

REALTY



Dog Daze splashing in for 10th year

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

Next weekend, a beloved end-of-summer tradition will bring plenty of barking and splashing to the Village Green parking lot.

Dog Daze, presented by First Century Bank and the Town of Farragut, will take place Friday, Aug. 21, to Sunday, Aug. 23, in the parking lot stretching from Planet Fitness to Hallmark.

The event is put on by Shop Farragut/Farragut Business Alliance (FBA), which prepares well in advance each year.

"I think it's going to be one of the biggest Dog Daze we have ever had," Shop Farragut/FBA executive director Ashley Lynch said.

Currently, the list of vendors and sponsors exceeds 50.

Since Lynch was named the executive director in April 2026, she has learned the ropes in a hurry while preparing for the big weekend.

"It's a definite learning curve, but it's okay," she said. "I've done events here at the Pinnacle for years, so that helps me adjust, adapt and punt for whatever is needed. It's taken a couple months to get my feet wet, but I think I've got a pretty good handle on it right now."

This year's event will include Dock Dogs competitions, local vendors, live music, food trucks and plenty of dog-friendly activities.

Lynch noted there will be a trolley system picking up attendees at a designated area and dropping them off for the event, making more space for the dogs and their owners around the competi-

tion area.

"It will help a lot," she said. "There won't be an overcrowd of cars."

That Friday, Aug. 21, will feature qualifying with Duel 1 and Duel 2 with dueling dogs finals at 6:30 p.m.

The next day, Aug. 22, the Big Air Wave 1 will start at 10 a.m. with the Big Air Wave 2 at noon, the Big Air Wave 3 at 2 p.m. and the speed retrieve competition at 4 p.m.

The final day, Aug. 23, will be even more enticing.

"Another fun, full day of competitions between the dogs, and the finals will be that afternoon starting at 3 p.m.," Lynch said.

She noted DockDogs handles the booking while Lynch has prepared in a multitude of ways.

"We're working on kids zones and splash pads," she said, "and we want to have items to keep dogs cool, making it more comfortable for owners and dogs since it's always hot in August."

Our first day ...



Top left: Tyler and Alyssa Hill with sons, first-grader Oliver and pre-kindergarten Tripp.

Top right: First-grader Emma Thomas and dad, Phil Thomas.

Above right: MaryBeth Buckshorn with son first-grader Liam Buckshorn.

Left: Tamborino family, Jenna and Andy with first-grader Emmy and sister, sixth-grader Sophia.



Photos Tammy Cheek

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SHOP FARRAGUT PRESENTS DOG DAZE+

Cain
From page 1A

Ward, and I'm gong to have to replace myself in my alderman seat, so we're going to have a super majority of conservative values and people first for at least the next two years.

"We're going to hit the ground running Aug. 27," he said.

As a new alderman, Ruffalo said, "I feel honored and privileged to be able to serve the Town of Farragut for the next four years.

"It's the place [his wife Bettina and he] chose to be our home, chose to be involved in and chose to serve any way we could," he said. "I'm super excited about the possibilities of the next four years."

Looking back at his campaign, "I would be remiss if, first and foremost, I didn't thank my wife for giving me the opportunity to be able to pursue this and to back me 100%, and, of course, everybody who came out and voted for me, people I met at the doors ... rallied behind me," Ruffalo said.

Going into the alderman seat, he said, "We talked about a lot of stuff on the campaign trail, as far as development, supporting small business and the tax issue.

However first, Ruffalo said he plans to work on the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, working with a steering committee and how that plan will shape the Town for

next 20 years.

"Our fingerprints are going to be all over this plan," he said. "It's going to be implemented under our new administration, so how we guide this and how we navigate this is our first monumental task."

The Comprehensive Land Use Plan then will guide building, development and everything for the next 20 years, Ruffalo added.

"We're happy that we won because a lot of the values and the policies we were trying to promote during the campaign apparently a lot of people agreed with, so that was satisfying," Wiberley said.

About the results, "I was probably surprised that Alex, Joey and I won," he said. "I think that was unexpected by everybody."

After being sworn in on Aug. 27, Wiberley will be looking at meeting rules and the appointment of a new North Ward alderman to replace Cain.

"I think one of the reasons that we won the election is I had a very talented campaign team," he said. "Each of them knew their responsibilities and each of them applied their talents as appropriate.

"That same team is part of my transition team, so we are now in the process of going over ideas on how to hit the ground running," Wiberley said. "Obviously, the first task at hand is to publicize and solicit resumes for a new North Ward alderman.

"We also feel like the meeting laws need some adjustment so people feel more welcome and have a better opportunity to express themselves and there's a more friendly discussion about any concerns they have," he said.

Wiberley also seeks to put to rest concerns about eminent domain, as well as address residents' concerns about the Campbell Station and Kingston Pike intersection, noise control and traffic.

Photo submitted
Newly elected Farragut Alderman Joey Ruffalo, left, and Farragut Mayor-Elect Alex Cain enjoy some laughter once the election results were announced Thursday night, Aug. 6.

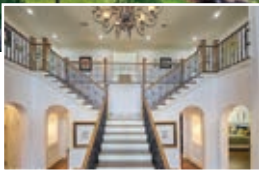


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Sticker

From page 1A

“kind of iconic, too.”

The more important aspect, though, came from her willingness to fulfill her civic duty in the first place, even if she was scared to do so.

“It’s exciting,” Darlene Prowell said of her daughter’s accomplishment. “I’m really happy she was able to get out and vote. And I told her this is good practice for two years from now when she goes to vote again. Now she knows the process and everything.”



Darlene Prowell, left, and her daughter Alexis cast their ballots on Election Day last Thursday, Aug. 6. Alexis Prowell credited her mother for getting her out of bed that morning to fulfill her civic duty as a first-time voter.

Jake Nichols

presstalk

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

Thank you, Mayor, for your recent Farragut taxes letter to the editor. It is refreshing for all of us to get the facts in place of the usual blah blah blah politician talk. And note to those politicians running for office, stop running down the competition without ever telling us what you plan to do. Thank you.

Aldermen

From page 1A

completed run through the election cycle.

“It was a close race,” Ruffalo said on Friday, Aug. 7, after his victory had gone final. “My opponent, Dian, it was great to get to know her in this process. She’s a fantastic person, and I hope she stays involved with the Town. For us, we ran a great campaign, both very civil. And she even came to bat a few times when people posted things that weren’t true, calling me and telling me she told them to take it down.”

In the South Ward 2 race, Greg Wiberley won by a similarly small margin over Joe LaCroix, earning 1,516 votes for 51.79 percent to LaCroix’s 1,411 votes for a total of 48.21 percent.

“When voting was going on, Joe LaCroix and I met on Thursday, and he was gracious enough to thank me for running a clean campaign,” Wiberley said.

Each winner’s background brought plenty of lessons throughout the campaign.

Ruffalo noted “perseverance and persistence” proved key through his run, especially since the same issues that pulled him out in 2024 resurfaced this time.

“When we moved here, I tried two years ago to run,” he explained. “I turned in my petition and withdrew before the deadline, as my wife had to undergo surgery and it wasn’t the right time.”

“So I supported (mayor-elect and former North Ward alderman) Alex Cain, and when this opportunity came around this time, I decided to run again and give it a shot. In the middle of this process, we found out my wife needed another surgery. So she said, ‘You bet-

ter win because I’m not having a surgery every two years. I’d rather have it every four years.’

“Where we lived previously, there was not an opportunity to be involved or make a difference,” he added. “When we moved, we knew that we wanted to serve that community to the best of our ability. And this is how I knew how to serve people — to be a listener and a conduit for people.”

Aside from his newfound political office, Ruffalo is a financial professional, author and podcast and radio host who offers advice through his network, The Prosperity Lounge.

Throughout the campaign, he found himself on the other side of the microphone.

“Being on the other side, I have to think, ‘Oh, this is what it feels like,’” he said. “So that has really helped me grow as a person in the community and what I do professionally.”

Wiberley, a well-known youth coach in the area, brings plenty of lessons from his own career into this job, too.

“The same values I brought to coaching, I brought to the campaign: play fair, play nice, you win, you win, and if you lose, you lose,” he said. “I’ve been a project manager most of my life, and you use some of those same skills in coaching. You have to get along with all sorts of people and you certainly have to mentor people. You don’t criticize them, just build them up to be the best they can be, and I think the campaign reflected that.”

Wiberley noted his political involvement stemmed from an altercation with the Town, beginning with a zoning issue.

“I needed to get involved because it initially started with what the Town tried to do to me,” he said. “They tried to change my zoning without telling me, then sent me a letter of



Joey Ruffalo photo submitted; Greg Wiberley photo by Jake Nichols

Farragut’s two new aldermen, Greg Wiberley (left) and Joey Ruffalo (right) bring new perspectives to the job, as each man finished his first full political campaign with a victory in the election last Thursday, Aug. 6.

eminent domain to take part of our property for a greenway. It’s just been a constant battle with them for four or five years, and as my problems developed, I was in contact with other people in Farragut going through the same thing.

“I thought, ‘This isn’t right,’ and a lot of people felt defenseless. So I rallied to their cause, as well as mine. It seemed a natural extension that I could do more in the Town of Farra-

gut administration than trying to fight it.”

Ruffalo called the one-for-one aspect “humbling,” noting he has “always been politically-minded, putting service above self and wondering how I could give back to my community and help others.”

Wiberley cited a similar willingness to give back, referencing the issues that brought him to this point in the first place.

“It’s really not about me. It’s about the causes I represent,” he said. “I’m not doing handstands for myself; I’m very happy for the people who got behind me. We started out as a group of maybe four or five, and from there, it blossomed into a very effective campaign team that’s now a transition team. I think the same structure that we brought to the campaign, we’ll bring to administering the Town.”



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Editorial Department

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

Jake Nichols,
Writer 865-218-8880
jnichols@farragutpress.com

Production Department

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

Cindy Wilfert,
Designer 865-218-8872

Circulation

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

Advertising Department

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

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

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

Receptionist

Terrie Ware 865-218-8871
Monday – Wednesday, Friday
receptionist@farragutpress.com



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Publisher

Tony Cox 865-218-8883
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Editor email: editor@farragutpress.com **Website:** www.farragutpress.com
Press Talk: Call: 865-671-8255 **or email:** editor@farragutpress.com **Phone:** 865-675-6397

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Presstalk rules: Keep calls to a 90-second maximum · e-mails to 250 words maximum · Libelous & malicious comments will not be published; profanity will be edited out · Comments will remain anonymous but must come from verifiable phone/email · Names of individuals (including public figures) will not be published

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General Manager

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

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Tammy Cheek

Ken and Kierceton Medley (with scissors), owners of Big Frog T-Shirts & More, cut the ribbon during a Chamber-sponsored ribbon cutting at the store, 10670 Parkside Drive, Wednesday, July 22. They are joined by Aiden Keps (to Ken’s left); staff Katie Pokelwaldt (front row, third from left) and Eli Baker (behind Aiden); and Knox County finance director Chris Caldwell (sixth from right).

Big Frog, big community

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Ken and Kierceton Medley, owners of Big Frog T-Shirts & More, are customizing apparel and more to individualize for the customers.

“We are really proud to have Ken and Kierceton as part of our business community and also part of our greater community,” Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce president/CEO Julie Blaylock said as she welcomed the business as new members of the Chamber during a ribbon cutting at the store, 10670 Parkside Drive, Wednesday, July 22.

“We are eternally grateful to be part of such a wonderful, supportive community,” Ken said. “This is new for us. We opened in mid-December [2025].

“When we were deciding to open this business, we both empathized how important it was to be active in the community and support others,” he said. “That means a lot to us, and it always will. We really value that.

“We always intend to stay involved in the community,” Ken said. At Big Frog, “we strive to be Knoxville’s go-to resource for corporate-branded merchandise, custom apparel and swag.

“Our main competitive advantages we have are, first and foremost, no minimums,” he said. “If you want one shirt

decorated, we can do that.

“We have fast turnarounds, and we offer complimentary 15-minute design services with one of our great graphic designers, Katie [Pokelwaldt] and Eli [Baker],” Ken added.

Dealing with apparel merchandise is not new to Ken, who had spent more than 30 years in the fashion industry in Manhattan, New York.

“This comes a little bit natural to me,” Ken said.

However, before moving North, he was born and raised in East Tennessee and graduated from a University of Tennessee. The Medleys moved back to Knoxville five years ago.

Kierceton’s background in the fitness industry for almost 30 years gave her the opportunity to “be socialable and go out into the community.”

After retiring, the couple decided to do something together.

“This is what we decided to do,” Kierceton said.

While looking into Big Frog, Blaylock said, “I was really, really impressed with the fact that the co-founder and president of the entire [Big Frog] franchise said you guys were exactly the embodiment of character and care and community investment that they like to see when they allow to have franchises.

“I just thought that was really impressive because you don’t see that,” she said.

Networking



Tammy Cheek

Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce ambassadors, Charlotte Jensen, left, with Bowen Door Service, and Amy Shewmake, owner of Simply Magical Vacations by Amy, checks in Joe Perrock, Premier Event Services, at the Chamber’s networking hosted by Topgolf, 11400 Outlet Drive, Thursday, July 9.

The boy who met Reggie White



Tammy Cheek

University of Tennessee “Voice of the Vols” announcer Mike Keith shared the inspiration for this career.

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

“Today really is a full-circle moment,” University of Tennessee play-by-play “Voice of the Vols” announcer Mike Keith told Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members and guests at the Chamber’s Speaker Series in Jewelry Television, 9600 Parkside Drive, Tuesday morning, Aug. 4.

“Today is what they call Media Day at the University of Tennessee,” he said. “All the media will come over, they will get interviewed with the head coach Josh Heupel and they will go to the stadium and everyone will take pictures of the team.”

For Keith, the event evokes a memory of his youth when in 1980 he was 12 and was invited to be a runner at Media Day.

“That was, back in the day, when they had stations and [runners] would guide players from station to station to station,” he said. “I came over. I was all fired up about doing it, and they said ‘we’re going to assign you to a player and you are going to take him around from station to station to station. [The player is] a freshman; he’s a big deal; he’s a very big individual, so you’re going to have to tell him [to which media station he will go] ... you’re coming with me.’

“That freshman’s name was Reggie White,” Keith said. At that time, White was 6 feet, 5 inches, 235 pounds.

“He would grow to be 335 pounds later and he would become the minister of defense, Hall of Fame player, one of the greatest in Tennessee history,” Keith said of White.

While playing four years with the Vols, White collected a school record 32 sacks and established himself as the most prolific pass rusher in Tennessee history.

“That’s a great memory for me,” Keith said. “Forty-six years later, Media Day will look different for me because my great highlight of that 1980 Media Day was hanging out with Reggie White, seeing the players, meeting coach [Johnny] Majors, but my real highlight was meeting John Ward because, for me, John Ward was the biggest star.”

A play-by-play sportscaster, Ward was the “Voice of the Vols” from 1965 until 1999.

“[Ward] was my introduction, in so many ways, to Tennessee football,” Keith said. He remembered going to the games, but, he said, “The way I really followed the team was through the Vols radio network in whatever city we were living in at the time.

“Listening to John tell the stories, getting interested in radio, understanding ... the games were not on television,” he said. “The games did not get to be on television, on a regular basis, until Reggie White’s senior year, when Turner Broadcasting System started carrying Saturday night SEC football.

“That was the year Reggie White had the famous game against LSU, where he had, like, nine sacks or something crazy and became a nationwide phenomenon,” Keith recalled. “So, John Ward was that sort of connection. My build still comes directly from that [connection].”

Part of the proceeds from the speaker series benefitted Emerald Youth Foundation, with which Keith, a Knoxville native, has a history.

businessbriefs

- Priority Ambulance recently announced the appointment of Reginald James as regional president. With more than four decades of EMS leadership spanning frontline clinical care through executive operations, James will focus on leading Priority’s continued growth and standardization of behavioral health transport, expanding access to safe, timely and appropriate care for patients and communities nationwide.
- James brings more than 40 years of emergency medical services experience, having served as an EMT, cardiac technician, paramedic, field training officer, supervisor, manager, director and executive. Most recently, he served as a senior executive with one of the country’s most innovative EMS providers with a focus on mobile integrated healthcare and community paramedicine.
- University of Tennessee Medical has received a \$7 million nonrecurring state appropriation to support its pursuit of National Cancer Institute designation, a critical step toward expanding access to advanced cancer care, research and prevention efforts across Tennessee.
- The funding, appropriated through the Tennessee General Assembly to the Department of Health for a grant to UT Medical, represents a major investment in addressing one of the state’s most urgent health challenges.
- Young-Williams Animal Center recently hired Benny Carringer as vice president of advancement and marketing and Sarah Kaplan as marketing manager.
- Carringer is committed to community outreach and creating meaningful impact. He previously spent more than 15 years as nonprofit executive director with the Salvation Army with experience in public engagement, donor relationships and retention, budget management, strategic planning and grant writing.
- Kaplan previously spent five years as marketing manager for Knoxville Museum of Art and has expertise in brand strategy and management, strategic planning, content creation and community engagement.

Farragut High School dance camp

Farragut High School dancers led campers in different routines during their annual summer dance camp Monday through Wednesday, July 20-22, at FHS.

Photos by Jake Nichols



Farragut dance camper Lily Patrick leaps through a routine during the final day of camp.



FHS dancer Audrey McCaleb smiles with young Hadley during the Farragut dance camp.



Young Charley listens intently.



From left to right: Ensley Colston, Kennedy McCulley, Natalie Leep and Brooklynn Leep.



A young dancer goes through her routine during Farragut's annual summer camp.



FHS dancer Lydia Finnegan instructs young dancers on the floor.

First day at Farragut Primary School

First- through second-graders headed back to school at FPS Monday morning, Aug. 10. (See more Back to School photos on pages 1A and 2A.)

Photos by Tammy Cheek



Donghwan Yoon and Jin Yi Seo with first-grade son, Dowoon Yoon



Greeters Jake "Papa" Kreis, left, and Ron "Mr. Top" Clemmer



Brett Biggar and daughter Maya, a first-grader



Chiara Hampton and daughter, second-grader Carolina Hampton



Jennifer Miller with son, second-grader Bennett



So Won Jeng (front) and Dong Wook Lee (back) with son, first-grader Sean Lee



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Carlos Reveiz/crfoto.com

The 2026 Farragut High School girls soccer team is eager to begin a new season.

Driven to return

Lady Admirals look to bounce back in 2026

Ken Lay
Correspondent

The 2026 soccer season soon will begin for the Farragut High School Lady Admirals, and when it does, Farragut will be looking to bounce back from a bitter ending to the 2025 campaign.

The Lady Admirals saw the season come to a screeching halt with a loss to Knoxville West in the District 4-AAA Tournament semifinals as their comeback effort came up short at Bill Wilson Field.

“If you asked me, that would be the one game that I would like to have back,” said Farragut coach Jessica Stephens Burkhart, who begins her fourth year as head coach at her alma mater. “I think that was a game where the players felt like they earned more than they got.”

“And I think that game has been a motivating force for us. They took that

loss hard.”

The Lady Admirals, who finished third in the district’s regular-season standings, will kick off the 2026 campaign with a match against Powell on Tuesday, Aug. 18, at the Farragut Soccer Stadium, with kickoff slated for 7 p.m.

Expectations are high at FHS, but the Lady Ads play in the toughest league in the state as their district schedule includes foes such as Bearden (which has won four of the last five Class AAA state championships), West (which reached the state sectionals last season); Hardin Valley Academy and Maryville, both of whom share lofty aspirations. Lenoir City and William Blount also will look to play the role of spoiler this season.

“Our expectation is to be in the top tier of our district by the end of the sea-

See **DRIVEN** on Page 2B

Admirals find rhythm against Rebels

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

Brenton Haag emerged from a pile, strolling through the navy turf of the east end zone at Eddie Courtney Stadium.

When the junior tailback turned around, quarterback Hayes Sharp was there to greet him.

The pair celebrated Haag’s one-yard touch-down run, which followed a gritty 60-yard drive that included a 4th-and-8 conversion by tailback Carter Collier.

“Those,” said head coach Geoff Courtney, “are winning plays. That was big, to see our guys finish and impose their will.”

That moment stood



Jake Nichols

Farragut defensive lineman Thatcher Cherry (55) knocks the ball loose from the West quarterback during a scrimmage on Friday, Aug. 7, at FHS.

out among several in Farragut’s second preseason scrimmage last Friday, Aug. 7, against the West

See **RHYTHM** on Page 3B



Jeremy Wiggs/Jeremy Wiggs Photography

Plenty of experience returns this year for Hardin Valley Lady Hawks soccer team.

Ready to break through

HVA eager to take on district challenge

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

For the Hardin Valley Lady Hawks, their first goal is both simple and complex: to survive the gauntlet that is District 4-3A.

With teams such as Bearden, Farragut and West in the same district, HVA has not cracked the region tournament since 2022.

The Lady Hawks will be looking to change that this year, as they return

plenty of experience from a team that went 13-5-2 with a district semifinal loss to Bearden in 2025.

“I think we’re really excited this year,” assistant coach Mandy Marshall said. “We’re returning quite a few starting varsity players, and we’ve got four freshmen on varsity that can make a huge impact.”

“Obviously the goal is making it out of our district. We play in the toughest district, I think,

and none of these girls have experienced that. So that’s our first goal, to get over that hump.”

The starting lineup will feature mostly new faces, as HVA lost only three starters to graduation last year.

Leading an eight-person senior class will be Anna Ogle and Marely Ortega.

Ogle, an East Tennessee State commit, will resume her role as a

See **READY** on Page 3B

Young Dawgs face early test

Ken Lay
Correspondent

The Bearden High School girls soccer team is in the final stages of preparation for the upcoming 2026 season.

The Lady Bulldogs will open the new campaign and defense of their Class AAA state championship with a tough road game against Oak Ridge on Thursday, Aug. 20. There, they’ll look to avenge one of their 2025 losses.

Kickoff between Bearden and the Lady Wildcats is slated for 7 p.m.

Bearden will be significantly younger on the pitch than it has been in past seasons as a talented crop of freshmen enters the fray but coach Ryan Radcliffe, who enters his 13th season at the helm for the Lady Bulldogs, isn’t going to let the team use its youth as a crutch.

“We play Oak Ridge and that’s a tough game to start and then we go

to Memphis where we’re going to play Houston and Collierville, so I’m not giving them time to get their feet under them,” Radcliffe said.

And he just can’t afford to.

Bearden traditionally plays one of the area’s most difficult schedules, including a District 4-AAA slate that features some of the Volunteer State’s heaviest hitters.

Once they begin

See **FACES** on Page 3B

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Submitted

The 2026 Bearden Lady Bulldogs volleyball team.

Lady Bulldogs rely on youth, chemistry this season

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

This season, Kaitlyn Davidson will watch a new group of Bearden volleyball players take the court. When they do, there will be a noticeable difference from years' past. But there will be similar traits to the other BHS teams Davidson has coached, too. This will be the youngest team she has led at Bearden, as 21 of the 27 players are underclassmen. The Lady Dawgs will feature just four seniors and two juniors, giving Davidson plenty of youth this season. "We're pretty young," she said. "We lost a lot of key players, and our seniors were a big part of our success last year. But I want them to go compete, no matter the age or size. I want them to take that mentality, and we've shown that this summer. They don't let their age or experience determine how they will play on

Driven
From page 1B

son," Burkhardt said. "But our district, it's not for the faint of heart. It's the toughest across the state, and it doesn't get any easier, that's for sure. I coach with some of the best coaches in the state. We want in a position where we can control our own destiny. "All the teams in our district have set a standard and Bearden has carried that standard lately." Farragut will look to play team soccer this season. "This team is not selfish,"

the court." The Lady Bulldogs will combine that approach with some returning experience, starting with returning middle hitter Lyla Sutton. "She played a big part for us last year," Davidson said. Fellow senior Addy Mahan will play outside, and transfer Gracie Scotto brings in more outside experience. Freshman Maci Aylor will play a big part of the BHS defense, while sophomore Camila Gil will take up the Libero spot with Karis McGaha available as a setter and swinger. "She is a well-rounded player who the team depends on quite a bit, so I am really excited to see our sophomore class," Davidson said of her team, which begins its 2026 season on Monday, Aug. 17, against Gibbs. "I think we will have a successful season. We are not the powerhouse we have been, but the scrappiness and chemistry will carry us."

Burkhardt said. Top returners for the Lady Admirals include: Ada Baker (senior, forward); Carina Plowchan (senior, midfielder); Ava Upshaw (junior, forward); Meghan Schimmeal (sophomore, forward); Emery Wylie (sophomore, goalkeeper); Leana Maier (junior, defender); Reagan Louchart (junior, defender) and Makena Bishop (junior, defender). Freshmen Emma Kate Smith (forward/midfielder/defender) and Oliveah Love (midfielder) will begin their high school careers and be impact players this season.

HVA motivated for 2026 slate



Jeremy Wiggs/Jeremy Wiggs Photography

2026 Hardin Valley volleyball team.

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

Last season, the Hardin Valley volleyball team came up just short of a region berth. Coming into the 2026 season, that loss brings plenty of motivation. "With having such a veteran group, that's definitely been in the back of their minds — what that feeling is and that we don't want that to be how we feel again at the end of this year," head coach Eric Boden said. "We want to push for region, sub-state and state. It's definitely a motivator for the group we have coming back." The Lady Hawks return four varsity starters this year, having only lost two to graduation. "We've seen really good development in our gym in terms of people stepping and filling the roles they need to," Boden said. "It's a dog fight in our district, so that's what we're preparing for, to duke it out and

get us where we need to be." Several players will lead that charge, including multiple accolade-earning standouts who return from last year's squad. Caroline Clauss returns as a senior setter, having earned second-team All-District last season. Madelyn Jerrell brings similar experience as a junior middle blocker. She earned Sophomore of the Year last season and was named first-team All-District in her second year with the program. "To return her is really exciting," Boden said of Jerrell. "She's taking on a bigger role of leading more." Lilly Ringle comes back as a junior libero, as Boden noted she has "grown exponentially in that role." "And this year, we think she's gotten even better," he said. Ringle is one part of a strong HVA defense, which fuels the

Hawks in every match. Parker Lamb also returns after a strong newcomer season, being named Freshman of the Year in their district. "To have her back after that freshman experience has been critical, so we are excited to see that come to fruition this year," Boden said. Sara Dean is expected to log plenty of varsity minutes this season as well, as she put together a strong rookie campaign. Now, Boden hopes all those pieces will coalesce for a season that begins Monday, Aug. 17, against Clinton. "We've had some people step up, so we have some freshmen from last year playing significant roles," he said. "That's exciting for the development of the program. To see them step up and play that role is a testament to what our team is doing in the gym and how hard they're working."

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Photo submitted

Big Kahuna Wings set for 13th festival

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

Matt Beeler grew up on Big Kahuna seasoning. He always appreciated his family's secret recipe, which had been passed down from the 1960's until it was served on wings at a family deli for the first time in 1982. In 1997, Beeler opened a Big Kahuna Wings take-out spot near the University of Tennessee, and the rest is history. Today, the brand boasts three locations, including one in Farragut. Aside from the restaurants themselves; though, one of Big Kahuna's biggest calling cards has become an annual festival that began in 2013. Much like the original business, the festival has expanded

through the years. What began as a small wing festival to raise money for charity has boomed into a competition involving more than 30 teams, more than 150,000 wings cooked and plenty of other entertainment and food options — including an explosive fireworks display to end the night. This year, the festival will write its 13th chapter on Sunday, Sept. 6, as it officially has become known as the Covenant Health Big Kahuna Labor Day Festival. The date has also made it synonymous with the start of Tennessee football season, bringing in more people each year. Beeler thanked Covenant

See BIG KAHUNA on Page 6B

Youngsters learn acting skills at FHS Drama Camp



Photo submitted

Counselors, from left, Luke Fowler, Summer Wallace, Vivian Abbott, Cam Beeler, Bethany Enders and Colin Parrish.

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

At least 50 youngsters ages 7 to 18 had an opportunity to experience drama firsthand and learn acting skills during Farragut High School's Drama Camp at the school. Tony Wooley, theater teacher who is going into his 10th year at FHS, provides the program to area youngsters to allow up and coming children an opportunity to learn

about drama. The camp teaches musical skills, stage craft, characterization and improvisation throughout the week, which culminated with a performance for family members and friends on Friday, July 31. For FHS students, "it is my greatest pride that I do not charge my high school kids anything to be part of the [theater] program," Wooley said about the theater class. "Lots and lots of organizations have

to pay a ton. "One of the ways we are able to offset those costs is the camp," he said, explaining the camp is a fundraiser for the theater department's projects. For twins, Anne Charlotte and Rea Taylor, now 14, the camp has been a highlight of their summer, their mother Jessica said. "They've been in it for four years," she said. "They love

See DRAMA CAMP on Page 5B

Tributes and Tunes event to honor 9/11 anniversary

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

On Friday, Sept. 11, the United States will mourn on the 25th anniversary of the terrorist attacks that took place on Sept. 11, 2001. The same evening, people across Knoxville and East Tennessee will have a chance to come together at World's Fair Park for a night of remembrance, gratitude and music to mark the anniversary. That night, PHILLIPS will

present Tributes & Tunes: A Benefit Concert for First Responders. The concert will take place that Friday, on the World's Fair Park Performance Lawn with gates set to open at 6 p.m. "Presented by PHILLIPS in partnership with Concerts For Our Own and the City of Knoxville, the event will honor those lost on Sept. 11 while recognizing the firefighters, law enforcement officers, EMS personnel and other first responders who continue to answer

the call throughout East Tennessee," a release on the event stated. "This is an invitation for all of Knoxville to show up," said Aaron Snukals, Chief Happiness Officer of Concerts For Our Own. "We want families, friends, neighbors and first responders gathered together on the lawn — not only to remember what happened 25 years ago, but to express our gratitude to the people who protect and serve our community every day."

"PHILLIPS' role as presenting sponsor gives the evening a meaningful connection to the history that will be remembered that night," the release stated. "The company participated in recovery and cleanup efforts following the Sept. 11 attacks, making its support of the Knoxville commemoration personal and deeply significant." The evening will guide attendees through a series of

See TRIBUTES on Page 6B



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Lynch shares passion for Love Without Reason

Tammy Cheek

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Kimberly Lynch has a passion for the Love Without Reason mission, because she can relate to the children who benefit from the mission.

She shared her story with Rotary Club of Farragut during its meeting in Fox Den Country Club Wednesday, July 22.

As many children around the country, Lynch was born with a unilateral complete cleft palate. She had five surgeries to correct the condition.

She later learned the condition can strike anyone and does not relate to environment.

Love Without Reason is a Tennessee non-profit organization that “exists for two reasons:” to repair cleft palates on children and adults and to fight human trafficking, giving women the skills they need to support themselves, she said.

RCF Past President Jim O’Brien, who introduced Lynch,

a full-time nuclear scheduler and volunteer for various organizations, met her while volunteering at Shangri-La Therapeutic Riding Academy.

“Over the last couple of years, I’ve come to appreciate who she is and what she does,” O’Brien said.

She recently returned from her latest Love Without Reason mission trip to Africa.

Lynch said the LWR group consists of more than 100 medical specialists and thousands of volunteers who have performed 1,400 surgeries since 2007 in India, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Kenya, United States, Nepal and Zambia while more than 300 women have been rescued from sex trafficking in its



Lynch

Project Butterfly program. Additionally, a water wells project was established to provide clean water and provide other innovative solutions.

The organization was founded in Chattanooga by Santosh and Susan Mathews, whose son, Philip, was born with a cleft palate, to “provide life-altering facial surgery to those living in countries with limited access to healthcare resources,” LWR website stated. “After understanding the link between craniofacial differences and human trafficking, they began working with survivors of sex trafficking and learning ways to impact and transform their lives.”

Philip Mathews, the inspiration for Love Without Reason, was born with a cleft lip and palate, about 20 holes in his heart, an absent right ear and eye and missing parts of his brain and doctors could not

See LYNCH on Page 6B



Photo submitted

Red Group Campers (ages 10-11) in a pirate fight.

Drama Camp

From page 4B

it. They’re excited about the dancing part.”

In addition to the opportunity to perform last Friday, the campers each received two free tickets to see FHS’s Dec. 11-13 production of

“Cinderella.”

Attending the show gives the youngsters a chance to see their high school “bigs” mentors do what they do on stage, Wooley said. He also encouraged everyone — young and old — to dress as a fairytale character to get free popcorn at the performance.

Press Planner

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a benefit concert featuring the Ultimate Garth Brooks Tribute with songs like “Friends in Low Places,” “The Dance,” and “The Thunder Rolls.” The concert will be held Friday, Nov. 20, at 8 p.m. at the Knoxville Civic Auditorium. The

purchase of tickets to the show helps to support programs in Knoxville, Knox County and East Tennessee. Visit www.knoxvillefirefighters.com for more information and to purchase tickets.

Send upcoming events for the Press Planner to editor@farragutpress.com

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000 LEGALS



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MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

I) Call to Order	V) Discussion Items
II) Approval of Agenda	A) Discussion on a request to rezone the property at 13117 Harrison Road from Agricultural (A) to Attached Single-Family Residential (R-4), 12.25 Acres (Homestead Land Holdings, LLC., Applicant)
III) Approval of Minutes	VI) Approval of Utilities
A) July 16, 2026, Minutes	VII) Citizens Forum
IV) Action Items	
A) Discussion and public hearing on a request for approval of a site plan for a proposed dental office at 11232 Outlet Drive, One Acre, Zoned OD-RE/E (SITE, Inc., Applicant)	

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000 LEGALS



Farragut Town Hall | 11408 Municipal Center Drive

FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

I. Roll Call, Silent Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance	and Superseding Resolution R-26-09
II. Approval of Agenda	2. Resolution R-26-14, A Resolution Affirming that the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Farragut, Farragut Code of Ordinances, Appendix A - Zoning, Does Not Permit Data Processing Centers
III. Approval of Minutes	VI. Business Items
A. July 23, 2026, Minutes	A. Approval of contract with LDA Engineering Inc. for the design and engineering of Mayor Bob Leonard Park Pathway.
IV. Mayor's Report	B. Approval of Contract with Roadway Management Technologies (RMT) for Roadway Condition Assessment and Pavement Management System
A. Proclamation Honoring the Farragut High School Baseball Team	C. Approval of Professional Services Agreement with Ardurra Group, Inc. for Design of Grigsby Chapel Rd/ St. John Court Intersection Improvements
V. Ordinances & Resolutions	D. Approval of Award of Contract 2026-30 for Biddle Farms Washroom Facilities Build to Skilled Services, LLC.
A. Ordinances	E. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Farragut and the Farragut Business Alliance (dba - Shop Farragut)
1. Second Reading & Public Hearing	VII. Citizens Forum
a. Ordinance 26-13, an ordinance on second reading to amend the Farragut Zoning Map for a portion of the property located at 817 Virtue Road from S-1 (Community Service) and Agricultural (A) to R-1 (Rural Single-Family Residential), 8.55 Acres (Benchmark Associates, Inc., Applicant)	VIII. Town Administrator's Report
b. Approval of Ordinance 26-16, an Ordinance of the Town of Farragut, Tennessee on Second Reading, Amending the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Capital Investment Program Fund Budget, Passed by Ordinance 25-10.	IX. Town Attorney's Report
B. Resolutions	X. Adjournment
1. Resolution R-26-13, A Resolution Approving Guidelines for Records Maintenance and Retention Within the Town of Farragut	

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FARRAGUT TOURISM/VISITOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026 AT 8:30 AM

1) Call to Order and Approval of Minutes	B) Discussion of FY 27 Committee goals
2) Tourism Manager Report	5) Communications from the public
3) Subcommittee Updates	6) Adjournment
4) Other Business	
A) Election of FY 27 Officers	

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Farragut Town Hall | 11408 Municipal Center Drive

FARRAGUT MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2026 AT 1:00 PM

1) Call to Order	C) 2026/2027 Committee Goals
2) Approval of Minutes	4)Discussion Items
3) Business Items	5) Communications From the Public
A) Update on Docents and Volunteers	6) Adjournment
B) Historic Resources Coordinator Update	

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Farragut Town Hall | 11408 Municipal Center Drive

ARTS & BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026 AT 11:30 AM
Farragut Community Center • 239 Jamestown Blvd.

1) Call to Order	A) Art Fest
2) Approval of Minutes	• stations
A) Approval of July 20, 2026 minutes	• sign-ups
3) Business Items	B) Art & Photography Show dates
A) Approval of FY 27 committee goals	C) Spring 2027 Event
4) Discussion Items	5) Communications from the Public
	6) Adjournment

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Tributes
From page 4B

shared experiences, as they move from reflection and recognition to music, fellowship and hope.

Among the key tributes that night will be the 343 Remembrance Wall, where attendees can leave personal messages honoring the 343 firefighters who lost their lives at Ground Zero.

“Guests also will witness the creation of a special Survivor Tree tribute, cut from sheet metal on-site during the event,” per the release. “Inspired by the tree that survived the destruction at the World Trade Center and later became a living symbol of resilience, rebirth and hope, the completed artwork will serve as a lasting reminder of the strength that can emerge from tragedy.”

Further, the program will include an Honor Guard pre-

sentation, chaplain invocation, first responder recognition ceremony and community moment of remembrance.

The concert will be hosted by Sterl the Pearl, a Knoxville favorite, and will feature a lineup of acclaimed East Tennessee performers: Cruz Contreras and The Black Lillies, Con Hunley, Eric Baker, Jill Andrews, Hanna Marie Kelley and Jeanine Fuller and The True Funk Souldiers.

The Tributes and Tunes event is designed as a gathering for guests of all ages, so there will be food trucks, children’s activities and even an inflatable play area with displays featuring fire trucks and other first responder vehicles.

First responders will receive free event admission to the event, made possible by Food City.

Complimentary tickets are being distributed through participating first responder agencies and supervisors.

Participating food vendors also will offer discounts to first responders during the event. Complimentary meals are not included.

General admission tickets are \$25 all-inclusive, with no additional taxes or ticketing fees. Guests are encouraged to bring a camp chair or blanket and enjoy the evening beneath the Knoxville skyline.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Knoxville Public Safety Foundation, supporting firefighters, law enforcement officers, EMS personnel and first responder families across East Tennessee.

“Sept. 11 reminds us how quickly ordinary people can be called to do extraordinary things,” Snukals said in the release. “Twenty-five years later, Knoxville has an opportunity to stand together, say thank you and show our first responders that their service and sacrifice will never be taken for granted.”

Big Kahuna
From page 4B

Health for its “continued support” in a release, adding that Cumulus Radio, U.S. Foods, PrintFX and Visit Knoxville are just a few of the brands who continue to support the festival.

As far as the food itself, the festival has gone beyond wings, as there are new culinary experiences available for purchase with wing tickets this year.

“We’re trying to grow it into, ‘Well, if you’re not a wing connoisseur, we’ve got so much more there,’” Beeler said.

That includes a large fireworks display, which will involve a “totally unique, 360 degree firework experience that’s set to music and end the day with a BANG!” according to the release.

Beyond the food and fireworks, attendees will enjoy plenty of elite musical acts, including Fireside Collective, Wyatt Ellis and many more. DJ Sterl the Pearl will be on

hand as well, and there will be a Kid’s Zone with inflatables and other activities.

All of it will go to a good cause, too, as the festival has raised more than \$685,000 to date for local East Tennessee charities.

This year’s beneficiaries are the Thompson Cancer Survival Center and Educator Resource Center.

Tickets for this year’s festival go on sale Monday, July 6, at bkwfestival.com.

Once there, people can find a variety of options available: Culinary Experience, VIP Experience (very limited) and Fireworks Experience tickets.

“The festival has just grown over the years,” Beeler said. “It is amazing how much it’s changed. But without the group of people that have helped me, some since its inception, there would be no way.”

“If you give a reason for people to come and show them a good time, and the whole thing is going to a good cause, it’s pretty easy,” he added.

Lynch
From page 5B

find his stomach, which shortly after appeared. He passed away in 2019 but before then, he was a motivational speaker and left the message, “If I stay silent, the darkness has no opposition ...”

Although Lynch does not have a medical background, she uses her proficiency with computers to help with the mission’s database.

“Love Without Reason is an amazing name because we go in other countries and we love without reason,” she said. “I go because He loved me first.”

The organization has done

more than 1,462 surgeries, held 87 international medical missions/camps and have more than 100 medical specialists from eight countries and more than 1,000 volunteers across seven countries.

Lynch said LWR has rescued more than 300 women and children from sexual slavery, provided more than 3,000 Set Free (menstrual) pads, and “touched millions with the message of love without reason.”



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VOL. 40, NO. 8

A PUBLICATION OF THE FARRAGUT WEST KNOX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

AUGUST 2026



**Reimagining A
Chamber Tradition** Pg. 2

**A Community Effort
Against Hunger**
Pg. 3

A Tailgate for Young Professionals Pg. 3

CHARITY GALA

High Stakes & Fine Spirits

presented by:



Oct. 1, 2026

6pm - 9pm

The Venue at Lenoir City

Casino Games • Silent Auction • Bourbon & Wine Pull



Evening where every bid makes dreams come true

Some evenings are just enjoyable. Others have the potential to change lives.

On Thursday, Oct. 1, the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce invites the business and broader community to experience both at The Charity Gala: High Stakes & Fine Spirits, presented by Rocky Top HVAC. This elegant evening will bring together great food, entertainment and generosity in support of a greater purpose.

A reimagined version of our 35+ year signature annual fundraising event, guests will enjoy a fun night featuring the much-loved Silent Auction, casino games including blackjack, roulette, craps, and three-card poker, a bourbon pull, wine pull, music, dancing, and delectable food prepared by Classy Caterer. Whether you're celebrating with friends, entertaining clients, or meeting new people, The Charity Gala offers the perfect setting for while supporting causes that strengthen our community.

This year, the Chamber is especially honored to partner with member nonprofit, The Dream

Connection. At least 20% of all Silent Auction proceeds will be donated directly to this extraordinary organization.

The Dream Connection started when volunteers at East Tennessee Children's Hospital overheard young patients excitedly talk about the adventures they hoped to have "when I get better." Sadly, their families often could not fulfill their children's wishes as medical bills consumed their financial resources. Refusing to let those dreams die, the volunteers founded The Dream Connection to turn those wishes into reality.

Still powered entirely by volunteers, the organization now serves children ages 3 to 18 in East Tennessee living with life-altering conditions, including cancer, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, and other serious illnesses. They have made dreams come true through home renovations to give a child their own room, trips to Disney World, family vacations, professional athlete visits, shopping sprees, concerts, and countless other personalized experiences. For these kids and their families, those experiences provide criti-

cally needed joy, hope, and memories that endure long after they are over.

The Charity Gala also plays an important role in advancing the Chamber's mission. As a nonprofit organization representing over 800 local businesses, the Chamber depends on this fundraiser to expand member services at no added cost, and continue offering reimbursement grants of up to \$500 that help businesses invest in their growth.

How can you be part of this special evening? Become an event sponsor, purchase tickets to attend, or donate items for the Silent Auction or one of the bottle pulls. Every sponsorship, item, and winning bid helps make the event stronger—and increases the support we can provide to The Dream Connection.

Thank you to the sponsors already committed to supporting The Charity Gala: Rocky Top HVAC (Presenting Sponsor); MR10 Realty (Jackpot Sponsor); Coffee & Chocolate, Keith Window Company and Strategic Tax & Business (Full House Sponsors); Bowen Door Service (Game Sponsor); and MR10 Realty with Renaissance Title &

Escrow (Cup Sponsor). Additional sponsorship opportunities are available, and all sponsorships include event tickets.

Early bird pricing is available through Aug. 15, with individual tickets available for \$100, member tables of 10 available for \$1,000 and non-member tables of 10 available for \$1,500. After Aug. 15, individual tickets increase to \$125 and member tables increase to \$1,250. Each ticket includes beverage vouchers and \$10,000 in casino chips for gameplay. Seating is limited, so guests are encouraged to reserve their spot early.

Reserve your tickets, become a sponsor, or donate a Silent Auction or bottle pull item by visiting www.farragutchamber.com and selecting the Oct. 1 event on the Events page, calling (865) 675-7057 or emailing julie@farragutchamber.com. Then join us on Oct. 1, when each hand dealt, each glass raised and every bid will represent something greater than a night out as we celebrate our business community, invest in local businesses and help create memories that children and their families will carry for a lifetime.

West Young Professionals to Host Regional Networking Tailgate

The Farragut West Knox Chamber's West Young Professionals are kicking off September with the Regional Networking Tailgate on Tuesday, Sept. 1. The event will bring together Young Professionals from across the region for an evening of friendly competition, great food, and team spirit.

Held at The Venue at Lenoir City, the event will feature tailgate games, prizes, food from Classy Caterer, and plenty of opportunities to enjoy a relaxed evening with members of the local business community. Whether someone is early in their career, established in their profession, or simply young at heart, the Regional Networking Tailgate offers a fun way to get involved and represent a favorite team.

The Regional Networking Tailgate will take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at The Venue at Lenoir City, 7690 Creekwood Blvd. in Lenoir City. Registration is free and includes one drink ticket. Guests can reserve their spot by visiting www.farragutchamber.com and selecting the Sept. 1 event on the Events page. Thank you to event sponsors The Venue at Lenoir City, Classy Caterer, and Davis Family YMCA for helping make this event possible.

West Young Professionals

REGIONAL NETWORKING TAILGATE!

**TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 1ST
5:30pm to 7:30pm**

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Let's end hunger together



Hunger Action Month®

Community Partners Come Together for Hunger Action Month Kick-Off

The Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce, along with the Blount Partnership and Loudon County Chamber of Commerce, will join Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee for the 5th Annual Hunger Action Month Kick-Off Breakfast on Thursday, Aug. 27.

The annual event brings together business and community leaders to recognize Hunger Action Month and highlight the ongoing work to support children, families and individuals facing food insecurity across East Tennessee. Attendees are encouraged to participate in the event's Food Drive by bringing a jar or case of peanut butter, an essential source of protein for children and families. Glass jars will not be accepted.

The breakfast will feature this year's Hunger Action Heroes, including Vicki Williams with Movement Mortgage, Aaron Crecy with Junk Galaxy, Casey Mynatt with City Wide Facility Services and Daniel Monday with Slamdot.

The Hunger Action Month Kick-Off Breakfast will take place from 7:45-9 a.m. at Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee, 136 Harvest Lane in Maryville. There is no cost to attend, but all registrations must be completed through Second Harvest Food Bank to streamline the process. To RSVP, visit shfbetn.org/HAMkickoff.

Thank you to the Hunger Action Heroes for co-sponsoring this important event and helping raise awareness and support during Hunger Action Month.

Networkings



First US Bank | July 30, 2026

Far left: Team members from First US Bank gather for a photo while welcoming Chamber members and guests to a networking event. **Left:** Door prize winners gather for a group photo during the event.



Carhartt | July 23, 2026

Far left: Chamber members and guests gather to enjoy refreshments, conversation and a few laughs during a networking event hosted by Carhartt. **Left:** New Chamber members are recognized during the event.



Volunteer Princess Cruises | July 16, 2026

Far left: Chamber members and guests take in the views while enjoying a networking event aboard the Volunteer Princess. **Left:** (L to R) Kathryn Schrader of Strategic Tax & Business Services, Fryderyk Ulmer of Knoxville Ice Bears and P.J. Dieffenbach of The Web Mavericks enjoy drinks and conversation while taking in the river views.



Topgolf | July 9, 2026

Far left: (L to R) Ken Medley of Big Frog Custom T-Shirts & More; Ethan Adams and Miranda Murphy of SWTHZ; Barbie Cumbess of Peacock Medical Aesthetics; and Kierce-ton Kepes of Big Frog Custom T-Shirts & More enjoy conversation during a Chamber networking event at Topgolf. **Left:** Chamber members and guests enjoy a relaxed evening of conversation and camaraderie during the event.

Ribbon Cuttings



Slick City Action Park | July 7, 2026

Community members, friends and the Slick City Action Park team celebrate the opening of the world's first entertainment concept featuring slides, sports courts and soft play with a ribbon cutting.



Girl Talk | July 10, 2026

Founder and Executive Director Denetria D. Moore (center, sharing scissors) is joined by colleagues, family and friends in cutting the ribbon to celebrate Girl Talk Inc.'s new Girl Talk House. Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon shared her support for the organization's mission, and Tennessee Sen. Becky Massey presented a proclamation recognizing the occasion.



Edward Jones - Bill Lenczynski | July 14, 2026

Bill Lenczynski (center, holding scissors) celebrates the opening of his new Edward Jones office on Northshore Drive with colleagues, friends and community members.



Big Frog Custom T-Shirts & More of Knoxville | July 22, 2026

Owners Ken Medley and Kierceton Kepes Medley (center, sharing scissors) celebrate the opening of Big Frog Custom T-Shirts & More of Knoxville with friends, family and community members during a ribbon cutting.



Three Roots Capital | July 31, 2026

Three Roots Capital Founder and Chief Executive Officer Grady Vanderhoofven (center, holding scissors) celebrates the company's 10th anniversary with friends, family, colleagues and community members during a ribbon cutting.

Scan to See What's Happening!

Use the QR code to view our August events calendar and stay up to date on networking, workshops, and Chamber happenings all month long. Don't miss a chance to connect!



Did you know?

Get The Right People In The Right Seats

with Lacey Hayes

Wednesday, September 2
9:00 AM
Farragut Community Center



TSBDC: Get the Right People in the Right Seats
Clear roles and the right people can make all the difference in a business. On Wednesday, Sept. 2, TSBDC will host "Get the Right People in the Right Seats," a free session focused on attracting the right team members, defining roles and helping employees succeed. Lacey Hayes of EOS Worldwide will lead the session from 9-10 a.m. at the Farragut Community Center. Register for this free session and explore other upcoming TSBDC programs at www.tsbdc.org.

Workforce & Jobs

**Our Members
are Hiring!**

Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley — Shelter Veterinarian

The Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley is seeking a Shelter Veterinarian to oversee the health and welfare of shelter animals, perform medical procedures and provide leadership for its veterinary team and community clinic.

Candidates should have a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, Tennessee licensure or eligibility, strong communication skills and a passion for animal welfare.

For more information or to apply, visit www.humanesocietytennessee.org or email a resume and cover letter to info@humane-societytennessee.org.

Corporate Quarters, Inc. — Quality Control Inspector

Corporate Quarters, Inc. is seeking a full-time Quality Control Inspector to prepare and inspect furnished homes before guest move-ins, document maintenance needs and ensure each unit meets company standards for cleanliness, functionality and comfort.

Candidates should have strong attention to detail, communication skills, a valid driver's license and the ability to lift 50+ pounds. Prior experience in hospitality, housekeeping, property management or quality control is a plus.

For more information or to apply, email a resume and cover letter to aporter@corporatequarters.net or call (865) 675-3146.

Smoky Mountain Deck Builders — Multiple Positions

Smoky Mountain Deck Builders is hiring for multiple positions, including subcontractor trade partners, Sales & Design Specialists and Construction Superintendents. The company is looking for reliable, detail-oriented individuals who take pride in their work, communicate well and value quality, safety and teamwork.

For more information or to view current openings and apply, visit www.smokymountaindecks.com/careers/.

NEW Chamber members...

farragutpress has had a close alliance with the Chamber since it began and we take every opportunity to demonstrate our cooperative relationship.

It is with pleasure that we offer a welcoming gift to new members ... a “2 for 1” offer on advertising in the farragutpress. You pay for a 3-column by 6-inch FULL COLOR space for special pricing of \$175.00. That size ad is normally \$420.00 in color. Then we will run the ad a second time, at no charge, within a two week time period.

You may schedule the ad at your convenience and may run anything you choose promoting your business.

Contact

Kathy Hartman

farragutpress General Manager

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As a new member you must take advantage of this offer within one year of joining the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce.

Welcome New Members!

The Chamber welcomes these businesses who joined us recently in July

Did you know businesses/organizations can submit an application & payment online? Visit www.farragutchamber.com and click “Join the Chamber!”

Scan the QR code to learn about our new members!



THANK YOU for Renewing Your Membership!

The Farragut/West Knox Chamber thanks to these businesses who have renewed their investment in the Chamber as of July.

We can count them as Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members!

We urge members to patronize one another when the goods or services a member can provide are needed. We also hope that area residents recognize a business's commitment to its community when it becomes part of its local chamber of commerce and reward that commitment with its patronage.

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the Tennessee Valley
Citizens Bank - Kingston Pike
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& Auto Repair - West Knox/Farragut
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