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BOMA approves traffic signal for Jamestowne

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

A traffic signal at the intersection of Jamestowne Boulevard and Campbell Station Road is moving closer to reality.

The Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen unanimously approved a bid Thursday, May 28, to Stansell Electric Company Inc. of Nashville for installation of the traffic signal.

Assistant Town engineer Eric Schindler said the signal would provide eastbound Jamestowne Boulevard traffic with better opportunities to enter Campbell Station Road while creating gaps in northbound traffic, which would allow easier access at Eddie Courtney Lane and Sonja Drive.

"This project will also include the installation of two crosswalks across Campbell Station Road and one crosswalk across Jamestowne Boulevard," he said. "The signal will be connected to our Advanced Traffic Management System and will be timed to coordinate with our existing signal infrastructure."

Schindler said the Town previously con-

tracted with Cannon & Cannon to design the project for \$50,735.

"The project completion date will be 365 calendar days after notice to proceed due to the current nine-month lead time for mast arms and poles," he said. "The project was offered for bid, with responses received on April 23."

"Stansell Electric Company Inc. was the sole bidder, with a bid of \$444,954," Schindler said. "Stansell Electric has performed well for the Town in the past, including as the current contractor on the Concord Road at Loop Road signal installation project and as the Town's on-call signal maintenance contractor."

According to a written report to the board, expenditures on the project to date total \$50,735.

"One of my concerns about the project is what happens at the other end [of Jamestowne Boulevard and Kingston Pike] with no light," Alderman Drew Burnette said. "It's bad. Is it going to increase that cut-through traffic?"

See BOMA on Page 3A

Williams, Spangler exchange barbs

Tammy Cheek
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Farragut Mayor Ron Williams said he stands by his comments regarding law enforcement coverage in the Town after receiving a letter from Knox County Sheriff Tom Spangler accusing him of lying.

"I wasn't lying," Williams told the farragutpress on Thursday, May 28.

In a TV news interview, Williams said, "We pay our property tax, and out of that property tax, we're supposed to have police protection, and we have none."

That statement prompted a response from Spangler.

"When you made that statement, you knew that Knox County Sheriff's deputies were still patrolling your town in the same way they have for the last 25 years," Spangler wrote. "You knew there had been no decrease in patrol officer numbers or patrol officer hours in your town."

"You knew these facts, but you chose to lie about



Spangler



Williams

police protection in the Town of Farragut."

See BARBS on Page 2A



Tony Cox

Farragut Parks & Recreation maintenance employee Josh Binkley removes warning signs and caution tape from Founders Park Friday afternoon, May 29, after Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation gave First Utility District the green light to cease testing Turkey Creek and remove the signs.

Restrictions finally lifted

TDEC releases FUD from spill-related monitoring, warnings

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

First Utility District was released Friday, May 29, from its obligation to sample water and post caution signs and tape to prevent access to Turkey Creek.

"I can confirm that the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, on May 29, released First Utility District from posting signs and tape preventing public access to Turkey Creek around the area of the sewer line leak first reported on May 11," said Jennifer Donnals, TDEC senior communications adviser.

"Samples for E. coli downstream of the event have returned to levels below the results from the reference site upstream," she said Friday. "The utility says it will continue to sample at the normal locations as part of its operating program."

Likewise, "current testing indicates that the affected area has returned to pre-event conditions," FUD Human Resources manager Leea T. Butler said Friday afternoon.

"Based upon TDEC guidance and sampling review, overflow-related sampling and cautionary monitoring efforts conducted by FUD are now complete. FUD has

published this update, along with final sampling data, on our website and Facebook page.

"We have also shared this information with the Town of Farragut," Butler said, referring the public to FUD's published updates for consistent information.

"First Utility District has been monitoring seven locations along North Fork Turkey Creek since the sewer overflow on May 11," Farragut Mayor Ron Williams said. "With bacteria samples returning to normal readings for that portion of the creek, TDEC has released FUD from any further monitoring of the creek."

"Our staff will begin taking down the signage and caution tape in Founders Park this afternoon."

Asked whether Turkey Creek is safe for recreational use, FUD general manager Bruce Giles said the water samples are the same as they were before the spill and "it's the individual's choice to get in the water."

Giles also sought to reassure residents about the safety of the drinking water supply.

"Those water sources are totally separate," he said.

Butler explained FUD's drinking water source is Fort Loudoun Lake on the Tennessee River.

"Our Water Treatment Plant is

a 34-million-gallon-per-day conventional water treatment facility that provides safe drinking water to approximately 100,000 customers throughout the district," she said. "The treatment process includes five primary steps: coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection."

"These processes are designed to ensure that water supplied to our customers meets all applicable state and federal drinking water standards."

"Now that the event has been resolved, we would also like to emphasize First Utility District's longstanding commitment to transparency, communication and providing quality water and reliable sewer service to our community," Butler said.

"FUD regularly shares updates, news and general utility information through our social media platforms and website, where additional utility-related information and resources are available."

Meanwhile, neighboring West Knox Utility District general manager Jim Reese said if his district has a spill that reaches a creek or other waterway, "we take two samples: upstream — before the spill — and at the same time, down-

See LIFTED on Page 2A

FMPC reviews Virtue Road rezoning request

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut Municipal Planning Commission discussed, but took no action on, a rezoning request for part of a Virtue Road property during a workshop session Thursday, May 21.

The subdivision is being planned for property

at 817 Virtue Road, where the developer, Benchmark Associates Inc., on behalf of the owner, is requesting an amendment to the Town's zoning map from S-1 — Community Service — and Agriculture to Rural Single-Family Residential (R-1).

"The property owner is wanting to ultimately

be able to subdivide this parcel," Town Community Development director Mark Shipley said. "It's a little over 8.5 acres, but it's currently zoned three different districts."

One part is zoned R-1 while another portion is S-1, the same zoning as Virtue Church, and the remaining portion, located on the east side of

Virtue Road by the lake, is zoned Agriculture.

If the owner gets the property rezoned, Shipley said she would like to subdivide the property into three parcels.

"R-1 [Open Space Cluster Residential] is consistent with the Future Land Use Map," he said.

See VIRTUE on Page 2A



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Jake Nichols

Audience members enjoy singing while munching on food and drinks at Wild Wing Café, one of the establishments that was commended by the Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen for not serving alcohol to minors.

Clean sweep on alcohol checks

Tammy Cheek

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut Alderman Alex Cain, during a Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting Thursday, March 28, commended 13 businesses in the Town that passed Knox County Sheriff's Office regular compliance checks.

"The Knox County Sheriff's Office completed alcohol compliance checks on May 20," Cain said. "The following establishments were checked, and all successfully passed the compliance inspection: Buffalo Wild Wings; Staybridge LILLI, LLC; Casey's no. 4049; Top Golf USA; Wild Wings Café; Hampton Inn & Suites; Little Bangkok; Red Robin; Campbell Station Shell; Marathon; Mellow Mushroom; Fairfield Inn & Suites; and Walgreens no. 505053.

"All 13 of them passed with flying colors," Cain said. "I'm really proud. I think that stems

from the way staff and BOMA work with our businesses right from the beginning ...

"I want to commend the staff and businesses here in Town," he added.

"Most of the time, when we have these stings, as they call them, they send an under-aged person in," Mayor Ron Williams said. "In the past, when they do this, it's usually right before graduation or that time of the year, and we have had, in the past, from time to time, violations.

"But, this is the first year I can remember that we've had no violations, and we had a pretty good mix of businesses," he added. "That's great news. We hope they will continue on with that."

Each business received a letter from Town Recorder Hailley Russell, which stated: "We appreciate your staff's diligence and commitment to following alcohol sales laws and regulations."

the owner, staff and designers involved with the Virtue Road improvements on the access for the three lots, the boardwalk and crossing to the asphalt walkway," Shipley said.

"We're just trying to make sure we are thinking ahead and coordinate with the property owner and the Town so there's not conflicts that occur in the future," he added.

Shipley said the plan was approved last month with conditions, but builders later discovered lot coverage issues and revised the final plat.

Barbs

From page 1A

Spangler added Williams owed sheriff's deputies "an immediate apology."

In the same TV report, Knox County Sheriff's Office spokesperson Kimberly Glenn said calls are dispatched through E-911 rather than through a precinct.

Williams said his comments referred to the loss of a dedicated officer assigned to Farragut.

"When I said 'we have none,' it means the one police officer, Capt. Brad Hall, that we had is still reassigned to the jail in East Knoxville, where he has been since September," Williams said.

"We have no complaints with the type of protection we have when we have it," he added. "It's just that we no longer have the police out here like we had before."

As for Spangler's demand for an apology, Williams said he has nothing for which to apologize.

"I don't think I have anything to apologize for," he said. "Lack of communication is a big problem. They need to apologize."

Williams said he sent a letter to Spangler in March seeking better communication and additional law enforcement resources but said he received no response for months.

"Then, when I get something back, it's a negative letter," he said.

Williams said he requested a meeting with Spangler in Oc-

tober 2025 after the West Knox Precinct closed its Farragut location.

"He did not show up," Williams said. "But we did get [Chief Deputy] Bernie Lyon and [procurement director] Hugh Holt."

Williams said Town officials asked for better communication and requested the return of the precinct.

Williams said Pinnacle/Crawford Square general manager Darryl Whitehead told him the sheriff's office originally moved from Farragut Town Hall to Pinnacle about 10 years ago because it needed more space.

At that time, Deputy Ben Harkins was assigned to Town Hall. Williams said Harkins also monitored the Town's red-light camera system before retiring. Three other officers later served in the role, including Hall, who was reassigned in September.

Williams said the sheriff's office paid about \$200 annually for space at Pinnacle under a year-to-year agreement. He said Pinnacle officials offered an alternative location in the same complex after another tenant expressed interest in the original space, but the sheriff's office vacated the property within 24 hours.

"We were notified by Darryl when it happened, and that's when we called to get an appointment with Sheriff Spangler," Williams said.

During the October meeting with Lyon and Holt, Williams and Town administrator David Smoak asked what it would

cost for Farragut to fund two officers dedicated to serving the Town around the clock.

"What we needed to know was how much it was going to cost," Williams said. "Even though our property tax was supposed to pay for that, it wasn't getting done, so we needed to know what the cost would be.

"They said they would have to get back to us, and that was in October."

In his letter, Spangler said the dispute centers on the relocation of the West Knox Precinct.

"The actual cause of your irritation with the Knox County Sheriff's Office is the movement of the West Knox Precinct from inside the Town of Farragut to Cedar Bluff Road," Spangler wrote. "The new precinct will be less than 5 miles from the old; the services provided will be exactly the same."

Spangler added the sheriff's office was forced to leave the Farragut location because the property owner sought a higher lease rate.

"As you know, the owners of the location in Farragut notified us that they had another tenant for our space and that we had to leave or pay 'market' value for the space," he wrote. "'Market' value was more than we have available in the sheriff's budget."

According to the sheriff's office, the new precinct is expected to open within two weeks and will serve Cedar Bluff, Hardin Valley, Farragut and Choto.

Virtue

From page 1A

"It's the same density ... from the staff's perspective, the rezoning makes sense."

However, Shipley said the subdivision would be impacted by the Town's planned improvements to Virtue Road. The Town plans to build a boardwalk that would cross the property and connect to a trail extending from Virtue Road.

"However, if the owner ultimately does subdivide, we are going to coordinate with



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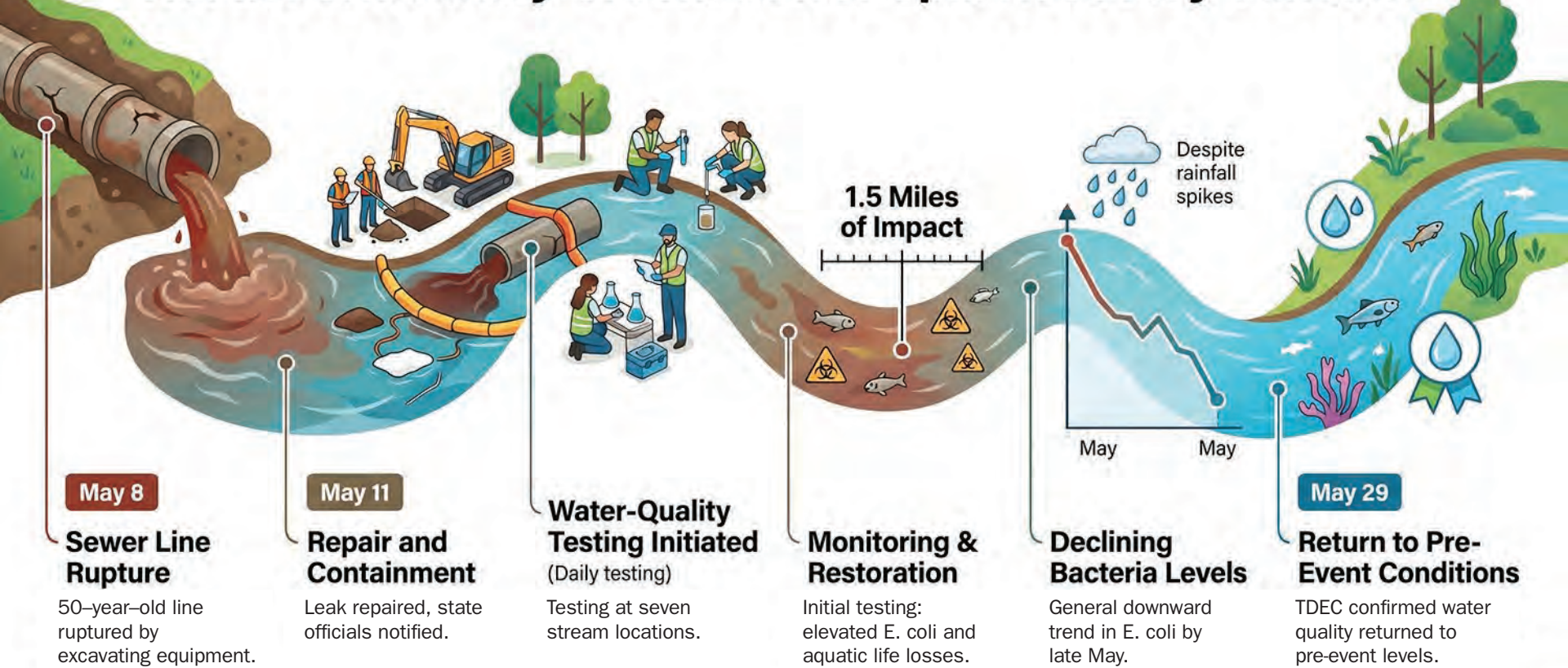


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North Fork Turkey Creek: Sewer Spill Recovery Timeline



NotebookLM

Lifted
From page 1A
stream of the leak.
“Upstream is the control number for what the creek is naturally,” Reese said. “We compare it to the down-

stream numbers.”
The utility continues sampling until the downstream numbers match the upstream readings and return to normal levels, he said.
Likewise, Lenoir City Utilities Board follows the same

testing protocol as First Utility District because all Tennessee utilities are governed by TDEC, LCUB general manager Leon Shields said.
“It’s the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation protocol,” he

said. “All public utilities, like ourselves, Loudon Utilities, West Knox Utility District and First Utility, have the same protocols. The state regulates us on all of that.”
Shields said LCUB’s service area was not affected by the

Turkey Creek spill.
“We don’t take water out of the river above Fort Loudoun Dam,” he said. “Our water intakes are below Fort Loudoun Dam, so we’re considerably downstream. Our intakes are nowhere close to Turkey Creek.”

BOMA
From page 1A
“I think it’s something we need to take some time to look at,” Schindler said. “I know

whenever that tract [belonging to Eddy Ford] is developed, there will have to be a signal there.”
In other business, the Board approved the following change orders for construction of the

McFee Park dog park, which is currently under way:
■ Switching from Site Nyloplast to precast concrete storm structures and vehicular-rated gates for \$4,507.

■ Providing Crete infill in the top 2 inches of segmental retaining wall block for the length of the retaining walls at a cost of \$4,577, providing a larger surface area to apply

adhesive for cap block.
■ Swapping 50 feet of 4-foot-high chain-link fence and 175 feet of 5-foot-high chain-link fence for ornamental fencing for \$25,582.

KCSO policereports

Vandalism - A Farragut man reported a vandalism incident May 6 on Bancroft Lane after discovering his home’s water service had been interrupted. The complainant told deputies that surveillance footage showed a neighbor in bushes near the property’s main water valve and sprinkler system for about 10 minutes while the homeowner was away. When the complainant returned home, he found he had no water service, though nearby homes were unaffected. The water company restored service and was checking for possible damage to the water line and valve. The complainant said the incident followed a dispute several months earlier involving tree branches extending over a property line.
Hit-and-run - A woman reported a hit-and-run crash May 12 in the Parkside Drive area. According to the report, she was stopped in a bank parking lot exit lane when the vehicle in front of her backed into her 2026 Kia Carnival and left the scene. The driver and

a passenger were unable to obtain a license plate number but described the vehicle as a gray-blue hatchback with a black roof and roof rails.
Theft of services - A restaurant on the Parkside Drive corridor reported a theft-of-services incident May 15 after a woman dining with four others allegedly left without paying for four meal checks. According to the report, the group requested separate checks, and the suspect told a server she had already paid all five bills. After the group left, employees discovered only the suspect’s check had been paid. The unpaid meals totaled about \$90.
Vehicle fire - Deputies responded May 15 to a vehicle fire in the Sherlake Lane area. A 2001 Dodge Ram pickup was fully engulfed in flames when first responders arrived. Rural Metro firefighters extinguished the fire, and a fire investigator was notified.
Mailbox theft and check fraud - A woman in the Sweetgum Drive area reported May 18 that a check she placed in

her mailbox for mailing never reached its destination. After being notified by her doctor’s office that payment had not arrived, she learned the check had been stolen. Investigators linked the incident to a separate fraud and forgery case.
Forgery and fraud - A woman reported May 18 that a

stolen check had been altered and cashed. According to the report, the check was taken after being placed in a mailbox, then “washed” so the payee and amount could be changed before it was cashed. The loss totaled more than \$1,700.
Vandalism - A Knoxville man reported vandalism May

21 in the Weatherly Hills Boulevard area after discovering damage to decorative items in his yard. According to the report, an unknown suspect crushed two birdhouses, bent two poles holding bird feeders and threw two solar lights into the yard, damaging them.

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Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,
The upcoming election in Farragut stands as a real choice between the status quo candidates and those that want to bring the direction of the town back to what the founders intended.

There are two groups that benefit from the status quo: The first group includes developers who know that they have friends in the town leadership that will accommodate their projects i.e. the Biddle Farm Apartments. The second group includes the entrenched politicians who take advantage of the revolving door between the BOMA and the Planning Commission to stay in power while avoiding term limits.

When a government recycles the same people then the government loses any semblance of checks and balances, as the leadership is too cozy with one another and the staff. This has resulted in some of our neighbors being forced into lawsuits with the town when they do not agree with what the town wants to do to their property. This is how the home occupation ordinance moved through the system until public outcry resulted in it being declared unconstitutional. And this is how a staff develops an arrogance towards the citizens it is supposed to serve. (Has anyone noticed all of the locked doors at town hall?). So when the status quo proposes a convention center and bond acquisition for property purchases and the building of a downtown using your tax dollars believe them when they say this is what they will do.

that have been involved with the town's government for some time and are supported by other members of the current administration: Louise Povlin, Joe LaCroix, and Dian Hall.

Your other choices for mayor and alderman do not support the status quo. They have differing perspectives on leading the town but ultimately want to do what is best through fiscal responsibility, increased emphasis on safety, and most of all transparency in the way the administration works. These candidates are capable of leading, have a commitment to what the founders envisioned when the town was incorporated, and understand what makes a community strong.

As you listen to the "election talk" that inevitably comes right before voting, know what the status quo candidates represent and if you feel the town is better off continuing with their ideas. Otherwise consider the new leadership opportunity presented to you. Vote now for the future!

Greg Wiberley,
Candidate for
Alderman, Ward 2 -
Town of Farragut

Dear Editor,

The announcement that Turkey Creek is once again safe for recreation is welcome news. Families, children, and pets can return to enjoying one of Farragut's most valuable natural resources.

But the sewer break that devastated a section of

the creek should serve as a wake-up call.

The question facing Farragut is not simply whether the creek is safe today. The question is whether we are willing to remain engaged after the immediate crisis has passed.

The focus shifts from blame and responsibility to creek recovery. That shift moves us from First Utility District (FUD) monitoring and reporting to citizen action.

Rather than allowing concern about Turkey Creek to fade away, residents should turn to the Town for recovery and long-term stewardship. Specifically, the Town's Stormwater Matters Program which was created to promote environmental stewardship, protect water quality, and prevent pollution. Most importantly, the program was designed around citizen participation.

Residents who care about Turkey Creek should attend Stormwater Advisory Committee meetings and participate in creek cleanups and restoration projects. Citizens should also ask TDEC and local officials to continue sharing information on fish and aquatic insect recovery, long-term water-quality trends, and lessons learned from the sewer break. Safe for recreation is an important milestone, but the public deserves to understand how the ecosystem itself is recovering.

The reality is that government agencies cannot protect Turkey Creek by themselves. Lasting stewardship requires informed citizens who are willing to stay involved long after the headlines disappear.

If there is a positive outcome from this incident, it should be a renewed commitment to the Stormwater Matters Program and the community partnerships it was created to foster.

Turkey Creek's recovery should not be remembered as the end of a crisis. It should be remembered as the moment more residents became active stewards of the creek, the watershed, and the future of Farragut.

Dian Hall,
Candidate for
Alderman, Ward 1 -
Town of Farragut

Dear Editor,

The Town of Farragut is facing an important election and I'm writing now to endorse Louise Povlin for Farragut mayor. I was a Town of Farragut staff member for over 30 years before I retired in 2023. I believe serving as a staff member for such a long time has given me a different view of what it takes to be a great elected official and especially the position of mayor.

And yes, before someone complains, my husband and I moved to Louisville, Kentucky last year. Not because we didn't love Farragut - both the Town and the community - but because we also love our granddaughter and wanted to spend as much time with her as possible while she is growing up.

The unpaid position of an elected official is quite difficult to do properly. Yes - I witnessed some elected officials come into office and "phone it in". Usually these were "single

issue" candidates that were angry but once in office were overwhelmed by the workload and the reality of governing. But the majority of the elected officials I had the pleasure of working with were dedicated to working hard and moving Farragut forward.

One of the best was Louise Povlin. She is tireless, thoughtful, willing to listen to all sides (residents, business owners, staff and visitors), willing to research, learn and grow and occasionally change her mind on a position as she researches and listens. But most of all she displays deep dedication and love for the Town of Farragut that keeps her going through countless complaints via every avenue out there. Life as Farragut elected official (remember it's an unpaid position!) is stressful and can turn nasty, yet Louise is willing to subject herself to constant criticism (and very little love) because she believes in the Town of Farragut. She put in the necessary work of preparing for office by serving on countless committees, volunteering at events and functions, and being one of the Town's greatest cheerleaders. All of this before she served her two terms as alderman. Now she brings all that experience to the position of mayor and the Town will be better served because of it.

When you cast your vote, think about what you want in a mayor. I believe Louise brings all those positive qualities you are looking for.

Please vote for Louise Povlin.

Sue Stuhl,
Louisville, KY

presstalk:
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editor@farragutpress.com

■ I appreciate the farragutpress and the stories they've done about the sewer leak at Founders Park. What's important to understand is even though Founders Park was roped off, no care or attention was given to the water at Turkey Creek Road where Farragut residents live. Neither First Utility District, the Town of Farragut, TDEC nor TWRA have been competent in protecting public health concerning the sewer line break of May 8. On May 21, 22 and 25, the water in front of Bridgewater, Inverness and Lake Haven on Turkey Creek Road was contaminated beyond the EPA E. coli contamination level. In fact, the level was contaminated at twice

the EPA level where EPA requires the body of water to be closed. The Town of Farragut refused to act when First Utility District and TDEC failed to act. This has been a systemic combined failure in emergency management. Not only was the lake not closed, there were no warning signs about swimming or fishing. There has been a steady stream of misinformation, misdirection and PR spin from the Town of Farragut claiming this was up to First Utility District and TDEC to manage. So when First Utility District and TDEC failed to protect public health, what did the Town of Farragut do? They did nothing. Our Town needs new management.

The final opportunity to submit candidate endorsements in Letters to the Editor or PressTalks for publication before the August 6 election is
10 a.m. Monday, July 13
for inclusion in the July 15 edition of farragutpress.
No candidate endorsements will be published after the July 15 edition.

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Parents, children have a reason to smile

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Youngsters needing dental care have a dentist of their own in Farragut.

Dr. Drew Mallard, who opened Knox Tot Pediatric Dentistry Sunday, March 10, at 11201 W. Point Drive, Suite 100, in West End Center, celebrated with a Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce-sponsored ribbon cutting Wednesday afternoon, May 20, at the dentist's office.

So far, "it's been learning all the processes of a new dental office and being part of this community," the dentist said.

"We see ages birth to about 16 or 17," he said. "Being a pediatric dentist, we are equipped also to take care of friends who may have special needs as well."

"We do some specialized training to be able to not only comfort them but also to be familiar with the things they are going through and enable them to get their dental appointments," Mallard said. "Being a pediatric dentist, we're specialized to take care of kiddos."

In addition to two to three years of additional specialized training, he learned being a pediatric dentist requires a lot of patience and a lot of "tell, show, do."

"You tell them, 'Hey, we're going to brush your teeth; show them on their fingernail what it will feel like; then you do it,'" Mallard explained. "It makes kids feel a little more comfortable."

The advantage of going to a pediatric dentist is along with the extensive training, "we have things available to us that other general dentists do not," he said. "Most pediatric dentists have hospital privileges."

So, for young patients who cannot withstand traditional treatment in the office, he can do a light sedation.

The office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 8 a.m. to noon on Friday.

To book an appointment, they can call 865-309-4020 or book online in the next few weeks.

Mallard, who is from a small town in West Tennessee, and his wife, who is from Knoxville, met while attending the Health Science Center at University of Tennessee, Memphis. He attended Baylor College of Dentistry in Texas and did his pediatric residency there for two years.

"It's been a long road [to open the office]," he said.

"We initially started looking [for a location to open the office] in 2020," Mallard recalled. "We were close to fi



Tammy Cheek

Dr. Drew Mallard, right, joins his Knox Tot Pediatric Dentistry staff, from left, registered dental assistant Taylor Rodgers, front office coordinator Kelly Swicegood, and registered dental assistant Haley Hassmann, at the new dental office, 11201 W. Point Drive, Suite 100.

nding a place, then COVID hit, so we decided we needed to scale back and re-evaluate.

"We put our project on hold for awhile," he said. But now, they decided it was time for him to start up his own office.

"This space was available,"

Mallard said. "And, having all the schools around, we thought this would be a great place to love on our families and our kiddos."

He chose pediatric dentistry because, "to be honest, adults are a little boring. Who doesn't want to come to

work and talk about 'Frozen,' 'Lightning McQueen,' 'Cars' and all the new Disney movies."

Also, Mallard had a great pediatric dentist while growing up and later had a chance to shadow him for five years.



Tammy Cheek

Rural Metro Fire Chief Jeff Devlin talks to Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce representatives, Tennessee Strategies representatives and area first responders.

Networking observes National EMS week

Tammy Cheek
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Rural Metro and AMR members gathered with Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce and Tennessee Strategies to observe National EMS Week at the Chamber's networking in Farragut Community Center Thursday, May 28.

"The theme for EMS Week is 'improving outcomes together,'" Tennessee Strategies senior partner Mike Arms said. "We're looking at everyone whose dealing with fire, emergency response and we've had a great turnout."

"The official host today is Greg Miller, [regional director] of AMR and [Chief] Jeff Devlin with Rural Metro," Arms said.

Rural Metro Capt. Jeff Bagwell, public information officer, later said the Farragut station was built in the 1990s as a regional office for Rural Metro and AMR, after Station 14 at Dixie Lee Junction, was built in the 1960s. A new Station 14 building was

constructed in early 2000.

Before the 1990s, "there was nothing between Station 14 and the Station 10 across from Beatty Chevrolet off Parkside Drive," Bagwell said.

However, "as Farragut grew, it needed something," he added. As such, Station 11 was built.

At one time, AMR and Rural Metro were both owned by Global Response, but Bagwell said Rural Metro was sold to Brinkley Fire Services last fall.

Brinkley's CEO James Wessel wanted to "put the fire department to the forefront, which is what he's done," Bagwell said. Still, Brinkley leases space at the North Campbell Station fire hall.

Rural Metro gets 12,000 to 13,000 calls a year, with 1,700 in Farragut, according to Bagwell. These include everything from house and brush fires and car wrecks to alarms, EMS and even replacing smoke detector batteries.

Of that "70 percent are of emergency

medical nature," he added.

Sometimes, an ambulance may not be able to respond right away to an emergency, but Bagwell said the fire department might be first on the scene and has emergency medical technicians who can provide services, such as run an EKG or minimize blood loss. It also has extraction equipment in the case of wrecks.

Rural Metro is a membership-based agency, which means it serves the members who subscribe. While they provide the same service to non-members, those people are billed for that service.

Bagwell said the cost of membership is based on a home or building's square footage, but the average cost is \$500, which can be divided into 12 payments.

Since it takes the place of a county-operated fire department, "we are the reason taxes are low in Knox County," he said.

However, Bagwell added, "That is why people have to support us. Their membership keeps us here."



Ace Pickleball Club

Ace Pickleball Club owner Don Jacobson (with scissors), son Joshua Jacobson (to Don's left) and general manager Linda Rand (to Joshua's left) joined Farragut Mayor Ron Williams (forth from right), staff, family and Farragut West Knox Chamber members as they cut ribbon on APC's opening at a Chamber-sponsored event at the facility, 11130 Kingston Pike, Tuesday, May 19.

Tammy Cheek



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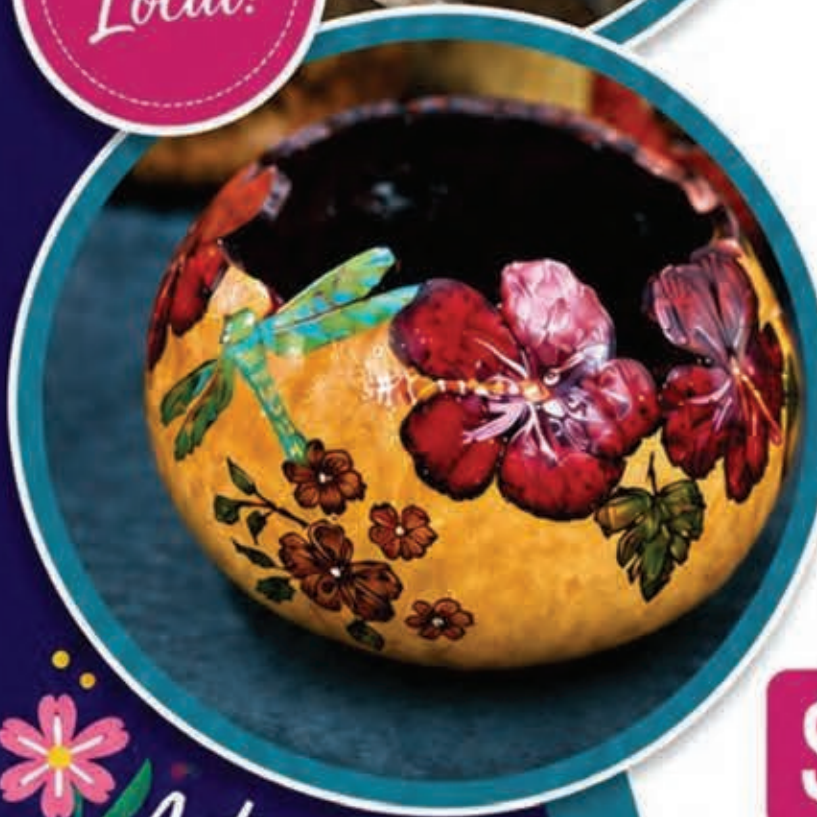
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Culbreth

Culbreth steps down as soccer coach

Jake Nichols
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On Monday, June 1, Farragut High School boys soccer coach Bradley Culbreth resigned after six seasons at the helm.

He led the Admirals to a 59-35-12 mark overall, including a 13-2-2 appear-

ance in 2026.

The Admirals finished the season ranked in the top 10 among Class AAA teams in the state of Tennessee for his final season as head coach.

"I want to thank Dr. Bartlett for the opportunity he gave me to coach Farragut soccer," Culbreth said in a statement

to the farragutpress. "This program means a lot to my family. I will forever be grateful to the players, the families in the stands and my assistant coaches for my time at Farragut. I am proud to have been a small part of it and look forward to watching the future of the program."

In a release, FHS principal Dr. John Bartlett and athletic director Donald Dodgen expressed their thanks to Culbreth for "six terrific years of leading our boys soccer program."

"I appreciate what he's done for Farragut High School and the soccer program," Dodgen add-

ed. "He's done a great job and will be missed, and I hate to see him go but I understand."

Moving forward, Dodgen noted he will list the position online. He wants the next coach to "keep the program going in a positive direction" following the success of Culbreth's tenure.

Young Admirals ready to cheer

Jake Nichols
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Next Monday through Wednesday, June 8-10, future Farragut cheerleaders will have the opportunity test their skills and learn more about the sport at the 2026 FHS Junior Cheer Camp.

Open to rising kindergartners through fifth-

graders, the camp will take place from 9 a.m. to noon each day in the Farragut High School gym.

The cost is \$75 per child, and registration is now open at this link: <https://www.givebacks.com/causes/farrhs/events/fb2cb141b3a4f7>.

See ADMIRALS on Page 2B



Photo by Eva Quinley Lynch

Blond-haired Farragut baseball players leaped into the hotel pool together after beating Houston for the 2026 Class 4A state championship.

Building dancers, building tradition



Photo submitted

The Farragut High School dance team will be hosting its annual Junior Admiral Dance Camp Monday through Wednesday, July 20-22. Campers will learn jazz and hip-hop dances, sideline dances and will play games with snacks provided each day.

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

This July, the Farragut High School dance team will be hosting its annual Farragut Junior Admirals Dance Camp Monday through Wednesday, July 20-22.

The camp will run from 9:30 a.m. through noon and will welcome rising kindergartners through fifth-graders.

To register for the camp, simply use this link: <https://www.givebacks.com/>

causes/knox-99996566/events/cde42296630c.

The cost will be \$75 per child, and anyone who registers by July 1 will be guaranteed a T-shirt. At the camp, dancers will learn jazz and hip-hop dances, sideline dances and will play games with snacks provided each day. Also, there will be a parent performance at the end of the final day.

Each camp provides a chance for future Admirals to learn the skills

See DANCERS on Page 2B

Bleached hair, big splash

Farragut Admirals baseball tradition carries on in 2026

Jake Nichols
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Tradition never graduates.

Often, that phrase is overused in sports.

But for a program as steeped in tradition as Farragut baseball, it's true.

Look no further than the Admirals' recent state championship celebration, as players and coaches gathered around the hotel pool on Friday, May 22, at the Hyatt Place hotel in Murfreesboro.

Rather than shedding their uniforms, the platinum-haired, pin-stripe-wearing Admirals jumped straight into the water to commemorate their fifth-straight state title.

As the players whooped and splashed around, one would think they were having an impromptu celebration together.

Instead, like their hair alterations a few nights earlier, this moment was premeditated — making up one small part of this program's rich history.

No time to waste

On Thursday, May 14, Farragut topped Science Hill, 7-5, in a decisive Game 3 of the Class 4A

sectional.

Since the Hilltoppers had won the earlier game that day, Travis Brummitt's final strike in the rubber match did not land in Jake Harris' catcher's mitt until after 11 p.m.

Erin Harris, Jake's mom, celebrated in the moment. But as the team made its way back from Johnson City, she knew it was time to break out the salon items she had purchased the previous day.

"It's one of those things that you plan for but you don't talk about it," Erin Harris said, referring to a hair-bleaching tradition that began during the Tommy Pharr era almost two decades ago. "So with the hair bleaching, we always do it as a team after that final sectional win, when we know we're going to state. I went and bought all the supplies the day before and kept it, so I held onto it and we took it and did it that night."

With the game ending so late, why not wait until the next day?

"Historically, they've always done it that night, so we didn't want to break tradition," said Valerie Brummitt, the senior ace's mom. "We got home about 1:40

a.m., went over to Neyland Williams' house and did it until about 4:30 in the morning with the whole team and families there. I think we all got in bed about 5 a.m. It was exhausting but fun."

"That's what we did last year," added Williams, whose hair shone brightly against his skin. "Between superstition, wanting to get it over with and wanting to be with your boys, something's different about doing it the same night. It was a good time."

"Once you wash it out and you look up, it definitely shocks you a little bit," he added with a grin. "It's nice to be able to do that, almost like one of our achievements, because you get to show everybody, and it's fun and is a team-bonding experience."

Harris made sure to thank the staff at Sally Beauty in Turkey Creek for their help, noting they are well aware of the routine each spring.

"That's where we've gotten it for all the past years that I'm aware of," she said. "They know how much we need and how much we use, and they're on board. They know that if

See SPLASH on Page 2B

Local track stars close season with medals, titles

Ken Lay
Correspondent

The Webb School of Knoxville girls track team recently culminated its 2026 season by winning its sixth straight Division II-AA state championship.

The Lady Spartans

finished on top late last month at the University of Tennessee's Tom Black Track in Knoxville.

Webb sprinter Lacy Young won both the 100-meter dash and 200-meter dash. She finished the 100 with a time of 11.59 seconds. She

crossed the line in the 200 with a time of 24.40.

Simone Romain finished third in the 100-meter dash (25.40) and took fifth in the 200-meter dash with a time of 12.19.

In the distance races, Calysta Garmer won the 1600-meter run as she

crossed the finish line in 4:49.30 while her sister, Jazzlyn, was second with a time of 4:55.38. Jazzlyn was second in the 3,200-meter run (10:23.48). Calysta was third (10:47.93).

Calysta Garmer was second in the 800-meter run (2:13.82) while Gide-

on Bradford was sixth (2:20.97). Bradford took seventh in the 400-meter dash (1:01.37).

Webb's 4x800-meter relay team was victorious. The Lady Spartans were third in the 4x200 and fourth in the 4x100.

For the Webb boys, David Gaston finished

fourth in the triple jump (35 feet, 7 inches) and eighth in the 800-meter run (1:59.50).

For the Knoxville Catholic girls, Chloe Truss finished second in the 100-meter dash (11.91) and the 200-meter dash

See STATE on Page 2B



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Dancers

From page 1B

they can use later in their careers, which has led to a unique sense of camaraderie for any campers who stay with it into middle and high school. "We've been doing it for 20 years, and it's not limited to just Farragut kids. We take kids from all local schools," added Lisa Derr, whose daughter Sydney will be a senior on this year's team. "A lot of our

girls in the team started in the junior dance camp, so for a lot of younger girls, coming to that camp sparks their interest. "It's so fun because it goes up through elementary school. Then we have kids trying out for the middle and high school teams, and they've been coming to the camps and become a part of our dance family. So it's neat to see that happen every year."

Admirals

From page 1B

Money from each registration will go toward a camp T-shirt and snack while the rest will fund Farragut High School cheer events, such as the team camp at East Tennessee State later this summer. Each camp day will be themed with Monday as "farmer day," where participants can dress up in plaid or pigtails. Tuesday will be "Hawaiian day," where they can wear Hawaiian shirts, leis, flowers, etc. Wednesday, each participant can wear her camp T-shirt with white or navy shorts. Each camper is asked to wear a pair of tennis shoes each day and bring a labeled water bottle. Every day, campers will be broken into smaller groups by grade and will learn cheer chants, a dance and traditional cheerleading fundamentals, including motions

and jumps. There will be a performance for parents and families on the last day of camp, as doors to the FHS gym will open at 11:30 a.m. that day. Farragut cheer coach Dana Jacobs noted the camp has been special each year, but especially this year since some former campers are now on the high school squad. "This is the first year that we're seeing photos of when these girls were 5 years old and they were the little cheerleaders at camp," Jacobs said. "Now here they are, being the ones that get to teach these girls. "The relationships they develop with these girls, even in the small amount of time they spend together, is just so sweet. And I love that these younger girls look up to our cheerleaders so much. We are excited to have them come on Friday nights and during basketball season to watch them cheer."

Splash

From page 1B

something crazy happens and we don't make it, we can return it. But we haven't had to do that." **A big splash** The pool tradition began a little later during Matt Buckner's tenure as the Admirals' head coach. For that, the protocol is similar to the bleached hair approach. In other words, you don't talk about it until you accomplish the act that unlocks that achievement. Essentially, the process begins when the team qualifies for the state tournament. After that, the team makes reservations at the same Hyatt Place hotel where FHS has stayed for several years now. From there, the only act of preparation left is the one that takes place on the field: winning. And even for a Farragut team that locked up its 20th

straight state tournament win in this year's title game, that process can be easier said than done. The Admirals blitzed through their first two games, beating Collierville and Nolensville, 6-3 and 8-2, to put them in the driver's seat for yet another state championship appearance. They just needed one more win over Collierville that Thursday, May 21 — and got it with a 5-3 victory made complete by a Brody Watkins save. The state championship itself was a bit more complicated, as Farragut trailed Houston by three runs twice in a game that took place at two different venues because of rain. But in the end, the Admirals roared back for an 11-5 win that Friday night. And by the time the players walked off the field, Harris had fired off an email to the Hyatt Place staff so they knew the team would be arriving soon.

Back at the hotel, parents and family members crowded around the well-lit pool, which cast a blue, shimmering glow. Cheers erupted as the bus pulled in, growing louder once players' outlines were visible in the lights of the parking lot. Finally, the team gathered around the water, and, with cameras at the ready, players jumped in and mobbed one another. Coaches soon followed with skipper Garrett Copeland the final one to make a splash. It was a fitting way to end another year at the top for Farragut baseball. But then again, that's just part of the tradition, too. "I think it's really important to them," Valerie Brummitt added. "For them, doing it all together and keeping up the tradition is super important. They all live and breathe Farragut, so I think that's why they like to continue it."

State

From page 1B

(24.74). She also claimed third in the 400-meter dash (57.78). Charlotte Fowler finished second in the shot put (39-1) and fifth in the long jump (17-5.5). For the Catholic boys, J.R. Fowler won both the shot put (57-2) and the discus (181-3). In Division II-A: Christian Academy of Knoxville's boys

finished as state runners-up. Owen Flatford, who won the state decathlon, also swept the hurdles at the main meet. He posted a time of 14.28 in the 110-meter hurdles and crossed the finish line in 39.00 in the 300-meter hurdles. He was second in the pole vault (13-6) and sixth in the 200-meter dash (22.74). Devin Young was third in the pole vault as he also cleared 13-6. Luke Hayes was seventh (11-0).

For the Lady Warriors, Emery Adams finished second in the 3200 and third in the 1600. For Concord Christian School's boys, Kohbe Ward won the 400-meter dash with a time of 48.72 and finished eighth in 200 (23.86). Dasani Moulden was second in the 200-meter dash (22.27). For the Lady Lions, Baylor Kohlbusch was third in the 400-meter dash (59.54).

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Reveizes' Camino journey begins

Carlos Reveiz
Correspondent

Over the next several weeks, longtime photographer and Farragut resident Carlos Reveiz and his wife, Nancy, are taking part in the spiritually fulfilling, physically taxing journey as they walk the Camino de Santiago. Here, Reveiz details his first few journal entries, having begun their journey the week of Monday, May 18.

Wednesday, May 20

They say the Camino de Santiago begins the moment you commit to the journey. For me, that commitment took root in 2004 after completing the London Marathon with my younger brother. Now, 22 years later, I am finally realizing this long-held dream.

Our journey began with an overnight flight from Boston to Paris. Despite the jet lag, we spent a memorable day exploring the city's iconic landmarks, including the Notre-Dame Cathedral, the Louvre, the Eiffel Tower and many more. It has been an exhausting but incred-

ibly exhilarating 48 hours with very little sleep!

Tonight, we take an overnight train to Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port, a village at the foothills of the French Pyrenees. We will spend two days there, resting and acclimating to the time zone, before setting out. Day one undoubtedly will be our most challenging stage: a 16-mile trek over the Pyrenees featuring a 5,600-foot elevation gain.

As we prepare for this undertaking, we are guided by two philosophies when taking on ambitious challenges/goals:

1) There will be days that I don't know if I can finish the entire Camino ... but ... there will be a lifetime knowing that we have!

2) The miracle is not that I walked the entire Camino but ... that I had the courage to start!

Burn Camino ...

Friday, May 22

Today was a rest day at Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port. We spent the day resting and ex-



Photo submitted

Carlos Reveiz and his wife, Nancy, stop for a picturesque photo during their exploration of Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port, France, prior to their start of the Camino de Santiago. The Reveizes are making this journey for the second time in their lives, though this one will finish with them traveling more than 500 miles if they go the full distance they have anticipated.

ploring this magnificent town. We start our Camino tomorrow at 5:14 am. This first stage is one of the most challenging

and strenuous uphill walks of the entire Camino. There will be an elevation gain of 4,560 feet in the first 13 miles as we

cross the Pyrenees mountains. Temperatures will be in the high 80s so that will add to the challenge.

District 5 Democrats keep South Peters litter-free

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

Years ago, members of the Knox County Democratic Party (KCDP) came to a realization: they wanted to be more visible in the community.

They reached out to Keep Knoxville Beautiful, partnering with a non-profit organization that “works to beautify and improve Knox County through litter prevention, recycling and environmental education.”

More specifically, they began working with the organization's Adopt-a-Road initiative, as member Janice Spone helped kickstart the party's involvement.

“We began this when Gloria Johnson was chair when Obama came into office, so we started with three districts doing Adopt-a-Road,” Spone said. “I had been trying to get districts to do this, because it involves people. It's easy; you only spend a couple hours doing it, and it's a simple, great



Photo courtesy of Mali Glazer

Members of District 5 within Knox County Democrats pick up trash regularly along South Peters Road as part of the group's county-wide Adopt-a-Road effort.

way to give back to the community.

“But nobody would take in my best friends, and officers would not do this. Finally, I realized this wouldn't happen

unless I just do it. So I started asking different districts to sign up.”

Now, per Spone, there are

See LITTER on Page 5B



Tammy Cheek

Angel Maples, left, of NHC Place in Farragut receives a Caring Hearts Award from Alzheimer's Tennessee president/CEO president Janice Wade-Whitehead.

Alzheimer's Tennessee recognizes Caring Hearts

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Alzheimer's Tennessee celebrated the commitment of “unsung heroes,” those who go above and beyond in caring for those facing dementia, with a Caring Hearts recognition ceremony in Rothschild Catering and Convention Center in

Knoxville Thursday, May 21.

Of the 100 “caring hearts,” seven are from Farragut and West Knoxville home health or senior care centers.

“One of the most rewarding programs that we do is our Caring Hearts luncheon,” Alzheimer's Tennessee CEO/

See CARING HEARTS on Page 4B

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Caring Hearts

From page 3B

president Janice Wade-Whitehead said. "It's an annual event. Today, we will recognize 100 direct-care workers, our CNAs, our personal care assistants who may work in home health care, assisted living, nursing homes.

"They really are professionals who, a lot of times they're not well-compensated, do not get a lot of thank-yous for the work they do," she said. "However, they're critical in providing day-to-day care and defining quality of life for that individual with Alzheimer's."

As part of the awards presentation, members of the Nursing Honor Guard presented roses to each recipient.

One of the coveted awards of the luncheon, the Stan Boling Community Caring Hearts Award, went to Claudia Jewel, the "friendly nurse" at the O'Connor Senior Center for almost 22 years.

"I'm excited," she said about receiving the honor. "I was surprised when I was told I was receiving it ... I love all the participants, the people.

"Alzheimer's [Tennessee] and we work together," Jewel said.

Local recipients included: Heidi Attaway, Knoxville



Jewel



Attaway



Helton



Parish

Morning Pointe Assisted Living; Ashley Cox, Arbor Terrace in West Knoxville; Carline Helton, NHC Cavette Hill Assisted Living & Memory Care; Angel Maples, NHC Place Farragut Assisted Living in Farragut; Alyson Monger, also with NHC Place in Farragut; Jeanne Parish, CADES Adult Day Service; and Zeynep Sherman, Morning Pointe Hardin Valley Assisted Living.

"Working through the night requires a special kind of commitment," Margaret Meshberger NHC director of nursing, said about Maples. "Angel has been with us for more than seven years, providing exceptional care to ensure resident safety."

"Alyson is an outstanding nurse aid," Meshberger said of Monger. "Her dedication,

compassion and professionalism consistently go above and beyond expectations."

"Jeanne is a faithful, steadfast and key staff member who has served on the CADES team for the past 10 years," CADES executive director Deena Greer said of Parish. "She embodies compassion, kindness and unwavering dedication in everything she does."

"Madison always has a smile on her face and brightens everyone's day," Concord Place community relations director Lisa Markin said of Sawyers. "She is a team player and is flexible with schedule changes."

Alzheimer's Tennessee has been operating in Knox County since 1983, according to Wade-Whitehead.

"We are perhaps the oldest of

the Alzheimer's organizations," she added. "We've been serving families for over 40 years.

"In 1983, Alzheimer's disease was not a new disease but it was not widely recognized," Wade-Whitehead said. "It was started with just a very small group of passionate families meeting at a church to share information and help each other strategize."

Now, the organization is statewide, providing boots-on-the-ground services.

"If you are living with either a diagnosis yourself or a family member with a diagnosis, we provide such an array of services for support," she said. "The person with diagnosis can engage in a support group ... we have a lot of caregiver support groups.

"We operate an adult day-care center in Knoxville that operates Monday through Friday," Wade-Whitehead said.

Also, it provides therapeutic exercises and activities for the individuals with a diagnosis.

And, "we go out into the homes and do needs and safety assessments," she said. "We helped to pass the '20-'21 Silver Alert Bill, which we just found out 525 Tennesseans have been returned safely back to their loved ones.

"With that, we provide a silver alert kit for families so they are ready should their loved one go missing, which is pretty common," Wade-Whitehead said. "About 60 percent of people with diagnosis will wander at some point during the course of their disease."

Press Planner

- Cancer Support Community East Tennessee will host its annual Good Vibrations Benefit Concert, an evening of live music, food, drinks and fundraising to support free programs and services for those impacted by cancer. Guests will enjoy a performance by Smooth Sailor, a favorite local yacht rock band. The concert will be held at Yee-Haw Brewing Company, 745 N. Broadway, Knoxville, on Thursday, June 4, from 6 to 9 p.m.

- UT Arboretum Society and co-sponsors will present "Stories from a Wildlife Veterinarian: From Oak Ridge to Peru and from Box Turtles to Penguins," with Dr. Matt Allender, a wildlife veterinarian whose work has taken him from the forests of Oak Ridge to the coast of Peru. This will be a free, educational, in-person program at Roane State Oak Ridge in the City Room on Friday, June 5, at 7 p.m., 701 Briarcliff Ave, Oak Ridge. To register, go to <https://utarboretumsociety.org/programs/>. For questions or registration issues contact Michelle at mcampani@utk.edu.

- Knoxville Bar Association and Legal Aid of East Tennessee are offering an in-person Free Legal Advice Clinic at the Knox County Public Defender's Community Law Office, 1101 Liberty St., Knoxville. Any veteran seeking legal help is encouraged to attend the clinic from 12 to 2 p.m. on June 10. This is a general advice clinic with a wide variety of legal issues, including family law, landlord/tenant, bankruptcy, criminal defense, consumer protection, contract disputes, child support and personal injury, among other issues. This is an advice-only clinic. Clients can expect legal advice, but no wills are drafted at this clinic nor legal work performed. Veterans who are not able to attend the clinic in person are encouraged to continue to use the telephone clinic option. Preregistration is required for telephone clinic and veterans are asked to call Legal Aid of East Tennessee at 865-637-0484 to preregister.

- Smoky Mountain Quilters of Tennessee 45th Quilt Show & Competition will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, June 19, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 20, at Knoxville Expo Center, 5441 Clinton Highway, Knoxville. About 200 quilts will be on display. On Friday, quilt historian Merikay Waldvogel, assisted by Cindy Stuart, will present an antique quilt turning at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Show attendees are invited to bring a favorite quilt and record a brief video story about it to be archived in the Quilt Alliance "Go Tell It!" project. Shop the vendors and a boutique of

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Litter

From page 3B

11 active Adopt-a-Roads across Knox County with signs up at each one.

District 5 in Farragut joined the movement a few years ago, as Mali Glazer headed up their group within the organization.

"Each district was asked to designate someone to take charge of this new effort, and in District 5, I am that person," Glazer said. "In that role, I contacted the team at KKB to find a suitable unclaimed road to clean."

"My requirements were safety first and foremost,"

she added. "So many roadways don't have sidewalks or adequate shoulders where volunteers could collect trash safely. It limited the selection of available roads. The narrow two-lane roads with drop offs on both sides need the 'love,' but it's just too dangerous to ask volunteers to attempt."

Eventually, she and other members of the group settled on the stretch of South Peters Road that runs from Kingston Pike to Ebenezer.

"We managed to collect plenty of trash off that busily trafficked road," Glazer said. "We have a core group of volunteers that participate in this

Day of Action every quarter, and we have also worked on First Creek cleanup."

This exceeds the yearly request from Keep Knoxville Beautiful, which asks for a minimum of two cleanups per year.

Glazer's group has gone beyond that, much to Spoone's appreciation.

"I don't really have to remind most of these people to do it," she said. "They sign up with Keep Knoxville Beautiful and get a date approved. They do everything themselves, including a little report after they're done. They do the work."

Press Planner

From page 4B

unique items handcrafted by guild members. Same-day scissor sharpening will be available as well as scavenger hunts for

children. For quilt appraisals by appointment, contact certified appraiser Cindy Stuart at 865-386-0940. Free parking. For more information, email info@smokymtnquilters.com or visit www.smokymtnquilters.com

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LEGAL NOTICE
The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Farragut, at its meeting on May 28, 2026, adopted the following ordinance on second and final reading:
1. Ordinance 26-10, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF FARRAGUT, TENNESSEE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027

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Bridles and Blue Jeans fundraiser at STAR

Western garb mingled with cocktail attire when Shangri-La Therapeutic Riding Academy staff, volunteers and other supporters gathered for the organization's annual Bridles and Blue Jeans fundraiser at STAR, Highway 11, Lenoir City, Saturday, April 11.

Guests looked over the silent auction items and enjoyed a bourbon tasting and live auction. They mingled, dined, petted the miniature horses and met two owls from Owl Ridge Raptor Center.

"Everyone probably feels and sees something different when you hear the word Shangri-La, because Shangri-La is deeply personal," STAR executive director Emily Justus said. "It is that ideal space where your impossible suddenly feels possible.

"Maybe where two things that often don't make sense together, suddenly do," she added. "Where limitations finally give way to breakthroughs. Where the ungettable get. The thing you're told you cannot do or the milestone you're told you'll never achieve suddenly is right before you, and you're doing it. Here at STAR, we experience our version of Shangri-La every single day.

"This barn may have dirt floors, these walls may be wood and steel, but what happens inside this space, in the very spot where you sit are moments upon moments of extraordinary," Justus said. "What happens here is healing. It is courage and confidence rediscovered. It is a community. It is a transformation that happens high in a saddle or at the shoulder of a horse."



Adley Shields, 2



Julie Johnson with Freckles



Laura Best with a barn owl from Owl Ridge Raptor Center



Retired STAR founder Lyn Petr, left, and Marilyn Mele



Sharon Valentine, left, and Tina Emerson



Scott Huff, left, and Joe Parkey

Old Timer's Grand Reunion

Laughter and stories of the past generated throughout the Family Life Center of Virtue Church, 725 Virtue Road, Saturday, May 2, when former Farragut High School students congregated for the annual Old Timer's Grand Reunion.

While attendees had a breakfast of doughnuts and coffee, they perused the exhibits, featuring yearbooks, a photo frame in memory of classmates now gone and gathered for a group shot of all those present with the Admirals mascot. All in jest, someone declared on the sound system, "Matt McFee, come to the office," generating chuckles in the room.

The reunion initially was for those who attended the original Farragut High School "on the hill" before 1976, but that has expanded to all Old-Timers, alums and friends.

McFee, who graduated in 1977, remembered his great-grandfather, who built the white farmhouse on McFee Road. His grandfather later added to the house to accommodate his children.

"It was put on the [National Register of Historic Places]," he said. McFee was in the first class to graduate from the current high school.

"We were just farming people," Richard Duisen said.

Susan Slate, class of 1980, introduced Judy Landry, the former English teacher who taught between 1973 and 1984.

"She taught the Old Testament as literature," Slate said about Landry.

"We couldn't teach the Bible unless it was literature," Landry replied.



Johnny Bledsoe and Mary Frye, both Class of '61



Delores Humphrey with husband Sam Humphrey, who graduated from FHS



English teacher Judy Landry taught at FHS from '73 to '84



From left, Ralph Henry, Class of '63; Dale Bledsoe, Class of '75; and Johnny Bledsoe, Class of '61



Mary Sue Jordan, left, Class of '80, and Susan Slate, Class of '80



Warren Johnson, Class of '67, and Karen Johnson, Class of '70

Talk of the Town

A Publication of the Town of Farragut



Summer 2026

Summer fun returns to Farragut



Summer is here, so it's time to soak up the sun with these family-friendly, favorite events!

Kingston Pike will be filled with red, white and blue during Farragut's annual **Independence Day Parade**, starting at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 4. The parade begins at Lendon Welch Way and Kingston Pike, and continues to Boring Road, just east of Farragut Towne Square Shopping Center (former Ingles store site). Bring the entire family out

for this community staple! This year's parade will recognize the nation's 250th birthday with an Americana theme! Local military veterans will serve as grand marshals. **Fun with Farragut's Fleet** features local trucks and machinery that help get the job done from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 22, at Mayor Bob



Leonard Park (301 Watt Road). This free event is a way for families to get up close and personal with equipment used by the Town of Farragut and other local businesses and organizations. **New in 2026: 8:30-9:30 a.m. is a sensory-friendly hour, where horns and lights will be turned off to create a less stimulating environment.**

Art Fest brings vibrant and creative fun for all with a new date and time! This year's event is 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12 (instead of Sunday afternoon) in front of the Farragut Community Center. Interactive art stations will yield unique projects you'll be proud to bring home! Our young participants are sure to enjoy these art ac-

tivities, and adults are also encouraged to participate! This free event is sponsored by the Farragut Arts & Beautification Committee. For more information about Parks & Rec events, visit farragutparksandrec.org or contact Recreation and Event Manager Rachel Malone at rmalone@townoffarragut.org.



Party in the Park

Our Farragut Parks & Rec team loves what they do, so they're throwing a party to celebrate Parks and Recreation Month! Party in the Park takes place at the splash pad at McFee Park from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, July

24. This free event is the perfect way to wrap up summer break with plenty of games, crafts and music to keep participants busy throughout the evening. Food trucks will be on hand to keep **See PARTY IN PARK on Page 4**

Parks & Rec offers new summer fun

The Farragut Parks & Recreation Department has new programs and events this quarter! Highlights for youth and families are Little Gardeners, Drama Club, and Harry Potter Movie Night.

Drama Club, for ages 8-12, teaches the basics of theater and improvisation skills. Join us from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays in July. Pre-registration is required.

Harry Potter Movie Night is a family-friendly event for muggles and wizards alike! Join us at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 1, at the Farragut Community Center to enjoy a craft and snacks and watch "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone." Attendees are encouraged to dress in their Hogwarts attire! No registration is required.

Little Gardeners is a new program for ages walking to 5 years that invites toddlers to plant seeds and play in the dirt! This drop-in program is 10-11 a.m.



on Fridays in September (except Sept. 18). Parents/guardians are required to supervise and stay on the premises. To find more information and to register for these fun ac-

tivities, go to townoffarragut.org/register, stop by the Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.) or call us at 865-218-3376.

Dog Daze brings high-flying canine aquatic fun

The 10th annual Smoky Mountain DockDogs "Dog Daze" event, with the support of Shop Farragut and the Town of Farragut, returns to Village Green Shopping Center Friday, Aug. 21, through Sunday, Aug. 23. Dog Daze is a free event featuring a regional canine aquatics competition governed and sanctioned by DockDogs International.

Between events, spectators can shop at Village Green Shopping Center, mingle with vendors and get food and drink at the festival tent.

For more information about Dog Daze, visit shopfarragut.com.



David Cantu Candace Whitt Hailey Russell

Town adds new staff

David Cantu is the new Fire Code Official for the Town of Farragut. He brings over 20 years of experience in emergency services and public safety.

Before joining the Town, David served with the Oak Ridge Fire Department as a Fire Engineer/EMT before being promoted to Fire Inspector. His career includes 13 years with the City of Lodi (California) Fire Department, and he is a U.S. Army veteran.

See NEW STAFF on Page 3

WHO TO CALL

Town of Farragut Contacts

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

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

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

Alcohol License/Permits Hailey Russell (hrussell@townoffarragut.org)
Finances

Accounts Receivable Pam Hall (phall@townoffarragut.org)

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

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

Event PermitsShelley Gray (sgray@townoffarragut.org)

Farragut Court..... Allison Scott (ascott@townoffarragut.org)

Landscaping Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)

Sign PermitsBart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)

Farragut MuseumKristi Vining (museum@townoffarragut.org)

Personnel Michelle Pence (mpence@townoffarragut.org)

Planning Requirements Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)

Zoning & SubdivisionsBart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)

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

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

Traffic EnforcementJennifer Davis (jdavis@townoffarragut.org)
Program

TourismHallie Reid (visitfarragut@townoffarragut.org)

Building Inspections.....Jennifer Pettyjohn (jpettyjohn@townoffarragut.org)
and Permits

Building Codes Pete Bruce (pbruce@townoffarragut.org)

.....Elliott Sievers (esievers@townoffarragut.org)

.....Karl Swierzko (kswierzko@townoffarragut.org)

.....Andrew Weaver (aweaver@townoffarragut.org)

Fire Safety/Inspections.....David Cantu (dcantu@townoffarragut.org)

Codes Enforcement/ Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)

Property MaintenanceJon Ramirez (jramirez@townoffarragut.org)

Town Hall

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

Campbell Station Inn

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday through Friday (hours may vary)
11409 Kingston Pike
Website: visitfarragut.org
VisitFarragut@townoffarragut.org

Farragut Community Center

8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 1-4 p.m. Sunday
239 Jamestowne Blvd.
Website: townoffarragut.org/parksandrec
General Parks & Rec information on programming and events:

..... ParksandRecInfo@townoffarragut.org

Athletic field reservations: AthleticFieldReservations@townoffarragut.org

Pavilion rentals:PicnicReservations@townoffarragut.org

Community Center rentals: CommunityCenterRentals@townoffarragut.org

Anchor Park: 11730 Turkey Creek Road

Founders Park: 405 N. Campbell Station Road

Mayor Bob Leonard Park

Main Entrance: 301 Watt Road, Farragut;
West Entrance: 700 Harrison Lane, Loudon

McFee Park: 917 McFee Road

Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza: 11409 Kingston Pike

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

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

Tourism Talk



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

• **Visitor Guide** – Our 2026 Visitor Guide is now available! Stop by the Campbell Station Inn to pick up your copy. We are also happy to mail guides upon request to those living more than 30 miles from Farragut.

• **Website Refresh** – In late June, VisitFarragut.org will be getting a new look while continuing to provide great information about events, shopping, dining and things to do in Farragut.

• **Campbell Station Inn** – Looking to learn more about local history? The beautifully restored Campbell Station Inn is ready to welcome visitors! Stop by Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. to explore this historic landmark and enjoy the special “Art at the Inn” exhibit from the Tennessee Art Association. (Campbell Station Inn hours may vary; please call 865-427-6004 before your visit.)

Opportunities for our business partners:

• Looking to give your shop, restaurant or attraction some extra reach? The Visit Farragut team is happy to help spotlight local businesses through social media.

See **TOURISM TALK** on Page 4



Farragut Museum recognized

The Farragut Museum received three Awards of Commendation at the recent Tennessee Association of Museums conference in Union City, Tenn. The Museum was recognized for the recent sports exhibit, the History Hour program and the History Booklet.

A little closer to home, the Farragut Museum won two awards at the annual East Tennessee Historical Society Awards of Excellence program and dinner. The History Hour program was recognized for Project Excellence, and the History Booklet was recognized for Publication Excellence. Congratulations to Historic Resources Coordinator Kristi Vining and the Farragut Museum Committee for their award-winning work!



Splash into summer with Farragut Matters

The summer fun never stops in Farragut. That's a good reason to sign up for Farragut Matters e-newsletter, which conveniently deposits the freshest Town of Farragut news in one place—your inbox!

Farragut Matters has info about road and park projects, new businesses, upcoming meetings and events, and other happenings that impact those who live in or near Farragut. Sign up today by scanning the QR code above or visiting townoffarragut.org/communications.

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

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

SUMMER 2026 PROGRAMS & EVENTS

• Unless otherwise noted, register for classes and special events at townoffarragut.org/register, in person at the Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.) or by phone (865-218-3376). **All classes held at the community center require a free membership. Farragut residency is NOT required for membership. Please stop by the community center during regular hours or arrive early for class to register!**

• Payment is due at the time of registration. Credit card payments (Visa, Mastercard and Discover), cash and check payments are accepted.

• The Town of Farragut is not responsible for costs associated with the purchase of supplies when a class is canceled.

• All events are held at the Farragut Community Center unless otherwise noted, and all league sports are held at Mayor Bob Leonard Park unless otherwise noted.

• Some events may be canceled or postponed in the event of inclement weather. Please see Farragut Parks & Rec social media (Facebook, X, and Instagram) for updated information.

• Punch cards for community center gym programs may be purchased at the recreation office. Twenty punches are just \$30, and punch cards may be shared by family or friends.

• **No refunds are given for programs and classes.**

ADULTS

Jewelry Making Workshop

Wednesdays, July 1-29, 3:30-5 p.m.
Ages 12 and up, \$4 per person
Get inspired and learn how to create earrings, necklaces, or bracelets with a variety of beads, chains, and wires! This program is for all skill levels. Supplies are provided, but feel free to bring your own. Preregistration is not required but encouraged.

Summer Volleyball Leagues

(Learn more on page 4)

FAMILY

Mahjong and Gaming Club

Every other Tuesday, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Ages 9 and up, free
Join us to learn new games! There are special classes to learn mahjong, tong-its, chess, checkers and other organized board games. See the full schedule at townoffarragut.org/register.

Summer Fun Week

Farragut Parks
June 20-28, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
All ages, free
It's summertime and we want to celebrate! Join in on this fun scavenger hunt throughout the Farragut Parks and the Community Center. Starting on Saturday, June 20, stop by the Community Center to pick up a list of activities and opportunities. Complete at least half of the tasks before Sunday, June 28 to win a prize. Registration is not required to participate. Join us at the Hartford Pavilion at Anchor Park on Wednesday, June 24 between 9 a.m.-6 p.m. to hang out and play some yard games.

Family Kickball Night

Sept. 4, 7-8:30 p.m.
Ages 6 and up, \$5 per family
Join us in a classic, family-friendly competition filled with fun, teamwork and friendly rivalry! Participants will be divided into teams upon arrival. This event is designed for families of all skill levels. Registration is required. Wear athletic attire and bring a water bottle.

Line Dancing

July 10, Aug. 7, Sept. 4, 6-9 p.m.
Ages 8 and up, \$5 per person
We will use a projector to display step-by-step dance instructions, making it easy for everyone to follow along and learn. This is a great opportunity to dance with friends and make new ones!

Harry Potter Movie Night

Saturday, Aug. 1; 6 p.m.
(See Parks & Rec offers new summer fun on page 1 for more info)

Mental Health Movie Night

Friday, Sept. 11; 4-9 p.m.
All ages; \$4 per person
Come enjoy popcorn, a craft and the movie "Inside Out" with the whole family! Preregistration is not required for this indoor movie night. Bring blankets and chairs to get cozy!

Book Swap

Friday, Sept. 25; 5-8 p.m.
All ages; free, just bring books to swap
Do you have extra books that you don't want or need anymore? Bring your books to the community center to trade them. Rules for the book swap will be on our website at townoffarragut.org/townevents.

New staff

From page 1

Before bringing the Fire Code Official position in house, the Town had a mutual agreement with Rural Metro Fire for Fire Marshal services.

Candace Whitt is the Town of Farragut's new Grant and Procurement Accountant. In this role, she'll ensure that the Town's grants, contracts, expenditures and financial records meet all legal requirements.

Before joining the Town of Farragut, Candace was a Buyer for Blount County. She also has an insurance background. Her background in community service includes volunteer work for

FITNESS

Rise and Shine Yoga

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

Sunrise Stretch

Wednesdays, 8:15-9:15 a.m.
Ages 16 and up; free
Start your day off right with a sunrise yoga session! This 60-minute class is the perfect way to start the day for beginning to advanced yogis with registered yoga teacher Jenny Trussell. Bring a mat (blanket and props are optional) and a smile for each participant.

Total Fitness

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

OPEN GYM

Lunchtime Walking Open Gym

Wednesdays through July 29, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
All ages, free
Get some steps in on your lunch break. The air-conditioned gym is open for walking laps during this time. No preregistration required.

Drop-in Dodgeball

Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.
Ages 18 and up, \$2 per player
Adults have the opportunity to make friends and get exercise by playing a weekly game of dodgeball. We will divide into two teams and play classic dodgeball.

Family Basketball

Wednesdays through July 29, 1-4 p.m.
Thursdays, 4-6 p.m.
All ages, \$2 per person
No need to pre-register - just bring a ball and get ready to play! This session is specifically for youth and families to shoot around and play without the intensity of pickup open gyms.

Pickleball Open Gym

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

Pickup Basketball

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

Delta Zeta Knoxville Alumnae Chapter as a philanthropy advisor and serving as a sustainer of Junior Service League of Maryville.

Hailey Russell has joined the Town of Farragut staff as the Town Recorder. The Town Recorder is responsible for distribution of beer permits, public records requests and records management. She is a Certified Municipal Clerk and is in the process of becoming a Certified Public Manager.

Previously, Hailey was an administrative assistant with the Town of Louisville, Tenn., where she performed many duties, including those of the Town Recorder.

Pickup Volleyball

Mondays, 6:30-9 p.m.
Ages 14 and up, \$4 per person
Limited equipment is available for checkout and nets are provided. To maximize community use, users may experience wait times. This session is specifically for individuals who want to play scrimmage-style, non-refereed games.

YOUTH

Afterschool Art

Wednesdays, Aug. 19-Nov. 18, 3:30-5 p.m.
Ages 6 to 12, \$4 per child
Each week, our school-aged artists create a new project with varying mediums. All skill levels are welcome! Preregistration is not required.

Art Adventures

Tuesdays through July 28, 2-3:30 p.m.
Tuesdays, Aug. 18-Nov. 17, 2-3:30 p.m.
Ages 6 to 12, \$4 per child
Each week, our school-aged artists will create a new project with varying mediums. All skill levels are welcome! Preregistration is not required.

Beginner Ballet

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

Elementary Homeschool PE

Tuesdays, Aug. 18-Dec. 15, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, Aug. 19-Dec. 16, 1-2 p.m.
Grades K-5 (ages 6 to 10), \$2 per child
This class features sports and group games that emphasize teamwork, good sportsmanship, physical activity and fun! Participants must be at least 6 years old to participate. Preregistration is not required.

Middle School Homeschool PE

Wednesdays, Aug. 19-Dec. 16, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Grades 6-8 (ages 11-14), \$2 per child
This class emphasizes organized sports, competition and physical activity, while still including plenty of group games, teamwork and fun! Preregistration is not required.

Toddler Takeover

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

Youth Free Play

Mondays through July 27, 3-5 p.m.
Tuesdays starting July 7, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Ages 4-12, \$2 per child
Join us for our Free Play. Kids can play and stay active in this open gym! With plenty of space and fun activities, it's the perfect way to burn energy and have a blast!

Little Gardeners

Fridays, Sept. 4-25
(except Sept. 18), 10-11 a.m.
Ages walking to 5 years, \$2 per child
It's time for toddlers to get their hands dirty! Children plant wildflowers to take home. Parents/guardians are required to supervise and stay on the premises. Clothing should be suitable for playing in the dirt. Preregistration is not required. The program will be canceled for rain.

Glam Night Gala

Wednesday, Aug. 5, 5-6:30 p.m.
Ages 8-16, \$8 per person
This class is for youth who want to practice the basics of makeup, braiding hair and painting nails. Feel free to dress up for this program! Preregistration is required.

Tiny Tots Tennis

McFee Park
Tuesdays, Sept. 1-Sept. 22, 4-4:45 p.m.
Ages 4-6, \$15 per child
Tiny Tots Tennis is an introductory program that teaches tiny athletes the building blocks of tennis! We will focus on hand-eye coordination, basic strokes and related gross motor skills. Preregistration is required, as space is limited! Parents are required to participate with their child.

Learn a Sport Series

Tuesdays in September, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Ages 5-8, \$10 per class
Ready, set, play! In this active and exciting five-week series, kids get hands-on experience with a different sport each week. Each session (basketball, soccer, kickball, flag football and volleyball) is led by experienced instructors in a fun, supportive environment. No prior experience needed.

Youth Chess Club

Tuesdays in July, 4:45-5:30 p.m.
Ages 6-10, \$5 per child
This four-week chess program introduces young players to the basics of chess through interactive lessons and guided play. Designed for beginners - no experience needed, just a readiness to learn and play.

Drama Club

Wednesdays, July 1-29, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Ages 8-12, \$10 per child
Come hang out with us as we explore and try new things in the world of theater and drama! Each week, we will have different challenges and games that we will use to learn new theater-related skills. We will have fun and be creative while working on confidence and making new friends!

Reading is Cool Club

Thursdays, Sept. 3-Oct. 1, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Ages 9-13, \$15 per child
Come join us at our kids' book club! We will have two age groups, but everyone meets on the same day and at the same time. Books (which will be provided) will be read and discussed each week with their age group.

Under the Sea Day!

Saturday, Aug. 8; 3-5 p.m.
All ages; \$4 per person
Come Celebrate National Marine Week with us at us under the sea themed event! We will have snacks, crafts, and activities!

Sunny Steps Dance Class

Wednesdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Ages 6-10; \$7 per child
Sunny Steps is a fun dance class for ages 6-10. Kids learn basic dance skills, rhythm, and simple dance routines in a positive environment. Goals will be to build confidence, coordination and creativity.

Math and Arts

Thursdays, July 16-Aug. 6; 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Ages 8-12; \$30 for 4 classes
Youth explore the intersection of math and art via geometric shapes, repeating patterns and symmetry. In four sessions, there will be story time, math games, crafts, coloring activities and origami with a focus on identifying how geometry shows up in everyday life.

How to Start Your Own Business (for Kids)

Wednesday, July 1; 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Ages 8-16; \$12 per child
Kids learn how to identify a profitable business idea, know their competition, understanding their customers, determining startup costs and more. Sessions involve writing, math and role-playing to give students the experience of being their own boss.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Independence Day Parade

Saturday, July 4, beginning at 9:30 a.m.
(See Summer fun returns to Farragut on page 1 for more info)

Party in the Park

McFee Park Splash Pad
Friday, July 24; 6-8 p.m.
(See Party in the Park on page 1 for more info)

Just Dance Glow-in-the-Dark Dance Party

Friday, August 14; 4-9 p.m.
All ages; \$2 per person
Join us for a glow-in-the-dark dance party! We will have music and videos playing from the popular game Just Dance! Follow along or do your own thing. Light refreshments, glow sticks, black lights and glow-in-the-dark face paint are part of the fun.

Fun with Farragut's Fleet

Mayor Bob Leonard Park
Saturday, Aug. 22; 8:30-11 a.m.
(See Summer fun returns to Farragut on page 1 for more info)

Art Fest

Saturday, Sept. 12; 9-11 a.m.
(See Summer fun returns to Farragut on page 1 for more info)

Family Campout

McFee Park
Friday, Sept. 18-Saturday, Sept. 19
All ages; \$30 per family (up to four people) and \$10 per additional family members
Sleep under the stars with Farragut Parks & Recreation! Check in begins at 4 p.m. on Friday and check out is by 10 a.m. on Saturday. Activities include family games, a campfire, crafts and more! Dinner and breakfast are included. Families must supply their own tent and sleeping bags. Registration is required at townoffarragut.org/register.

Meet me at the Museum

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

- History Hour is the Farragut Museum's speaker series. On June 23, the guest speaker will be author, radio host and history professor Tim Holder on the nation's first six presidents. The event is 11 a.m. at Farragut Town Hall.
- A new temporary exhibit, "Cornerstones of Community," features the history of churches in Farragut. Artifacts include an 1887 pulpit from Virtue Cumberland Presbyterian Church,

an 1877 Bible from Concord Methodist Church, holy water from St. John Neumann Catholic Church and the original 1977 charter of Faith Lutheran Church. The exhibit is open through Sept. 1.

- The Farragut Museum Committee will celebrate the nation's 250th birthday with a birthday cake float in this year's Independence Day Parade! Don't miss it!
- The Town will participate in the national reading of the Declaration of Independence at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, July 8, at Farragut Memorial Plaza at

Town Hall. Refreshments will be served as we also celebrate Admiral Farragut's July 5th birthday.

- A History Tour of Farragut is planned for Thursday, Aug. 20, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Stops include the Museum, Farragut Memorial Plaza, Campbell Station Inn, Founders Park, Pleasant Forest Cemetery and Virtue Road Veterans Memorial Plaza. The tour is free, but space is limited. Email museum@townoffarragut.org to reserve your spot.

See MUSEUM on Page 4

Parks & Recreation

Farragut summer adult volleyball leagues

Registration for summer co-ed adult volleyball leagues has an absolute deadline of Wednesday, June 25. The cost is \$180 per team for recreation and intermediate leagues, and \$120 per team for intermediate fours league. Payment must be received at the time of registration.

The summer session consists of seven regular-season matches plus a post-season double elimination tournament for all levels of play. All leagues are played in the evenings at Mayor Bob Leonard Park on Watt Road.

- Recreational leagues (six players)

- o Monday evenings beginning June 29. Each team must play with at least two women on the court at all times.

- Intermediate league (four players) – This league is for players who are developing their competitive game, have indoor experience and are making strides toward their beach game, such as ex-high school players.

- o Wednesday evenings beginning July 1. Each team must



play with at least two women on the court at all times.

- Intermediate league (six players) – This league is for players who are developing their competitive game, have indoor experience and are making

strides toward their beach game, such as ex-high school players.

- o Thursday evenings beginning July 2. Each team must play with at least two women on the court at all times.

For more information and to

register for adult athletic leagues, please call the Farragut Parks & Recreation office at 865-218-3376, register online at townoffarragut.org/register or visit the Parks & Rec office at the Farragut Community Center.



If you lost it, we might've found it

If you forgot an item at a Town of Farragut park or facility, don't lose hope. We might have found it.

Park staff retain items found at parks and the Farragut Community Center. Call 865-218-3376 to see if your item has been located. We can also make note of your missing item and be on the lookout for it.

Please note that all unclaimed items are donated every two months.

Independence Day Parade



Parade road closure

Due to the Independence Day Parade, Kingston Pike from Lendon Welch Way to Federal Boulevard will be closed from 8:30 a.m. to approximately noon on Saturday, July 4.

Detours: north side - Campbell Station Road to Grigsby Chapel Road to Smith Road to Kingston Pike (going west)

or Campbell Station Road to Parkside Drive to Lovell Road (going east) and south side - Concord Road to Turkey Creek Road to Virtue Road to Kingston Pike.

For more information about the parade, please call 865-218-3376 or visit townoffarragut.org/townevents.

Independence Day Parade participant rules

The Town of Farragut's Independence Day Parade starts at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 4, and parade participants are required to follow these guidelines:

- Parade participants should arrive at Farragut High School no later than 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 4. Access to the high school is available from Campbell Station Road, West End Boulevard and Lendon Welch Way (the road next to the stadiums).

- Only parade vehicles will be allowed to enter the parade line-up area. Older children and adults may be dropped off on the circle drive or on the drive to the Farragut Middle School. Those participating in the parade or those with small children will need to park in the circle parking lot at the high school or the parking lot at the middle school. Parade line-up numbers will be available at townoffarragut.org/townevents and posted on the Farragut Community Center front door by 8

a.m. on Thursday, July 2. Line-up numbers will not be available by phone.

- Antique car participants: Plan on arriving at the high school before 8 a.m. to avoid long lines and overheating your car. There is no special entrance or accommodation for antique cars, so please arrive early.

- Large floats may be taken to the line-up area at the junior lot at Farragut High School any time after 5 p.m. on Friday, July 3. A guard will be on duty from 5 p.m. until the parade on July 4.

- Giveaways: No candy or giveaways may be thrown from floats or cars. Walkers may distribute these and other free items along the side of the road during the parade. Children younger than 9 must ride (not walk) during the parade.

- All parade participants must be picked up at the Farragut Towne Square parking lot (former Ingles shopping center).

Community Center Corner

The Farragut Community Center has several new programs this season that give kids and families more ways to stay active.

Our Youth Dodgeball Tournament, for ages 8-12, is 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16, in the Farragut Community Center gym. The tournament features a double-elimination format focused on teamwork, friendly competition and fun for all skill levels. Registration is \$10 per team and all equipment is provided.

Adults will enjoy the new indoor Lunchtime Walk Club in the gym from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

on Wednesdays through July 29. This is a great way to stay moving and connect with others in an air-conditioned environment. For younger participants, Youth Free Play provides gym time packed with games and activities for ages 4-12. The program is 4-5 p.m. on Mondays and from 5-6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays through July 28, and the cost is \$2 per child.

With programs for kids, families, and adults, the Community Center is a great place for patrons to stay active, meet others and get involved in the community!



Tourism Talk

From page 2

features and promotional opportunities.

- Summer and winter events also provide great ways to connect with the community and showcase your business through event sponsorships.

- If you are a new business in town, be sure to reach out to the Visit Farragut team to see if you qualify for a free website listing and the opportunity to be featured on our blog.

To stay connected and take

advantage of these opportunities, contact the tourism team at visitfarragut@townoffarragut.org.

Don't miss these fun events, brought to you by the tourism team!

Red, White & Bluegrass

6-9 p.m. Saturday, June 13, Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza

Join us as we celebrate the U.S. Semiquincentennial with an evening of bluegrass, food and summer fun! Bring your lawn chair or blanket and head to Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza, just outside the historic Camp-

bell Station Inn, for a laid-back night of great music and community fun.

Enjoy live performances by the Breadlosers, Brand New Box of Matches and the True Blue Band, along with a variety of local food trucks serving up delicious eats. Whether you're a long-time bluegrass fan or simply looking for a fun way to kick off the season, this is the perfect way to celebrate summer in Farragut.

Yacht Rock Concert

6-8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15, Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza

Get ready for an evening of smooth sailing! Visit Farragut is hosting a second summer concert this year in celebration of America 250, and it's all yacht rock. Sail away with us while enjoying live music, games and good vibes. Visit Farragut will announce the lineup in June, so stay tuned.

For more information about these events: VisitFarragut.org. For all things #FunInFarragut, follow Visit Farragut on Facebook and Instagram.

Party in Park

From page 1

bellies full and energy high!

In addition to enjoying the splash pad and McFee Park playground, partygoers have the opportunity to participate in a large-scale water ball fight and water obstacle course. Swimsuits are encouraged!

For questions regarding this event, please contact recreation and event manager Rachel Malone at rmalone@townoffarragut.org.

Museum

From page 3

- The Museum will partner with other local historical

sites and museums for the annual Movies at the Museums. The Museum will show "Herbie Fully Loaded" (written by Farragut High School alum

Ben Garant) in the field behind the BlueCross Healthy Place at Town Hall on Friday, Sept. 18.

The Museum is always seek-

ing volunteers to serve as docents. Museum hours are 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Remember to follow the Far-

ragut Museum on Facebook and Instagram for the most up-to-date information and special events!