment of introspection while honoring my friend,” he added.

Arriving at McGhee-Tyson Airport, he was welcomed by a huge crowd on both sides

of the walkway where the veterans boarded the plane, O’Brien’s wife, Diane observed. Returning home, again they were welcomed.

“The time we spent in Washington, D.C., was meaningful, but for me the most overwhelming part of the trip was the welcome we received at McGhee Tyson Airport upon our return,” O’Brien recalled.

“Thousands of smiling, cheering people, all of whom extended their hand for a shake to thank us for our service and welcome us home,” he said. “This was a welcome that was about 57 years too late for me, and it brought tears to my eyes.

“Then to have my family and friends there to wrap their arms around me was more than special,” O’Brien said. “I extend my heartfelt thanks to HonorAir Knoxville for the opportunity to experience a magnificent day — one that I’ll never forget.”

O’Brien was commissioned in the Air Force in 1967 and spent 27 years in service. His career featured three tours in Europe, two in the Far East, multiple tours in the Pentagon and Strategic Air Command and three tours in Texas.

The last seven years of his military career were in command positions.

## obituary

**Mary (Molly) Pitts Royse**, age 69, of Knoxville, Tennessee, passed away Sunday, April 19, 2026, of an extended illness. She was born on October 26, 1956, in Montgomery, Alabama, to the late William and Mary Louise Pitts. She earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English from Samford University and a master’s degree in library science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She was an academic librarian for over forty years at Berea College, Kansas State University, and University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Molly loved spending time with family, beach trips, and

scrapbooking. She had close ties to her Kentucky relatives, and one of her joys was hosting an annual Kentucky Derby Party. In her final years, she cherished being a nana and babysitting her granddaughter. She is survived by her husband of over thirty-five years, David; two children, Laura (Jacob) Williams of Knoxville, Tennessee, and Paul Royse, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;



Royse

one granddaughter, Emmylou Williams; one twin sister, Jane (Jimmy) Pierce, of Greenville, Alabama; and beloved nieces and nephews.

Funeral services are scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2026, at 2 p.m. at Click Funeral Home Farragut Chapel, 11915 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee, with Pastor Mike Stallings officiating. Interment will follow at Concord Masonic Cemetery, 2nd Street, Concord, Tennessee. Visitation will be held for family at noon and for friends at 1 p.m. Flowers will be accepted or in lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Dolly Parton Children’s Hospital in Knoxville.

## press planner

- Mayor Ron Williams will speak at Farragut Museum’s History Hour at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 5, at Farragut Town Hall. Williams was elected mayor in 2018 and re-elected in 2022. He will discuss Town accomplishments over the past decade. His tenure expires in August. The event is free. Tours of the Museum and light refreshments are available after the presentation.
- ORNL Federal Credit Union announces the return of its Summer Sessions con-

cert series in East Tennessee. This year, ORNL FCU is bringing free Americana and bluegrass music to three locations across East Tennessee: Oak Ridge, Knoxville and Clinton. Kicking off the 2026 series will be Erick Baker on Saturday, May 2, at A.K. Bissell Park, 1401 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge. Opening for Baker will be Westwend. Stay informed about performances and weather-related cancellations by visiting [ornlfcu.com/summer-sessions](http://ornlfcu.com/summer-sessions).

- The Outlandish Adventure Festival brings together outdoor adventure, live music and community connection at Ijams Nature Center in Knoxville. The two-day celebration will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 1-2. Four anchor events include Climbing Competitions at the Crag, Mountain Bike Whip-Off, Highline Walkers Crossing Mead’s Quarry and SUP Sprint at the Quarry. Music acts are scheduled from

See PRESS PLANNER on Page 10B

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# Bearden Golf Classic teeing off for 26th year

**Jake Nichols**

*jnichols@farragutpress.com*

The Bearden Golf Classic has been going strong for 25 years.

On Friday, May 1, at Willow Creek Golf Club, the Bearden High School fundraiser will write another chapter as it unites generations of Bulldogs.

"It's amazing," tournament chair Krista McIntosh said. "I've talked to guys in their 80s who are coming back, and it shows how much they love Bearden High School. It's really great for them to intermingle and support the school in such a big way."

One notable BHS alumnus, former Tennessee men's basketball color commentator Bert Bertelkamp, has served as the host for more than a decade.

Bertelkamp — a 1976 Bearden graduate — became known for his infamous "Money!" calls after Tennessee 3-pointers.

Funnily enough, the event he hosts will be looking to bring in plenty of money in its own right.

The tournament raised more than \$57,000 last year, per McIntosh. They are pushing for \$60,000 this year and are looking to allocate the funds toward new tennis and pickleball courts at BHS.

The money is also used for

teacher grants, computers for graduating seniors who cannot afford them and other items across the school.

"We raise the money then turn to the school and ask what they need or might want," added Buddy Heins, a longtime member of the Bearden High School Foundation. "It could be the English department, the soccer team, the band or theater department. We've tried to spread it around and help everybody."

Heins credited McIntosh for her hard work in taking over the tournament and noted the impact of Janene Nordin and Margaret Heins-Laning, both of whom have spearheaded the event in years' past.

"Margaret Heins-Laning has been involved since the get-go," Heins said. "She helped coach the golf team years ago with her son, who's my brother, and she has continued to get prizes and donations. Then Janene, she has really taken it to the next level, too, with bigger sponsorships."

The event will take place that Friday at Willow Creek Golf Club, located at 12003 Kingston Pike.

There will be an auction at the tournament with prizes, such as golf packages, graduation seating, parking for sophomore students (which is not typically allowed) and prom packages, among other things.

Brown Bag will serve lunch,

sponsored by the Clayton family, in the clubhouse from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

People can buy mulligans for \$20 per player, and there will also be a hole-in-one contest sponsored by Phil Guthe Insurance, as well as a longest drive contest and a closest-to-the-pin contest.

In a funny twist, the "dog's tail" — the team that finishes last — will receive one-hour golf lessons from Allie Knight, a former Bearden standout who gives lessons at Fairways and Greens.

To register or donate, visit this link: <https://app.givebacks.gives/bhsgolfclassic26/Crowdfunding/Details>. Or visit this one to participate in the auction that will take place: <https://app.givebacks.gives/bhsfoundation2026auction/Campaign/Details>.

**HVA**

From page 5B

tional Honor Society, Asian



Photo submitted

Scott Henry, John Sergent, John Wilkinson, Jeff McIntosh and Matt Price spent time together during the 2025 Bearden Golf Classic, a fundraiser for Bearden High School, at Willow Creek Golf Course. This year, the event will welcome BHS alumni and current students for the 26th year of competition.

Student Alliance, Fellowship Christian Athletes and last year, the Boys Volleyball Club.

The valedictorian and her family asked for her not to be featured in the newspaper.



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# Bearden

From page 5B

said. "Knowing how to balance the challenging academics I should be doing and finding the activities I truly enjoyed was what made my high school experience fulfilling and meaningful.

"High school has been a truly formative time for me, and there has been no better time to explore, mature, learn about myself and understand how I navigate the world," he added. "By the end, I've understood how fleeting my high school life was, and I see how important it was to take chances, creating and taking every new opportunity that came my way."

"I cherished my time at Bearden," said Diaz, daughter of Juan Diaz and Reyna Romero. "My class is full of passionate, enthusiastic students who consistently uplift one another. It was contagious."

"I worked hard because I knew that my teachers and classmates believed in me," she said. "I felt this unwavering support when my friends and classmates told me they were rooting for me as valedictorian and celebrated like their favorite soccer team had won the World Cup when I was named."

"The most valuable part of being valedictorian is to be able to share this accomplishment with everybody that supported me through it all," Diaz added.

"High school has been a time of exploration of what clicks with me, salutatorian Leo Nishizawa said. "I think the time spent at school has helped me narrow down the type of career I am interested in while being able to have fun with friends."

Nishizawa is focusing on computer science at BHS.

"After graduation, I plan to attend Vanderbilt University to major in computer science," said the son of Tomoharu Nishizawa and Shiho Nishizawa. The senior is seeking a career in either the government or major technology

companies related to cybersecurity.

Ham is focusing his education on electrical/computer engineering. After high school, he plans to complete an undergraduate degree at Princeton University and earn a PhD afterward. He is seeking a career in the realm of robotics, becoming a professor and being involved in research development.

Diaz is majoring in biomedical engineering. She plans to attend Duke University as a Robertson Scholar and is seeking a career in research and as a professor in biomedical engineering.

While at BHS, Ham was:

- Founder and coach for MATHCOUNTS programs, for which he was a community coaching member for Bearden Middle and West Valley Middle schools;
- President of BHS Robotics, for which he secured a \$5,000 STEM grant;
- Research Intern at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, where he developed 20-plus predictive AI models and presented at the Smokey Mountains Computational Conference;
- Four-time selected drummer for Knoxville Jazz Youth Orchestra and his church's praise team drummer;
- Co-captain of BHS Tennis and two-time District 4AA Runner-up;
- Counselor and teacher for Sarang Church Youth and Children ministry, for which he led outreach for 100-plus refugee children in Kentucky.
- Academically, he had a 4.0 UW, 4.65 weighted grade-point average, earned a score of 36 on the ACT in all sections, and achieved a 1,570 score on the SAT;
- Additionally, he was a National Merit Scholarship recipient, Morehead-Cain Scholarship finalist, Gover-



Nishizawa

nor's School for Sciences & Engineering Scholar, received the Johnny Mauer award, a Korean American Scholarship recipient for the Southern Region and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute medalist.

• In mathematics, he was a two-time AIME qualifier and four-year consecutive State Champion for Math Kangaroo (2022-2025); and

• In his creative endeavors, he won honorable mention for his Father's Birthday Poem in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards in poetry.

At BHS, Diaz is president of National Honor Society and Latino Student Alliance and a member of Key Club. She also ran cross country and track and field.

Diaz is a Robertson Scholar at Duke University and UNC Chapel Hill. She also was named a Park scholar, an Annika Rodriguez Scholar at Washu, a Wake Forest Stamps scholar; and she was named for UN NCSM Excellence in mathematics, a Collegeboard Hispanic Scholar, a First Generation Scholar, National AP scholar, earned the Tennessee Honor's Seal of Bilitery, was part of the Governor's School for Science and Engineering at UTK and Chancellor of Science and National Merit semifinalist.

At BHS, Nishizawa is involved in the Japanese Club, Cyber Club, Robotics Club and National Honor Society. Outside of school, "I train in Isshinryu karate and have attended East Tennessee Japanese School every Saturday," he said.

Academically, Nishizawa has been on the honor roll every year.

Also, "my team in Cyber Club has ranked in top three in the Gold Division for sophomore and junior year and ranked second in the Platinum Division his senior year."

"I also have a passed a Level Pre-2 Kanji Kentei, or Japanese Kanji Aptitude Test," he said.

# Press planner

From page 8B

11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Drop-in experiences run throughout the weekend. Visit [www.outlandishaf.com](http://www.outlandishaf.com) for more information.

- Killer Queen, a Queen Tribute

ate featuring Patrick Myers as Freddie Mercury, perform locally at Bijou Theatre, 803 S. Gay St., Saturday, May 16, at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$43. Call 865-522-0832 or visit <https://knoxbijou.org/bijou-events/killer-queen-a-tribute-to-queen/>

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## FMPC Staff/Developer Meeting

Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 9:00 AM

- AGENDA**
- I) Discussion Items
  - A) 9:00 Session  
Discussion on a request to amend the Farragut Zoning Map for a portion of the property located at 817 Virtue Road from S-1 (Community Service) and Agricultural (A) to R-1 (Rural Single-Family Residential), 8.55 Acres (Benchmark Associates, Inc., Applicant)
  - B) 9:30 Session  
Discussion and public hearing on an amendment to a portion of the concept plan associated with the northwest portion of the Bridgemore Subdivision for what would be Phases 3B and 4, Zoned R-1/OSR (Placemakers No. 2 Partnership, Applicant)
  - C) 10:00 Session  
Discussion and public hearing on a preliminary plat for the Bridgemore Subdivision, Phases 3B and 4, Parcel 025.03, Tax Map 152, 70.28 Acres, 102 Lots, Zoned R-1/OSR (Ar-durra Group, Inc., Applicant)

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

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Town of Farragut will have an informational session for the 2026 candidates for the open Town of Farragut Mayor and Alderman seats on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at 4:00 PM at the Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive, Farragut, TN 37934.

Please be advised that members of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen may be in attendance.

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## FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN MEETING AGENDA

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING • THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Roll Call, Silent Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance</li> <li>II. Approval of Agenda</li> <li>III. Approval of Minutes</li> <li>A. April 9, 2026 Workshop</li> <li>B. April 9, 2026 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting</li> <li>C. April 23, 2026 Workshop</li> <li>D. April 23, 2026 Board of Mayor and Alderman Minutes</li> <li>IV. Mayor's Report</li> <li>V. Ordinances &amp; Resolutions</li> <li>A. Ordinances               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First Reading</li> <li>a. Ordinance 26-09, an ordinance on first reading to amend the <u>Farragut Code of Ordinances</u>, Appendix A - Zoning, Chapter 4. General Provisions and Exceptions, Section VIII. - Farragut Municipal Flood Damage Prevention Regulations, Section C. General Provisions., 2. <u>Basis for Establishing the Areas of Special Flood Hazard</u>, to update the referenced Community Panel Numbers for 0243G and 0244G, to reference the LOMR</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>effecting these panel numbers and that became effective February 10, 2026</li> <li>VI. Business Items</li> <li>A. Reappointment to the Visual Resources Review Board</li> <li>B. Approval of Professional Services Agreement with Tunnell-Spangler &amp; Associates (TSW) for professional services to completely update the Town's existing Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) that was adopted in December of 2012.</li> <li>C. Approval of Contract 2026-24, South Monticello Road Culvert Replacement.</li> <li>D. Approval of Request from First Utility District for Easements on Town-owned Property at 11700 Campbell Lakes Drive</li> <li>E. Approval of Supplement Request 2 from Urban Engineering, Inc. for Additional Design Services for Sonja Drive/Admiral Road Side-walk Project</li> <li>VII. Citizens Forum</li> <li>VIII. Town Administrator's Report</li> <li>IX. Town Attorney's Report</li> <li>X. Adjournment</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

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## 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 14th day of May 2026, at the Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive, Farragut, TN 37934, to hear citizen comments on the following ordinance:

- 1. Ordinance 26-07, an ordinance of the Town of Farragut, Tennessee on Second Reading, Amending the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Capital Investment Program Fund Budget, Passed by Ordinance 25-10

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

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**Homeschool**  
From page 5B

“This year, Cedar Springs students took first place in seven events: Disease Detectives, Dynamic Planet, Heredity, Machines, Meteorology, Remote Sensing and Water Quality,” Krause said. “They also earned second-place finishes in Anatomy & Physiology, Boomilever (an engineering event), Entomology and Potions & Poisons.”

Behind the results is a grassroots effort.

“Without a traditional school building, our team practices wherever space is available — empty Sunday school classrooms, church gyms, ballfields and even home kitchens,” Krause said. “The program is entirely parent-led, with families volunteering their time to coach and support students in everything from lab work to building intricate devices, like helicopters and a Boomilever,

a cantilevered truss structure.

“We even have parents of former competitors continue to lead the group year after year, long after their own children have aged out, simply because they believe in what the program offers,” Krause said.

“That hands-on approach comes with real costs,” she added. “Each year’s events change, meaning new materials, equipment and supplies are needed to stay competitive. Engineering builds alone can

run into the hundreds of dollars per device, not to mention travel, printing and lab supplies.”

To help support the team’s trip to nationals, it is inviting the community to join in a couple of upcoming fundraisers. On Tuesday, May 5, teammates will be at Culver’s on Kingston Pike from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., greeting guests and helping serve meals.

“We would love to meet you there,” Krause said. “Liza

Moz Paint-Your-Own Pottery also has two mugs at a special fundraising price, where \$10 of every purchase will go to the team. Purchase your mug voucher online at [www.lizamoz.com](http://www.lizamoz.com) and redeem through July 31.”

For those preferring to contribute directly, the team also has set up an online donation page through Givebutter: <https://givebutter.com/CS-NATLS26/>

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**318 GARAGE SALES**

**Neighborhood Sale**  
Saturday, May 2  
8 am to 12 noon  
Look for balloons on mailboxes for participating households  
**Montgomery Cove**  
Subdivision  
At Choto Rd. & Northshore Dr. 37922

**318 GARAGE SALES**

**Sugarwood Neighborhood**  
**GARAGE SALE**  
Saturday, May 2  
8am – Noon  
Off Kingston Pike. Just West of Smith Road. 37934

**318 GARAGE SALES**

**Walnut Grove Neighborhood**  
**Garage Sale**  
Saturday -MAY 2<sup>nd</sup>  
(RAIN Date 05/09)  
8am to 3pm  
Located off Boyd Station Rd. West of Railroad Underpass 37922

**318 GARAGE SALES**

**Sweet Briar ANNUAL YARD SALE**  
Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
7 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Lots of great deals!  
Multiple families!  
A wide range of items to offer!  
**Sweet Briar Subdivision**  
Off North Campbell Station at Herron Road, 37934

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Each additional word 25¢ per week  
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**Line Ads**  
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Space & Copy: Fridays, noon

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## Webb School of Knoxville ArtXtravaganza Art Show & Sale

Hundreds browsed through the art exhibited by nearly 70 professional and student artists at the ArtXtravaganza Art Show & Sale, which took place Friday through Sunday, March 27-29, at Webb School of Knoxville, 9800 Webb School Lane.

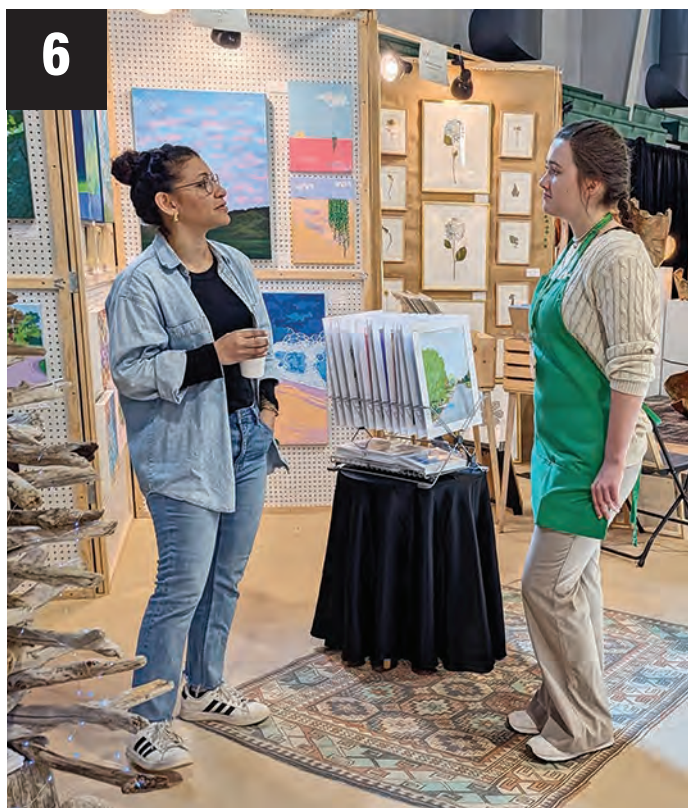
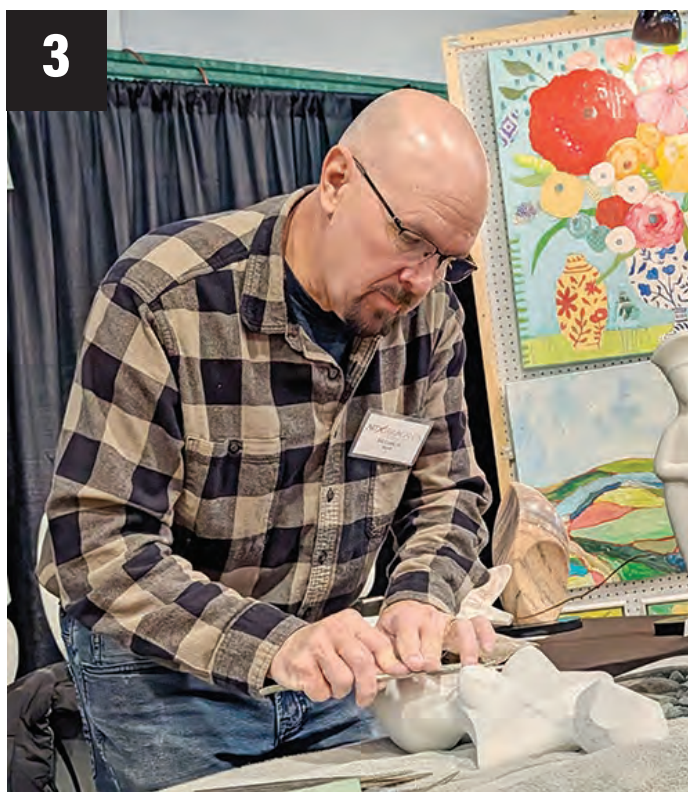
"Today has been wonderful," said Ansel Sanders, Webb School of Knoxville president. "I think ArtX is one of the more special things that we, at Webb School, do because it not only supports the school and art at Webb, which is really an important aspect of the educational experience here; but it's a community event.

"It's a time for Knoxville to come to Webb, come to our campus and celebrate art and support local and regional artists," he added. "I think it's just a wonderful event, and it's beautiful.

"It's fun to see all the artists," Sanders said. "It's fun to see even our students' art on display as well."

He said 30 percent of the proceeds from the sale go back to the school.

"It's really an important fundraiser to support the arts at Webb," Sanders said. "And, part of it goes directly back to the artists who choose to come here and sell their art, so it seems like a win-win for everybody involved."



1. Artist Cassie Adams, left, talks with attendees.
2. Caroline Patton, seated left, and Ginny Elders chat.
3. Artist Bill Cook Jr. sculpts a piece of art.
4. Artist Lara Lockmiller.
5. Alex Scherrer mans works for wife, artist Caroline Sherrer (not pictured).
6. Karina Guerro, left, talks with volunteer Gabriella Riddle.
7. Webb School senior Audrey Cookston.
8. Artist Noel Smith.
9. Attendee Katharine O'Shaughnessy buys a bowl.