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Langan



THE
VILLAGES
OF FARRAGUT



Tony Cox

Tractor-trailer overturns

Motorists traveling along Kingston Pike and Campbell Station Road met a road closure Monday morning, Sept. 21, on both roads after a tractor-trailer, carrying 51,000 pounds of fiber, overturned at that intersection in front of 35 North. “We got alerted a little after 6 a.m. close to the intersection of Kingston Pike and Campbell Station,” Tennessee Department of Transportation regional communications officer Mark Nagi said. “Kingston Pike got back open about 6:30 a.m., but you’ve still got part of Campbell Station Road closed,” he said. “I know that caused some backups.” Campbell Station Road was reopened by 9 a.m. Monday. Nagi added his department did not know the cause of the wreck, and Tennessee Highway Patrol is still actively investigating the accident. The truck driver was injured, and his condition is unknown, according to reports. There were no fatalities reported.

KCSO policereports

Theft:

Knox County Sheriff’s deputies received a report at 4:49 p.m., Sept. 4, concerning the reported theft of a U-Haul trailer from 10833 Kingston Pike. According to the report, the trailer had been rented Aug. 3 for 24 hours and was due back Aug. 4. The renter reportedly told U-Haul on Aug. 10 that he would return the trailer with payment the following day, but the company reported no further contact after sending a late-return demand letter Aug. 13. The trailer was valued at \$17,500.

Fraud:

Knox County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a business in the 11500-block of Parkside Drive in Farragut, at 5:37 p.m., Sept. 7, after a report of fraud. An employee told deputies that a caller claiming to be a lieutenant with the U.S. Marshals Service said the business had a bank-account deficit because an employee had deposited counterfeit bills. The caller allegedly instructed the employee to take \$433 from the cash register, go to a nearby Walgreens, scan a bar code and transfer the money. The employee transferred the \$433, according to the report. The incident was classi-

fied as false pretenses.

Found property:

Knox County sheriff’s deputies responded to Dollar General, 12403 Kingston Pike in Farragut, at 5:51 p.m. Sept. 11 after an employee reported finding a large brown, cow-print purse near the store’s propane tanks. The employee told deputies she saw an open U.S. Postal Service package containing a laptop inside the purse. A deputy found an HP Chromebook, valued at \$500, inside the purse. The purse was valued at \$20. Both items were taken to the Knox County Sheriff’s Office Property Unit.

Debit card fraud:

A resident of the 300 block of Way Station Trail in Farragut reported fraudulent activity on his debit card at 5:39 p.m., Sept. 10. She told the Knox County Sheriff’s Office he first received emails concerning two Best Buy orders, for \$195 and \$270, that he had not placed. Both orders were canceled. He later received a fraud alert from his bank and discovered an unauthorized \$119.76 purchase from JD Sports. The resident said the purchase confirmation showed the order being shipped to a New York address. No suspect was identified.

FMPC favors keeping play-area standards

Tammy Cheek

tcheek@farragutpress.com

The Goddard School’s expansion plans hit a roadblock at the Farragut Municipal Planning Commission’s Thursday, Sept. 17, meeting as commissioners opposed a requested change to the Town’s outdoor play-area requirements.

A representative of The Goddard School from Studio Four Design, a Michael Graves Company, requested the Town consider a text amendment reducing its fenced outdoor play-area requirement for day care facilities from 100 square feet per child to the state requirement of 50 square feet per child.

Because FMPC heard the matter as a workshop item, it took no formal action, but Commissioners expressed a consensus that the Town’s current standards should remain in place.

“The Goddard School off Loudon Road is planning to expand with a roughly 2,800-square-foot addition” to its existing 8,200-square-foot building, Community Development Director Mark Shipley said. “The site plan for this project was conditionally approved at the July 16 Planning Commission meeting.

“One of the approval conditions was that a fenced outdoor play area, per the Town’s Zoning Ordinance, is provided to meet the requirement that at least 100 square feet is provided per child ... or a text amendment is approved by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen to follow the State of Tennessee requirement [50 feet], as applied to the square footage needed for fenced outdoor play areas.”

Shipley noted the ordinance has been in place for more than 20 years.

At the July meeting, he said,

under the requirement of 100 square feet of usable play space per child, it appeared the facility could accommodate up to 158 children, which would require a fenced outdoor play area of at least 15,800 square feet.

“They don’t meet the requirement,” he added. “They don’t have the space.”

The school therefore requested that the Town lower the requirement, “which would be more in line with the state’s requirement,” Shipley said.

But Knoxville resident Melissa Schell, who has a grandchild attending The Goddard School, urged Commissioners to keep the Town’s standards.

“I think we’re losing sight that Goddard is a daycare, a preschool,” she said. “It is all about kids, and you want to lower your standards to meet a Nashville company.

“I beg you ... we’re Farragut,” Schell said. “Keep our standards high. Let us be who we are.”

“Goddard School is trying to rectify an issue that we currently have in Farragut with daycare,” said Brian Nicholson, managing principal with Michael Graves Company. “We have an extensively long waiting list to get into daycares.

“The community is underserved with this,” he said. “They’re trying to provide that service for our community.”

While Commissioners were more open to the text amendment in July, their opinions shifted by Thursday’s meeting.

“When we discussed this a couple months ago, I think I supported the idea to match the state standards because I thought it would make it easier for staff,” Commissioner Noah Myers said. “And, the more that I thought about it, the Town of Farragut, we never

set our standards based on the lowest common denominator.

“We’ve always had a higher standard,” he added. “It also concerns me about the other facilities in the Town of Farragut ... for many, many years have been following our standards; and now because you want to grow — and I respect you trying to work on your waiting list — you’re asking us to lower our standards.

“Quite frankly, I’m not comfortable lowering our standards,” Myers said.

Mayor Alex Cain, who also serves on the Planning Commission, agreed that other day care and preschool facilities in Town “have been able to work through the standards we’ve set a long time ago.

“I don’t think we need to change our standards when it’s worked so well for so long,” he said.

“I recently had kids in day care, five or six years ago, and when we were looking into the daycare system, we wanted the best,” new Commissioner John Tague said. “... that’s what makes this Town so great, the standards that we hold, and I don’t think we should be adjusting those standards.”

“We’re changing a rule for the entire town, not just for Goddard School,” new Commissioner Michael Wilson said. “And if somebody else who runs a daycare facility, now or in the future, are they going to say, ‘we can put X number of children because that’s 50 square feet,’ which again changes our standard within Town,” and isn’t in alignment with the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Its recommendation is 75 square feet.

“To maintain a standard that we have is probably where I would lie at this point,” Wilson said.

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

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

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

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

The deadline for political profiles prior to the
November 3rd election is 12 p.m. on Friday, October 2nd.

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Senate
From page 1A

eral other people, decided to run,” he said.

After that, he shifted from county to state political service and now is running for re-election.

“In the last 12 years, there have been a lot of really good things that happened in the state of Tennessee,” he said. “It’s just a very exciting time to move from being good to being really great, and I want to continue to serve.

“We’ve moved from being one of the poorer states in the country to now we’re at least in the upper half,” Briggs said. “We’ve come a long way.

“We’re in one of the top five states that people want to move,” he said. “A lot of this has to do with our lower taxes, and it has to do with the job opportunities we have here.

“Even the young people are wanting to come here,” he said. “University of Tennessee has the highest enrollment it’s ever had. Our high school graduates are wanting to stay here, and we also have a lot of out-of-state students wanting to come here.”

And, “it appears right now we are on the threshold of moving from a better-than-average state to one of the top states ... regarding the nuclear industry in Oak Ridge,” Briggs said.

As senator with a specialty in cardiac surgery, he can bring his medical insights to the role.

“If you look at some of the biggest challenges that the state has faced, really in the last 15, 16 years, it’s been the opioid crisis,” he observed. “I really think I have done a lot to close some of the pill mills that were open under the guise of being pain clinics.

“The second problem we have is medically related also,” Briggs said. “It’s the mental health crisis we’re having. “It’s not only having adequate beds; it’s also a crisis with our young people and our teenagers. Teenage suicide is at an all-time high ... it’s just absolutely devastating to the families when that occurs, but I think that I’ve been able to

bring a lot to the table.”

This is Langan’s second time running for the District 7 seat but would be his first time in office should he win.

“I initially had intended to try to help in other campaigns, but no one was challenging, so I decided to step up and challenge this time,” he said. “I don’t like where Tennessee is going.

“Our legislature is a government that is protecting corporations and not doing what I think it should do, which is protecting our people and our resources,” Langan added. “I understand companies need to make money, and profit is their motive, but do it the right way. Take care of our workers; take care of our resources.”

“I’ve been a blue collar worker for 30 years,” he said. Langan has managed kitchens in restaurants, worked during construction setup and testing of water treatment facilities and most recently he is a rough-in plumber for new house builds.

He said that experience has shown him “I really know the struggle Tennesseans are facing right now.

“I work with these people struggling day to day, paycheck to paycheck,” he said. “I talk to them. I’ve lived that struggle for a long time.

“So my two things are accountability and affordability,” Langan added.

If elected, “I want to see campaign finance reform ... to get corporate and PAC money out of our politics,” he said. Doing away with those contributions “goes a long way in getting the legislators to answer to the people again.”

Langan said the crux of his campaign is to get the legislators to answer to the people of Tennessee.

Regarding affordability, he said legislators never voted to raise workers’ pay but voted to raise their own pay.

“I would like to make it that we can’t raise our pay without raising the minimum wage,” he said. Lagan also would like to see the fuel tax and sales tax on groceries be removed and a right-to-privacy law enacted to ban Flock and other surveillance from the state.

Boring
From page 1A

trance,” Smith added.

“According to the KCS traffic impact study, the intent is that the parents will not be allowed to access the rear parking lot of the school from Boring Road, though [Town] staff

is unsure whether KCS will be able to enforce compliance,” he reported. “The staff assessment is that many parents will access Boring Road from Kingston Pike to drop students at the rear of the school, as well as return to Kingston Pike at Boring Road after drop-off.” Smith pointed out that por-

tion of Boring Road is about 14 feet wide, which forces vehicles to pull off the road to pass by each other.

Another consideration is the difficulty motorists face when they make a left turn onto Kingston Pike during peak hours.

Science Olympiad national tournament



Photo submitted

Cedar Springs homeschool students recently placed 35th overall in the nation at the Science Olympiad national tournament held at the University of California. Among those on hand for the competition were: top row, from left, Caleb Story, Eli Shelton, Ryan Durham, Brexlyn Poetzel, Avery Tyler, Jesse Boyle, Rory Ferguson, Evan Aubuchon, Jayson Wang; bottom row, head coach Meryl Van Der Merwe, Sianna Krause, Lucy Blessinger, Charlotte Rachlin, Maggie Mae Buschle, Hannah Harris and coach Lea Bosse. “The students had a great time and won our team’s first-ever gold medal at Nationals,” said Lauren Krause, a Cedar Springs parent. “Charlotte Rachlin, a resident of Farragut, and her partner, Jayson Wang, won first place at nationals in the Water Quality event. Our Tennessee team placed 35th overall in the nation, an increase of four places over their performance last year.”

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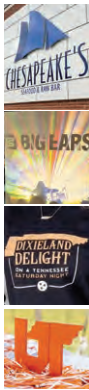
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Rezoning
From page 1A

“I appreciate wanting to come in at four to six units per acre,” Wilson said. “Obviously, a property in the land use plan could be up to eight units per acre, so I do appreciate the developers’ foresight to come in a little bit under that density.”

“I tend to agree on the density on this property with the rest of the Commission; however, I have concerns with saying that part of the reason we don’t want to take action on this, up or down, is because we have a land use plan that’s in flux right now,” Wilson said. “Does that mean we’re not going to consider the Mixed Use Town Center if somebody brings a project? Are we putting a moratorium on development at this point until that plan comes to fruition and is approved?” he asked.

“I think that’s a bigger discussion that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen need to have,” he added.

Still, Wilson agreed a decision on the request was premature.

“I think it makes a lot of sense to go R-4 here for a lot of different reasons,” Vice Chairman Jeff Devlin said. “I really like the idea of improving Harrison Road and not waiting a long time, but the reality is we’re in a different time right now, and there is a strong push to wait until the land use plan is modified.”

“So, I think my encourage-

ment would be to be as involved with that as possible and to encourage it to go R-4 during that process,” he told the developers.

FMPC’s decision followed comments from Loudon County residents questioning the proposed rezoning because the property is near the Loudon County line, even though the portion proposed for rezoning is entirely within Farragut.

“Our biggest question about the property that’s on Harrison Road is the traffic,” said Rose Letsinger, a Lenoir City resident who lives across the street and north of the property proposed for rezoning. “What’s going to be done to fix the traffic issue?”

“The whole area, if you’ve been to the park, is a skinny road,” she said. “What is going to be done to curb the traffic when you put 50 to 100 more vehicles on that road?”

Letsinger added that there are drainage issues in the area.

“Traffic is a big concern,” echoed Mike Driver, president of the Amberly Meadows Homeowners Association in Lenoir City.

Shipley noted when staff discussed the proposed rezoning in August, members questioned whether it was premature because the Town has initiated a townwide update to its Comprehensive Land Use Plan, which “will likely result in modifications to the existing Future Land Use Map.”

Shipley said he expects the



Tammy Cheek

Above left: Farragut Municipal Planning Commission denied Homestead Land Holdings’ request to rezone property at the corner of Harrison Road and Watt Road during FMPC’s meeting Thursday, Sept. 17. **Right above:** Homestead Land Holdings, on behalf of Saddlebrook Properties, is asking Farragut Municipal Planning Commission for property to be rezoned from Agriculture to Attached Single-Family Residential.

Serves
From page 1A

marketing manager for Pinnacle Turkey Creek. “We are especially excited to partner with Breast Connect this year and help support the meaningful work they do for breast cancer patients, survivors and their families right here in our community.”

She said this year’s proceeds from Turkey Creek will benefit Breast Connect, “a Knoxville-based nonprofit dedicated to supporting individuals impacted by breast cancer.”

“Breast Connect provides education, mentorship, sup-

port groups and connections to resources, helping patients and survivors navigate their breast cancer journey while building a strong network of support within the community.”

Walsh stated Taste of Turkey Creek gives guests the opportunity to sample bites and beverages from a variety of area restaurants and businesses all in one place.

“This year’s participating lineup includes Fleming’s Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, Regal Cinemas, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Lushdrop Bev Co., Whataburger and many more, with additional participants to

be announced leading up to the event,” she stated.

The early bird general admission ticket price is \$25 per ticket when purchased in advance and the day-of-event general admission is \$35 per ticket.

The early bird VIP ticket price is \$50 when paid in advance and \$100 closer to the event.

“Beyond the tastings, guests can enjoy live music from The Deep Fakes, enter giveaways, enjoy community activations and more throughout the evening,” Walsh stated.

General admission tickets, including access to unlimited

tastings from participating restaurants, water and soda, two drink tickets, live entertainment and more.

Guests looking to elevate their Taste of Turkey Creek experience can purchase VIP tickets, which include 30-minute early entry at 5:30 p.m., reserved seating, three drink tickets, special gifts, access to VIP giveaways and additional perks.

“Taste of Turkey Creek would not be possible without the support of its community sponsors,” Walsh stated. “Pinnacle Turkey Creek is proud to recognize Renewal by Andersen, TVA Credit Union, AT&T,

Century Fire Protection and TDS Internet for their support of this year’s event and their commitment to helping bring community-focused experiences to the Knoxville area.

Tickets are on sale now, and guests can currently take advantage of Early Bird pricing for a limited time. Attendees are encouraged to purchase tickets early to secure the best available price and reserve their spot for one of Pinnacle Turkey Creek’s signature annual events. To purchase tickets, visit online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/taste-of-turkey-creek-tickets-1994363056589>.





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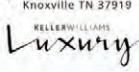
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Pilot honors drivers with special event



Truck driver Abdul Kamara, left, enjoyed some of the gear available at Pilot's Driver Appreciation Day Thursday, Sept. 17.

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

On Thursday, Sept. 17, Pilot celebrated Driver Appreciation Month by handing out goodies to drivers at the Pilot Travel Center No. 270 located at 314 Lovell Road.

Sunglasses, koozies, pens, Pilot hats, blankets, lunchboxes, gas cards and energy drinks were just a few of the items available, as this event was one of several the Pilot organization is holding across the country in recognition of this month.

The travel center also is recognizing Driver Appreciation Month through its annual Road Warrior contest. Nominations for this year's Road Warrior contest are now open, as one outstanding professional driver will be recognized with a Kenworth W990 truck customized by the Diesel Brothers and a \$50,000 cash prize, according to a release from Pilot Travel Center.

The Kenworth W990 truck embodies everything expected from "the driver's truck," per the release, with a 52-inch flat top sleeper equipped with a Di-

among VIT interior, powered by a PACCAR MX-13 engine that delivers 510 horsepower and 1,850 lb-ft of torque via a PACCAR TX-18 transmission.

"Professional drivers do much more than deliver freight. They connect communities, support businesses and help power everyday life," said Rusty Kirby, vice president of transportation and logistics at Pilot. "We're honored to recognize one exceptional driver and celebrate the hard-working people who make this

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Monster Tree Service puts down new roots

Tammy Cheek
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Monster Tree Service of Knoxville, 209 Hayfield Road, off Parkside Drive, has a new face at the helm with plans to expand.

Jeff Helie and his wife, Cheryl, purchased the company Monday, Aug. 31, after Jeff worked for the previous owner, Don Elliott, since February. Then Elliott offered to sell the company to the Helies. Prior to that, Elliott owned the company since 2019.

Helie plans to move the company to 6245 Primus Road, between Callahan Drive and Merchant Drive off Interstate 75 North, in November to accommodate its growth.

"For a long time, I've wanted to be an entrepreneur and business owner," Jeff Helie said. "I just needed the right fit."

"The owner actually reached out to me ... to come over, and you know, run my business and see how we can make it better," he recalled. "I really wasn't really looking for a job."

Then Elliott offered the own-

ership. Helie discussed the purchase with Cheryl, and made the move on Sept. 1.

"I knew what this business was capable of, but it's just more than tree service; it's making properties safe and looking good," he said.

He explained Monster Tree Service, a full-service company that does tree removals, pruning, trimming, stump grinding, land clearing and excavation.

With excavation, "basically, we take an air spade and we blow around the roots," Helie explained. "When you see mulch real high [around a tree], we will blow that mulch around."

"We'll give you a little surface and clip the roots' leads underneath, so the roots won't be gurgled and the tree will actually grow during the winter time," he said, adding the excavation "actually prevents the tree from choking out."

"And, we also do plant healthcare, which makes the properties healthy as well," Helie said. "That includes fertilization and insect and dis-



Jeff Helie and his wife, Cheryl (not pictured), purchased Monster Tree Service of Knoxville, 209 Hayfield Road Monday, Aug. 31. The company will be moved to 6245 Primus Road in north Knoxville this November.

Tammy Cheek

See ROOTS on Page 6A

businessbriefs

• Rather & Kittrell Private Wealth & Retirement Plan Advisory has announced Courtney Narkoff has joined the firm as marketing associate and Dylan Souther has joined as associate advisor.

Narkoff will support RK's marketing and communication efforts, including content development, digital marketing, community outreach, events and other initiatives, which help the firm connect with clients and prospective clients.

Souther will be working with

existing RK advisors to help clients make informed decisions with their money.

• Y-12 Credit Union recently announced plans to open its 25th branch location in the Rocky Hill area of West Knoxville in the fourth quarter of 2026.

Located at 7709 S. Northshore Drive, the renovated facility will expand access to Y-12 Credit Union's financial services and reinforce its commitment to serving the growing Knoxville community. The Rocky Hill branch will offer a full range

of financial services, including personal and business banking, mortgages, consumer loans, investment services and Y-12 Credit Union's award-winning digital banking solutions.

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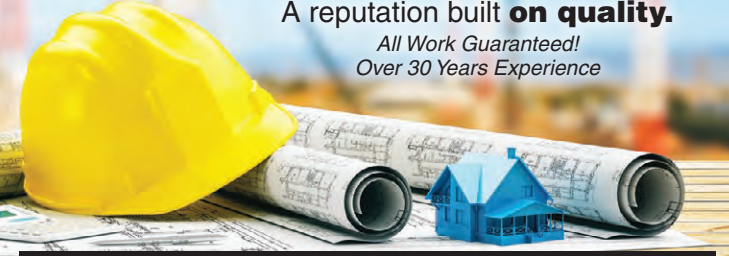
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Concerts For Our Own

Concerts For Our Own delivered a deeply moving Tributes & Tunes: A Night of Honor on Friday, September 11th.

Created to commemorate the 25th anniversary of September 11, 2001, Tributes & Tunes brought together first responders, police and fire vehicles, rescue equipment, community organizations, artists and families for an immersive evening dedicated to remembering those lost on 9/11 and honoring the men and women who continue to answer the call.

The evening also connected Knoxville directly to the history of September 11 through Presenting Sponsor Phillips, formerly Phillips & Jordan. A special video presentation shared the extraordinary story of the company's involvement in the massive recovery and cleanup effort following the attacks — the scale of the mission, the challenges their people encountered and the determination required to complete work few could have imagined.

Con Hunley delivered an emotional performance that became one of the evening's defining moments, while Jeanine Fuller & The True Funk Soldiers, Cruz Contreras & The Black Lillies and special guests helped transform a night of remembrance into a celebration of community, resilience and life.

If you would like to learn more about Concerts For Our Own visit concertsforourown.org

Pilot
From page 5A

industry possible.”
Along with the goodies handed out at last Thursday’s event, WIVK radio station representatives were on hand to play music throughout the recognition.
One driver, Abdul Kamara, popped out of his truck short-

ly after Pilot officials set up the tables outside. He grabbed a blanket and slapped a hat on his head, eager to take advantage of the amenities being offered to truck drivers across the country.
“Professional drivers are the backbone of our economy and keep our communities supplied, often with little recognition for the important

work they do,” Kari Irons, chief experience officer at Pilot, said in the release. “Driver Appreciation Month is our opportunity to celebrate their dedication, thank them for the miles they travel, and honor the millions of drivers who deliver the products and essentials people rely on every day.”

Roots
From page 5A

ease control.
“We offer 24-hour emergency service,” he added. “And, we’re actually going into firewood sales, probably in November,” in which he sells logs from the trees he cuts. He also helps people with limited income obtain firewood.
With the heat, watering and fertilization are necessary for healthy plants.
Monster Tree Service has been at the 209 Hayfield Road location since it was estab-

lished seven years ago, but it is outgrowing its space.
Monster Tree Service, which is backed by 525-plus five-star Google ratings reviews, currently has eight technicians, an operations manager, two International Society of Arborists-certified arborists and a general manager on staff.
Monster Tree Service’s office hours are from 8 to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, but it has a 24-hour emergency service as well. To book an appointment or for more information, call 865-270-4762.

Briefs
From page 5A

• Marble City Opera recently announced the appointment of Lisa Muci Eckhoff as the company’s new managing director. Working in partnership with founding artistic director Kathryn Frady and the Marble City Opera board of directors, Eckhoff will oversee the organization’s administrative operations, fundraising, community partnerships, marketing and strategic development as Marble City Opera continues to

expand its impact throughout East Tennessee.
• Approximately 8,500 people attended the Knoxville’s Area Urban League’s 24th annual Shoes for School, which provides new shoes and school supplies for children and connects families with community resources. During the event, the organization distributed 1,800 pairs of shoes, more than 2,500 backpacks and school supplies to more than 3,300 children.
• Priority Ambulance, the nation’s second-largest EMS provider, recently announced

the appointment of Brendan McNiff as West Region regional president.
McNiff brings more than 30 years of senior leadership experience across ambulance services, healthcare transportation, finance, operations and strategic growth. In this role, he will oversee Priority Ambulance’s West Region, supporting local leadership teams, advancing operational performance and strengthening the company’s continued focus on high-quality, patient-centered clinical care.

The final opportunity to submit candidate endorsements in Letters to the Editor or PressTalks for publication before the November 3rd election is
10 a.m. Monday, October 5th
for inclusion in the October 7 edition of farragutpress.

No candidate endorsements will be published after the October 7 edition.



“Better and safer access to the new Farragut Primary school”

We believe there needs to be better and safer access to the new Farragut Primary school opening next August.

The school buses will come in on the north side of Boring Road. But the parents and teachers and visitors need access from the lower part of Boring Road as well as the narrow lanes coming up Village Commons Drive.

There needs to be a right in, right out off Kingston Pike at Boring Road and a curb cut on lower Boring Road into the school lot. The Town of Farragut should spend the money to widen Boring Road from the north entrance for the buses all the way down to Kingston Pike.

This is needed for best access and safety for the 1400 students, parents and teachers and visitors to the school.

This is a very important issue and the Town needs to step up and help the new school.

Citizens for safe and prosperous Farragut Primary.



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Carlos Reveiz/crfoto.com

On Friday, Sept. 25, Farragut and Bearden will meet on the turf of Eddie Courtney Stadium for a rivalry that dates back more than 50 years. Each matchup brings a unique storyline of its own, and this year is no different.

Rivalry week arrives

Ads, Dawgs set for 68th meeting

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

At long last, rivalry week has arrived.

This Friday, Sept. 25, Farragut and Bearden will meet for the 68th time in a feud that dates back more than five decades.

The teams have played every single year since 1974, as Farragut owns a 43-24 record in that span, per FHS SID Jack Tate.

More recently, the Admirals gutted out a 25-21 win in the Dawgs' house last year, part of a 2-2 stretch in this game the last four years.

In that time, both programs have undergone plenty of changes.

Farragut is in its third year under 2006 graduate Geoff Courtney, who took over for his father, TSSAA Hall of Famer Eddie Courtney, in 2024.

Meanwhile, 1994 Bearden graduate Brad Taylor leads the Dawgs in the second year of his second stint at his alma mater.

Both teams stand at 0-5 this season, making each group even hungr-

Tate brings unique view to rivalry

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

On Friday, Sept. 25, Farragut and Bearden will meet on the gridiron for the 68th time in history.

And Jack Tate has been there for every matchup dating back to 1974.

He started as a Bearden Bulldog, attending that '74 contest as a BHS ninth-grader before becoming a beloved baseball coach and teacher. Along the way, he began handling sports information duties for the school, having kept statistics for 503 straight Bearden football games through the 2019 season.

See TATE on Page 2B

er for a Region 2-6A rivalry win that will mean

See RIVALRY on Page 2B

Lady Ads win district

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

Ryan Mahoney saw the potential all along.

And on Monday, Sept. 21, the Farragut Lady Admirals fulfilled that vision by claiming the 2026 district title over Hardin Valley at Gettysvue Country Club.

FHS and HVA both finished with total scores of 147. Farragut's Sophie Williams and Hardin Valley's Addisyn Newman led the way with 70 apiece, and FHS senior Harper Holmes tied HVA's Rylee Taylor with 77. That meant the tiebreaker for the team title went to the third participant.

Olivia Coleman shot an 88 for the Lady Ads, three strokes ahead of HVA's Emma Dolynchuk (91) to cement the district championship.

For Williams and Holmes, this marks a return to the region tournament after they both qualified as individuals last year. But it is the first such honor for Coleman.

"I had all the confidence in the world in her," Mahoney said of Coleman. "She has really played well and done a fantastic job. She played well on the front side,

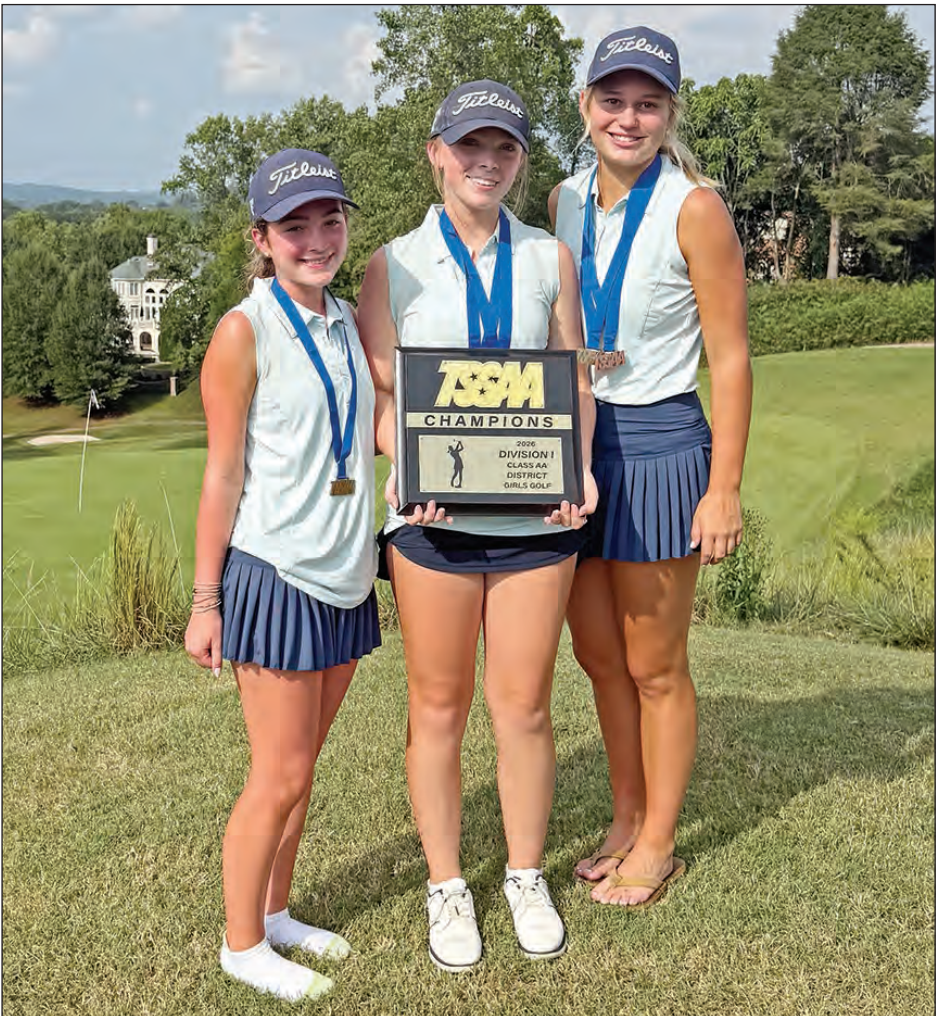


Photo courtesy of Ryan Mahoney

The Farragut girls golf team claimed the 2026 district title Monday, Sept. 21, at Gettysvue Country Club. Pictured from left to right: Olivia Coleman, Sophie Williams and Harper Holmes.

and I knew she was playing well, so I felt good about her scoring for us. I was happy to see her come through and get us that tiebreaker."

Williams competed with Newman in a play-off for the top individual spot in the girls tournament, ultimately shooting par to Newman's

birdie for second overall. "Seeing her in a play-off for first was a lot of fun," Mahoney said of

See DISTRICT on Page 2B

No luck needed for Irish at Mounds Invitational

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

For any cross country runner, a tactical approach is just as important as the physical fitness required to succeed.

That was evident for Knoxville Catholic last Saturday, Sept. 21, as the Irish featured five top-10 runners apiece in the boys and girls 5k races at The Mounds Invitational at the disc golf course that holds the same name in Oak Ridge.

"I think they're maturing and learning how to race, how to take advan-

tage of what the course gives them," Catholic coach Sean O'Neil said. "It was a hilly course and was pretty hot. Just learning how to race better and move smarter, that made a huge difference for us."

On the boys side, Cade Duncanson set a new course record to finish first at 15:48.80, leading Catholic. Behind Duncanson were Evan Van De Griff in third (16:02.30), Reid Bannister in fourth (16:21.00), Nathan Jurbergs in fifth

See IRISH on Page 2B



Tony Cox

Knoxville Catholic's Drew Gerken runs in The Mounds Invitational.



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Lady Ads split results with Rebs, Beavers

Bill Howard
Correspondent

It was a tough road outing for Farragut High School’s volleyball team last Thursday night, Sept. 17, at Maryville High School.

Behind strong serving and very effective ball movement, the Lady Rebels swept the match 3-0. The set scores were 25-12, 25-15, and 25-14. FHS’s Region 2, District 4 record fell to 2-3.

“They’re a very, very solid team,” said FHS assistant coach Mike Lee. “They have a tradition of great volleyball and they definitely made more plays than us.”

“We played clean, we served and passed well,” said MHS coach Christine Hames, who played on the Australian Beach Volleyball National Team. “Being able to control the first contact really helped.”

In the first set, Maryville raced to an early 6-1 lead, traded points with Farragut to lead

13-9, then ran off six in a row, and nine of 10, to lead 22-10. Three of the final five closed it out.

The Lady Admirals led 4-2 in the second set and were very much in the set, down 10-9. Then MHS ran off another scoring streak, this time eight straight, and 11 of 12, to lead 21-10. Four in a row by FHS made it 21-14, but the Lady Rebels finished it with four of the final five.

Maryville scoring runs weren’t confined to the first two sets. Up five to four, MHS won 14 of the next 20, and led 19-10. The Lady Admirals tried to stay in it, winning four of the next five, to cut it to 20-14. But the Lady Rebels won the final five.

Lee didn’t walk away from the match without optimism. “We made some changes with our defensive position,” he said. “We showed improvement all the way through the match; I think our third game was probably our best one.

We’ve got some growing pains but I think we’ll be fine.”

“We had a rough match Tuesday night (loss to Hardin Valley); really proud of them tonight,” Hames said.

Said FHS middle hitter Olivia Cope: “I think we played pretty good. I think we’ll get there by district (tournament). I think we’ll beat them.”

FHS 3, Karns 0 (Sept. 15 at Farragut)

Two days prior, on “pink-out” night at Farragut High School - to raise awareness of breast cancer - the Lady Admirals swept the Lady Beavers with set scores of 25-14, 25-14, and 25-17. The match improved their Region 2, District 4 record to 2-2.

“Everyone played and people tried new positions and did really well with new assignments,” said Lady Admirals’ coach Whitney Lee. “They enjoyed cheering each other on and I enjoyed watching them. Yesterday was my birthday, so it was a good way to celebrate.”

Dawgs bite back against Hawks

Jake Nichols
jnichols@farragutpress.com

After scoring quickly and hanging on against Farragut, the Hardin Valley girls soccer team went with the same formula against Bearden.

Only the Lady Bulldogs struck back, claiming a key 2-1 district win over HVA last Friday, Sept. 18, at the Bearden soccer complex.

Makayla Hammond nailed the first strike for HVA in the first minute, opening the scoring in a hurry.

Reese Underwood proceeded to even things up at 1-1, then Madi Bowlin nailed a penalty kick in the second half to give BHS a lead it would not relinquish.

With the win, Bearden moved to 2-0 in district play for the 2026 campaign.

“We knew they scored early against Farragut, and with this being our Senior Night, my message to the girls was that they’re a fast-starting team,” head coach Ryan Radcliffe said last Friday. “So you’ve got to get rid of the emotion of that early and be ready, because it’s a huge district game.

“I feel like I need to stop saying those things because I feel like I speak it into existence sometimes. But it was a great response, and it was encouraging to see.”

“It’s always nice to score right off the bat, but we’ve been struggling to score goals after that,” added HVA assistant Mandy Marshall of the Lady Hawks. “And teams like Bearden, there’s only so long



Jake Nichols
Bearden’s Brooklyn Sipos (35) and Hardin Valley’s Anna Ogle (12) race for possession during their matchup Friday, Sept. 18. Bearden emerged with a key 2-1 district win.

you can hold onto a 1-0 lead.”

True to form, Bearden snapped into form in the 29th minute with the goal from Underwood, who is a freshman for BHS. She is one of several younger players for the Dawgs, who are looking to parlay their regular-season success into a second-straight state title.

“I think sometimes your youth is kind of naive and they don’t know the magnitude of the game, so they expect things to fall into our lap being Bearden,” Radcliffe said. “But they rose to the occasion. For Reese to come in and score that goal, that was big for us. She’s a coach’s kid, so she of all people knows the

magnitude.”

Later, Bowlin’s PK came at a crucial moment for Bearden. The teams had battled consistently through the heat to that point, but Bowlin found a way to connect.

“It may not be the prettiest,” Radcliffe noted, “but you’ll have to work for it and grind it out. Sometimes when you play teams that are loaded defensively, you have to find ways to create your own luck. Credit to Maddi for that and for not giving up on the play.”

Following that win, Bearden moved on to face Central on Tuesday, Sept. 22, while HVA took on Lenoir City the same day. Neither result was available by press time.

Rivalry

From page 2B

plenty to either side.

“Always a tough game, a four-quarter war down to the end,” Courtney said. “The team that usually makes the fewest mistakes will win — less penalties, less turnovers, makes a few more plays. It’s been that kind of rivalry.”

“They’re playing a few guys both ways and are in a similar situation we’re in, playing a similar strength of schedule,” Courtney continued. “Their combined opponents are 19-5 and ours are, too, so they’re right there in being challenged. So I’m sure they’ll show up and play their best game Friday.”

“It makes it a little more special,” Bearden coach Brad Taylor added. “Both schools have gone through trials and tribulations. For us, it hit us last year, and I hate it, but it hit Farragut this offseason. We’re still trying to rebuild and rebound, and it does make this game a little more special.”

Previous years have included pranks between the schools, though there have not been reports of anything so far.

On the field, the teams pres-

ent different looks.

Bearden features quarterback Aidan Thacker and tailback Drew Parrott in a shotgun look, while Farragut has shifted to the flex bone with a bit of shotgun still sprinkled in at times. Defensively, Zach Nicaud will play a big role, along with two-way standout Connor Gilbreath.

“I think it’s important for us to stop big plays from happening defensively, making them snap it again, and understand we’ll have to be good defending the run,” Taylor said of his team. “Offensively, we’ll have to be able to run the ball ourselves, too.”

Meanwhile, Courtney will look to quarterback Hayes Sharp and tailbacks Brenton Haag and Carter Collier to

lead the offense with defenders such as Thatcher Cherry and Mason Swor ready to keep the Bulldogs at bay.

“They’re big up front, and Parrott is tough to contend with as a big back,” Courtney said. “Runs hard. They’ve got skill players on the outside, and the Gilbreath kid is a good player.”

On Friday night, all those elements will clash as the Farragut-Bearden rivalry takes center stage once again.

And no matter what the record of each team is, one thing is clear: this one matters.

“It enhances the meaning of this game,” Taylor said. “We’ve both suffered hard times, but this game is important. Both these programs, they see it as, ‘Let’s go get a win this week.’”

Tate

From page 1B

But in July 2020, he took on the same position at Farragut, trading maroon for navy in the process. He still is considered a Bearden Bulldog by BHS coach Brad Taylor, but with FHS set to welcome the Dawgs this Friday, Tate said his allegiance is clear.

“I’m all Farragut now and have been since I’ve been here, but I still love the people at Bearden High School,”

he said. “I’ll appreciate what both sides are doing and understand the emotions from both sides. It’s just such a huge game, and now that I’m at Farragut, I still understand how both sides approach it. “It’s something the kids look forward to all year, and it doesn’t matter what the records or region standings are. When Farragut sees Bearden and vice versa, you can’t tell them both teams aren’t 9-0. It’s the game of the year.”



Tony Cox
Knoxville Catholic’s Cade Duncanson, right, passes an Anderson County runner en route to a first-place finish at The Mounds Invitational in Oak Ridge Saturday, Sept. 19.

Irish

From page 1B

(16:33.50) and Riley Horton in 10th (17:07.20).

“He stayed relaxed the first mile, and on a course like that, you have to,” O’Neil said of Duncanson, who also competed for Team USA this summer in Italy. “He did a really good job; once he made a move, he pushed himself to do more and wanted to see what time he could run. He did a good job keeping the pressure on.”

The same approach applied to the girls team, which saw a second-place finish from Caitlin Daniels (19:07.30) with Livi Ray in third (19:18.10), Drew Gerken in fourth (19:23.90), Julia Joyce in sixth (20:17.80) and Olivia Garcia in 10th (20:35.10).

“It’s been fun to watch them,” O’Neil said. “Caitlin, Drew and Livi were strong as freshmen, and they’ve worked

a lot so it’s been great to see them reap the rewards of everything they’ve put into it.”

In the boys race, Bearden’s Baylor Cool finished first among other area runners at 16th overall (17:45.00), while Lucas Griffin (19:56.70) came in first for the Admirals at 60th overall.

On the girls side, Bearden’s Afton Cruze (23:05.90) finished first for the Bulldogs at 24th overall, while Farragut’s Tania Masheshwari (24:32.80) led the Lady Ads in 46th place.

As for his own squad, O’Neil said the Irish have grown together more as the season has unfolded.

“We are really coming together as a team, doing a better job of being accountable, and I feel like it’s building to something special,” he said. “Our best races are still ahead of us.”

District

From page 1B

Williams. “She didn’t win, losing to a birdie, but it’s great to see the success and hard work pay off. All three of the girls just have been playing so well all season. For it to come together at districts and then come out on top, it was really fun to watch.”

The same was true for Will Feehan and Bryce Coulter on the boys side, as both Admirals will advance on to the region tournament after shooting 73 and 78, respectively.

“Will’s had a great year; he and Bryce both have,” Mahoney said. “Will played really well. Had it going on the back side, birdying 10, 11 and 12. Shooting 73 at Gettysvue is a really good score. And Bryce, he played well all day. He had a rough start on the first hole but bounced back from that.

We’re hoping that, come regions, they will be able to qualify individually for state. They should have a good chance to.”

Hardin Valley Academy finished as the team champion in that bracket, shooting 305 overall.

HVA’s Hunter Mousa and Bearden’s John Chapman tied at 72. But the title came down to the fifth participant, making Hardin Valley the winner since Caden Doane’s 81 trumped Aiden Morgan’s 86 for Bearden.

The Bulldogs will have one individual state tournament participant in Harper Weth, who finished with an 83.

Next week, the Hawks will look to punch their ticket to the final round at the state tournament in hopes of a second consecutive state title.

And the Lady Admirals will look to expound on a year that has delivered plenty already.

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‘Changed my life’: Lions honor late pastor

Jake Nichols

jnichols@farragutpress.com

After winning last year's How the West was Won contest, the Concord Christian School football team has looked to expand on that success this season.

But CCS also is honoring one of its own in a manner that extends far beyond the field.

This year, the Lions are wearing an "AT" sticker to honor the late Allan Taylor, a beloved First Baptist Concord associate pastor who died this

past July at the age of 71.

He served at the church from 2019 until his passing.

"Allan's heart was not bound by one set of walls," the First Baptist Concord website read about Taylor. "For decades, he devoted his life to strengthening churches across the country and nations, coming alongside pastors and congregations to help them grow biblically. He served with a shepherd's heart wherever he went — pointing people to Christ and inspiring people to

follow Jesus.

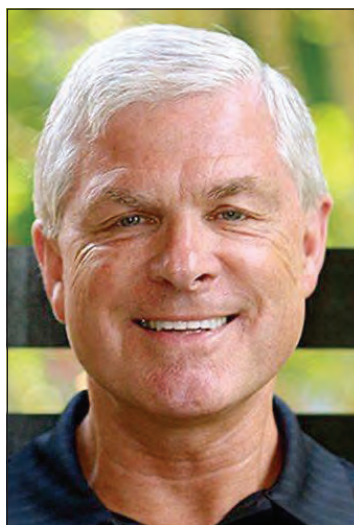
"The impact of his faithfulness reaches into communities and churches, and it will be felt for generations. Allan loved Jesus, loved this church and loved teaching others about the Lord. He reflected the love of Christ through his ministry, his kindness to all and his servant's heart. It was a privilege to serve alongside him, and he will be deeply missed."

For Lions head coach Steve Matthews, the tribute brought an especially personal meaning.

"I began meeting weekly with Allan two years ago, and at the time, I didn't realize it was the beginning of a relationship that would change my life," Matthews said. "Allan and I shared a love of football, and we enjoyed swapping stories about the game, coaching, and life. We also dove into the Bible headfirst, and week after week, he invested in me, challenged me, and encouraged me."

"The greatest gift Allan ever

See LIONS on Page 6B



Taylor

Farragut alumni come together for Homecoming



Jake Nichols

Farragut High School alumni gathered for a reunion during the Homecoming game last weekend. Pictured from left to right: Bill Parker, Pam (Darnbush) Spruiell, LeAnn (Welch) Mowery, Patti (Simpson) Shuler, Rena (Camp) Amerson, Mark Vaughan, Natalie (Leach) Sisk, Steve Murr. John Amerson, former FHS coach Eddie Courtney, Susan (Coleman) Slate and Chip Slate.

Jake Nichols

jnichols@farragutpress.com

On Friday, Sept. 19, dozens of Farragut High School alumni gathered near the football practice field for the latest Homecoming tailgate uniting Admirals of different generations.

The event was started by Leann Mowery and Natalie Sisk — both in the class of 1978 — and 1977 FHS graduate Rena Amerson.

Attendees munched on free hot dogs and cookies as they reconnected with classmates from years' past.

"We do it because we hope people will come that are alumni," Amerson said. "You never know who will be here. so you don't know if there will be 10 or 40. So then we also take do-

nations for people who come, and that is how we have kept it going this long. We just do it for everybody. Myself, Natalie Sisk and Leann are a part of the Farragut Alumni Association, and so that's how we got started."

Amerson noted this is not the only alumni gathering through the year, as they host different events the day after Christmas, too.

"We all still have families here or have moved back here," she said. "I've been here since the fourth grade, but we all want to get everyone together and keep in touch. That's been the best part of this event — we don't know who's going to show up."

"When we were here in the '70's, we were such a close-knit community, so we're trying to keep it that way."

Haslam College aims for top 15

Tammy Cheek

tcheek@farragutpress.com

With many business leaders in Rotary Club of Farragut, its members had an opportunity to be updated on what is happening at University of Tennessee's Haslam School of Business during RCF's meeting in Fox Den Country Club Wednesday, Aug. 19.

Dr. Lane Morris, dean of Haslam's undergraduate program, and Bethany Fields, associate director of development with the college, described its growth and successes over the years.

"Rotary has been a wonder-

ful philanthropic supporter of the college, and we're grateful for our relationship with you," Morris said. "... your service is loud and clear."

Having been with Haslam College for 35 years, "I have enjoyed every moment of it," he said of the college that has been operating since 1914.

"One of the things we're excited about is being in the top 25 public undergraduate business schools, and that's, quite frankly, an amazing accomplishment," he said. "When you look at all the business schools that are literally in the

See HASLAM on Page 6B

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Good Times, Great Impact

September was a month filled with goals, community, and incredible support for the Y! As we moved into the fall season, we were reminded once again of what makes our Y so special—the people who show up, get involved, and believe in the work we are doing throughout our community.

One of the biggest highlights of the month was our 2nd Annual Evening of Impact. What a night! It was so much fun seeing everyone come together for a great cause while enjoying an evening full of laughter, fellowship, and celebration. Our guests truly embraced the theme, arriving dressed to impress in their best Roaring 20's attire. From the outfits to the atmosphere, it was a night to remember!

More importantly, the Evening of Impact gave us an opportunity to celebrate the mission of the Y and the difference we can make when our community comes together. The support of our members, donors, volunteers, sponsors, and friends allows us to continue strengthening our community and creating opportunities for everyone to belong.

September reminded us that reaching goals is always more meaningful when we do it together. Thank you to everyone who



supported the Y, celebrated with us, and continues to be part of our story. We can't wait to see what we accomplish together next!





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Obituary

Patsy Linginfelter Barker, age 86, of Dunlap, TN passed away September 14, 2026 peacefully at her home surrounded by family. She was born on November 6, 1939 in Concord, TN. She was a 1957 graduate of Farragut High School, attended Bethel College in McKenzie and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. She taught at Sequatchie County High School. Patsy was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grand mother. She was a faithful member of Chapel Hill Methodist Church for 67 years. She loved to sing, cook, travel and spoil her grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents, Vernon and Evelyn Linginfelter; brother, V.W. Linginfelter.



She is survived by her husband of 67 years, Glenn Barker; her children, Glenda (Don) Mabry, of Lenoir City, Greg (Ester) Barker and John Barker, of Dunlap; grandchildren, Caleb (Taylor) Mabry, of Lenoir City, Hannah (Caleb) Ownby, of Farragut, Gaither, (Jillian) Barker, of Dunlap, Jeremiah (Savana) Barker, of Cleveland, Christian Payne, of Chattanooga, and Channing

Barker, of Dunlap; great-grand children, Ellison, Lillian, Jonah Mabry, of Lenoir City, Mabry and Evelyn Ownby, of Farragut; nieces and nephews, Ann Hale, Charlie and Allen Barker, Sarah Hampton, Jeff and Ray Linginfelter and their families; also survived by sister-in-law, Ann Linginfelter. The family wants to express their sincere gratitude to the very special care givers, Michelle Amburgey, Marylu Brown and Lynn Harmon for all their love and support, as well as Dr. Dibrell and the staff at Erlanger Bledsoe Hospital.

Services were held Friday, September 18 at 1:00 p.m. CDT Chapel Hill Methodist Family Life Center with Rev. Jared Wood and Rev. Tom Tucker officiating. Grandsons and nephews served as pallbearers. Burial was in Chapel Hill Cemetery. Online condolences can be made at www.reedfamilyfh.com. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial contributions be made to Chapel Hill Methodist Church Building Fund, 5606 East Valley Rd, Dunlap, TN 37327. Arrangements by Standefer-Reed Funeral Home, 50 May Rd, Dunlap, TN. The family received friends Thursday, September 17 at the funeral home 3:00-8:00 p.m. CDT and Friday 11:00-1:00 p.m. CDT at Chapel Hill Methodist Family Life Center.

Lions
From page 3B

gave me was leading me to Jesus Christ. Through his teaching, he led me to be saved, and I publicly proclaimed Jesus as my Lord and Savior. That day forever changed my life.”

Matthews added that he will

miss Taylor’s friendship and their Bible studies together. “But his legacy lives on through the countless lives he influenced,” Matthews added. “I’m grateful to be one of them. Allan changed my life in a way that I will never forget, and we are proud to honor him as a team.”

Press Planner

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

- The Farragut High School Basketball Booster Club is reaching out to the community for support. Funds raised this year will help with equipment, tournaments, player camps, livestreaming games and other team expenses. Visit farragutbasketball.givebacks.com/shop to find the best way your business can support the program.
- The Parents as Teachers’ 9th annual Roll & Read event will take place from 10 a.m. to noon on Friday, Sept. 25, at Safety City, 165 S. Concord St. Roll & Read is for families with children 5 years and younger. Admission, parking and all activities at the event are free. You do not have to be a Parents as

Teachers program participant to attend the Roll & Read event. This year’s theme is Knights, Dragons and Princesses, and children are encouraged to dress in character. Books will be read throughout the event, along with fun learning activities and free giveaways. More than 20 community vendors will be in attendance. Children will participate in fun activities such as face painting, building castles, and decorating shields, crowns and magic wands.

- The Lantern at Morning Pointe Hardin Valley will host a community yard sale Saturday, Sept. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 2433 Reagan Road. Every dollar raised will benefit the Morning Pointe Founda-

tion, helping support scholarships for students pursuing careers in healthcare and senior services. The event is open to the public.

- St. Elizabeth’s Episcopal Church, 110 Sugarwood Drive, is preparing for “Gift of the Month - Drive By to Drop Off Day” on Sunday, Sept. 27, from 1 to 2 p.m. This month’s recipient is Newborns in Need. This nonprofit organization provides vulnerable newborn babies with basic, essential items. The following items are needed: warm sleepers (preemie, newborn, 0-3 months), diapers (preemie, newborn, size 1), pacifiers (sized for newborns) and baby body wash.

Haslam
From page 3B

world — there are about 15,000, 16,000 business schools — and realize where we’re ... sitting in that big pile of business schools. It’s amazing.

“That’s the work of great faculty and amazing students and a great team environment,” he said and added the college has a goal of reaching the top 15 business schools by 2030.

“We’re having to fight our way and scratch our way to the top,” Morris said.

Still, “I cannot brag enough

about the University of Tennessee,” he said. “We have amazing leadership at the campus level. ... make our lives so much easier because they three work together.

“There are a lot of great things happening in Haslam College of Business, and rankings are one of them,” Morris said. “We work hard and let the rankings reflect that hard work.

“You can see tremendous growth of the college,” he said, noting the college’s enrollment has grown to about 9,900 undergraduate students and 1,200 graduate students,

making it the largest college on campus with about one third of the university’s student population. Freshman-to-sophomore retention is slightly above 94%, and more than 60% of graduates remain in Tennessee.

He said the average starting salary for the students is about \$62,000, with honors students earning approximately 10 to 15 % more.

Fields outlined how to engage with Haslam College students, discussed event attendance, mentoring, hiring students as interns and participating in career fairs.



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FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN WORKSHOP MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026 AT 5:00 PM

AGENDA

I. Roll Call

II. Business Items

A. Discussion of the Boring Road Corridor and Options

for Traffic Mitigation for New Farragut Elementary School

III. Adjournment

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



Farragut Town Hall | 11408 Municipal Center Drive

FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

I. Roll Call, Silent Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes

A. September 10, 2026

IV. Mayor’s Report

A. Proclamation Recognizing the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

V. Citizens Forum

VI. Ordinances & Resolutions

A. Ordinances

1. First Reading

a. Approval of Ordinance 26-19 on First Reading, to Amend Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Capital Investment Program Fund Budget, Passed by Ordinance 26-10

2. Second Reading & Public Hearing

a. Approval of Ordinance 26-17, on second reading, amending the Fiscal Year 2026-

2027 Capital Investment Program Fund Budget Passed by Ordinance 26-10

B. Resolutions

1. Approval of Resolution R-2026-16, Declaring Certain Town Property to be Surplus Property

VII. Business Items

A. Approval of Illuminated Street Signs Purchase and Installation

B. Approval of Change Order 1 to Contract 2026-24, South Monticello Road Culvert Replacement.

C. Approval of a Special Event for the St. John Neumann Catholic Church Mustang Miler 5K on Saturday, October 17, 2026

D. Approval of Contract 2027-03, Construction of Everett Road Greenway Connector

VIII. Town Administrator’s Report

IX. Town Attorney’s Report

X. Adjournment

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

High school students invited to showcase talent on MEDIC T-shirt

Staff Reports
editor@farragutpress.com

Knox County high school students have an opportunity to showcase their talent by taking part in MEDIC's T-shirt contest.

"MEDIC is hosting the contest to highlight our local high school design talent and to be able to highlight a fresh, new design on our March 2027 shirt," said Kristy Altman, MEDIC vice president of communications and public relations.

"It's a great way to engage a younger audience and educate young donors about what

MEDIC does in our community," she added.

"The contest runs through Monday, Sept. 28, and any local high school student is eligible to participate," Altman said. "The winning design will be featured as our March shirt design, and the winner will receive a \$500 e-gift card. We'll offer public voting opportunities starting in October."

According to the rules, students must attend a high school in Knox, Loudon and 20 other counties.

Designs must be submitted as a .png, pdf, or vector file.

All entries must be received by an exact date (before Sept.

28). Late entries are automatically rejected.

The rules state judging will be anonymous. Names or schools will not be tied to the design during the voting process. Artists are allowed to campaign for their own designs.

Also, designs must include references to blood donation, must include MEDIC logo and shirt color: black, red and white. However, they cannot contain copyrighted characters, slogans or logos.

Only one design per student is permitted, and artificial intelligence designs are not permitted.

"The artist reserves ownership of all copyrights in the works of visual art submitted," the rules stated. "And it grants MEDIC Regional Blood Center a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free, perpetual, transferable, sub-licensable license to:

- "Reproduce, publicly display, publicly perform, create derivative works from and use said art and associated textual description (in whole or in part) in print, electronic, online, and all media now known or hereafter developed for any purpose, including but not limited to MEDIC publications, website and social media and

other promotional and advertising material in support of MEDIC'S non-profit objective of providing blood to service area hospitals.

- Modify the art for any reason without prior or additional consent.
- Use the artist's name with reference to the artwork."

MEDIC reserves the right to reject any submission without showing cause.

The winner will be given no more than 10 shirts without requiring a blood donation.

For more information, visit medicblood.org

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Christian Academy of Knoxville	5-0	44-13 W	+183
Hardin Valley Academy	4-1	48-7 W	+139
Knoxville Catholic High School	4-1	35-7 L	+5
Concord Christian School	3-2	50-14 L	+11
Webb School of Knoxville	0-5	45-10 L	-98
Farragut High School	0-5	49-0 L	-167
Bearden High School	0-5	48-7 L	-188

Warriors roll, Hawks soar in Week 5

Jake Nichols

jnichols@farragutpress.com

At the midway point of the regular season, there are plenty of takeaways for teams across the Farragut and west Knoxville area.

Only one team remains unblemished: the Christian Academy of Knoxville Warriors.

After losing out to Concord Christian School in last year’s How the West was Won contest, CAK appears poised to capture the prize this season.

Chad Speck’s squad rolled over Silverdale Baptist Academy 44-13 last week, moving to 5-0 for the first time since 2020.

Quarterback Seaton Moffett took 11 carries for 220 yards and two touchdowns on the ground, adding a 4-for-15 clip for 31 yards through the air.

His backfield mate, running back Isaac Kannah, took 16 carries for 70 yards and two more rushing touchdowns. Also, Kannah found receiver Hunter Bennett for a 68-yard touchdown strike, while Bennett totaled four catches for 91 yards and the receiving TD.

Defensively, Marvin Wyrosdick led CAK with 12 total tackles, while Bennett Jelks made one tackle, recovered one fumble and returned an interception for a defensive touchdown. Sawyer Anderson added nine more tackles and an interception, and Jack Elliot finished with six total tackles and one forced fumble.

Jelks also went 4-for-5 on extra points, nailed a 21-yard field goal and boomed three punts for a 50-yard average with a long of 66 yards.

Fellow kicker Elijah Krokowski went 7-for-8 on touchbacks to pin the Seahawks deep in their own territory.

Down the road at Hardin



Jake Nichols

Left: Behind four scores from QB Riley Matz (9), Hardin Valley moved to 4-1 for the first time since 2011.

Above: Christian Academy of Knoxville remains undefeated after rolling over Silverdale Baptist Academy last week.

Valley Academy, the Hawks are off to their best start since 2011 after a 48-7 win over Bearden last week.

“It’s a testament to our kids, and I’m beyond proud of them,” head coach Tyler Wynn said. “They’ve fought hard, stayed the course. We’ve had a good start but have to keep the here and now at the forefront of our mind. We want to play in meaningful games down the road and want to be one of those four teams stand-

ing at the end.”

Riley Matz went 7-for-9 through the air for 160 yards and two scores in the rout, tossing one TD each to Jeremiah Brown and Cruize Furman. He added two more touchdowns on the ground, courtesy of three rush attempts for a total of 16 yards.

Ayden Perry and Nick Rivers added one score apiece on the ground, as Perry took 12 carries for 75 yards with Rivers carrying the ball twice

for 39 yards.

Defensively, Beau Wise led the Hawks with seven tackles, while Chance Sharp totaled six tackles as HVA held Bearden to -20 yards rushing.

“Anytime the defense plays like that, good things can happen,” Wynn said. “Offensively, we took what they gave us, and the kids made some good plays.”

In Nashville, Knox Catholic suffered its first loss of the season in a 35-7 result against

Montgomery Bell Academy. Ryheem Lee scored the Irish’s only touchdown of the game.

A few miles down I-24 near Murfreesboro, Concord Christian School ran into a similar fate in a 50-14 loss to Middle Tennessee Christian School for its second loss of the season. Webb lost 45-10 against Grace Christian Academy, while Farragut and Bearden lost 49-0 and 48-7 against Maryville and Hardin Valley, respectively.

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FARRAGUT TENNESSEE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2026

Vols, Horns set for high noon showdown

On Saturday, Sept. 26, Tennessee will welcome the top-ranked Texas Longhorns to Neyland Stadium for a marquee matchup at noon ET.

With ESPN’s College GameDay in town, the game broadcast set for ABC and fans ready to “checker” Neyland Stadium, the atmosphere will be electric.

“Excited to start conference play,” Tennessee coach Josh Heupel said in his media availability Monday, Sept. 21. “We’re getting ready to play a great opponent in Texas. They’re a battle-tested veteran group, and it starts with their quarterback. They have a ton of experience on the offensive line and the defense. It will be a great test.”

The Vols enter this game ranked No. 14 in the AP Poll, having dispatched Kennesaw State 42-9 last weekend in Knoxville.

Coming off a 30-6 win over the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), Texas will bring a far bigger test for the start of SEC play.

Moreover, the visitors from the Lone Star State will feature a unique family tie that Heupel alluded to in his opening statement.

Arch Manning, the nephew of former Tennessee quarterback Peyton Manning, will lead his burnt-orange-clad teammates into a frenzied environment in Knoxville.

In his 2026 debut, Manning quarterbacked the Longhorns to a thrilling comeback win over Ohio State to vault Texas into the top spot in the polls.

“Smart, got really good command and control of what’s going on,” Heupel said of Manning. “You can go back to the Ohio State game — his ability to be resilient, keep playing the next play, tells you about his competitive makeup.”

Against Manning and Texas, the Vols will look to utilize a vaunted rushing attack that has put up almost 900 rushing yards through the first three weeks.

Tailback DeSean Bishop left the Kennesaw State game with a hip injury, but Heupel said they will “make sure he’s ready to go for Saturday.”

Bishop and the Vols’ rushing attack will face a vaunted Texas front, which will present a new challenge for true freshman quarterback Faizon Brandon.

“As you get into conference play, you’ll play extremely talented fronts in this league every week, and Texas is certainly that,” Heupel said. “This will be our biggest test as far as the front seven we’re playing. They bring a lot of different pressures. All that combined with talent and athleticism have limited explosives.”

Altogether, there is plenty of talent on both sides for this matchup. The key will come in which team can remain composed in the biggest moments.

“There’s more media attention on this football game,” Heupel said. “At the end of the day, it’s the beginning of conference play. Have to under-

Farragut’s link to Texas: Bill Bates

This Saturday, Sept. 26, Tennessee will take on the Texas Longhorns for the first time since 1969.

Outside the game itself, there are not many non-Manning connections between the teams.

There is, however, a unique football link between the Farragut area and the Lone Star State.

Before becoming a three-time Super Bowl champion with the Dallas Cowboys, Bill Bates donned a similar star with blue and gray accents for the Farragut Admirals.

A 1979 FHS graduate, Bates became known for his aggressive style as a roving defensive back. He started for the Admirals as a freshman, ultimately leading the team to the state semifinals in 1978, and played basketball and ran track, too.

On the gridiron, Bates developed a reputation for delivering jarring blows throughout his time as an Admiral.

“He’s one of the toughest kids I’ve ever seen,” said Farragut athletic director Donald Dodgen of Bates. “He was such a hard worker, and look what he

did for the Dallas Cowboys. He was just hard-nosed.”

Bates carried that style into a starting role for Tennessee, becoming a well-known safety with the Vols under head coach Johnny Majors.

In his time wearing orange, Bates helped UT snap its losing streak to Alabama in 1982 en route to All-SEC campaigns his junior and senior seasons.

In 1983, Bates went undrafted but signed with the Cowboys.

Little did he or anyone else know how long that partnership would last.

Once he arrived in Dallas, Bates became a mainstay as a safety and special teams dynamo en route to a 15-year career with the team. He became the first-ever core special teams player to be voted to the Pro Bowl in 1984, and he remains the franchise’s all-time leader in special teams tackles.

“He’s a great person,” Dodgen said of Bates, “and was a great athlete who represented Farragut High School very well.”

~ Jake Nichols

stand the quality of the opponent, and Saturday will be electric in the stadium. But it comes down to each day, how you practice and prepare

to give yourselves a chance.”

~ Jake Nichols

LineUp University of Texas

0	Raleek Brown	RB	40	Lance Jackson	EDGE
0	John Meredith II	DB	41	Ziky Umeozulu	DB
1	Colin Simmons	EDGE	42	Trott O'Neal	DS
1	Ryan Wingo	WR	43	Mac Chiumento	P
2	Hollywood Smothers	RB	43	Eric Garza	LB
2	Derek Williams Jr.	DB	44	Markus Boswell	LB
3	Rasheem Biles	LB	44	Gianni Spetic	K
3	Emmett Mosley V	WR	45	Mikey Bukauskas	P
4	Jermaine Bishop Jr.	WR	45	Darius Snow	LB
4	Jelani McDonald	DB	46	Spencer Barnett	
5	Derrek Cooper	RB	46	Smith Orogbo	EDGE
5	Bo Mascoe	DB	47	Trey Dubuc	DS
6	Dia Bell	QB	48	Bryce Chambers	TE
6	Kobe Black	DB	48	Jackson Duffey	DB
7	Kaliq Lockett	WR	49	Jake Collett	K
8	Cam Coleman	WR	50	Laurence Seymore III	OL
8	Kade Phillips	DB	51	John Turntine III	OL
9	Karle “KJ” Lacey Jr.	QB	52	James Johnson	DL
9	Jonah Williams	DB	53	Isaiah Coleman	DL
11	Samari Matthews	DB	54	Cole Hutson	OL
13	Kohen Brown	WR	55	Elijah Ali	DL
13	Zelus Hicks	DB	56	Dylan Sikorski	OL
14	Brad Spence	EDGE/LB	58	Devin Coleman	OL
14	Chris Stewart	WR	62	Connor Robertson	OL
15	Michael Masunas	TE	64	Robert Sweeney	OL
15	Justus Terry	DL	68	Paris Patterson	OL
16	Tyler Atkinson	LB	69	Brooks Kieschnick Jr.	OL
16	Arch Manning	QB	70	Kaden Scherer	OL
17	Xavier Filsaime	DB	71	Melvin Sian	OL
17	Daylan McCutcheon	WR	72	Nicolas Robertson	OL
18	Sterling Berkhalter	WR	73	Brandon Baker	OL
18	Kosi Okpala	LB	74	Trevor Goosby	OL
19	MJ Morris	QB	75	Jaydon Chatman	OL
19	Zina Umeozulu	EDGE	76	Jackson Christian	OL
21	Hayward Howard Jr.	DB	77	Andre Cojoe	OL
21	Ryan Niblett	RB/WR	78	Jordan Coleman	OL
23	Jordon Johnson-Rubell	DB	79	Jonte Newman	OL
24	Warren Roberson	DB	80	Brinley Tita	EDGE
25	Toray Davis	DB	81	Nick Townsend	TE
25	Luke Dunham	QB	82	Ridge Barker	TE
27	Wardell Mack	DB	83	Spencer Shannon	TE
28	Justin Cryer	LB	85	Emaree Winston	TE
28	Jett Walker	RB	86	Hudson Powell	WR
29	Graceson Littleton	DB	87	Will Randle	TE
30	Rocky Cummings	LB	88	Charlie Jilek	TE
31	Yaheim Riley	DB	88	Maraad Watson	DL
31	James Simon	RB	89	Ty Boatright	WR
32	Brady Sarkisian	LB	90	Josiah Sharma	DL
33	Carson Berger	RB	92	Colton Vasek	EDGE
33	Myron Charles	DL	93	Hero Kanu	DL
35	Rett Andersen	WR	94	Jamarion Carlton	EDGE
35	McCoy Bruce	DB	95	Ian Geffrard	DL
36	Nick Hudson	DB	96	Zion Williams	DL
37	Jonathan Cunningham	LB	97	Alex January	DL
39	Evan Enderlin	WR	99	Richard Wesley	EDGE

LineUp University of Tennessee

59	Dereon Albert	DL	12	George MacIntyre	QB
34	Zay Anderson	DB	44	Drake Martinez	TE
71	Ed Baker	OL	43	Jackson Mathews	DB
2	Justin Baker	RB	4	Mike Matthews	WR
24	Hunter BarnesR	B	40	KJ McClain	DB
55	Mike Bethea II	DL	25	Tim Merritt	DB
18	DeSean Bishop	RB	20	Tevis Metcalf	DB
66	Kamari Blair	OL	1	TJ Metcalf	DB
48	Bennett Brady	LS	75	Wendell Moe Jr.	OL
7	DaSaahn Brame	TE	58	Nic Moore	OL
11	Faizon Brandon	QB	17	Daune Morris	RB
42	DJ Burks	DB	6	Qua Moss	DB
11	Jordan Burns	LB	33	Jordan Norman	DL
0	Amare Campbell	LB	55	Antoni Ogumoro	OL
47	Isaiah Campbell	DL	79	Gabriel Osenda	OL
38	Brayden Carroll	WR	56	Sam Pendleton	OL
7	Arion Carter	LB	27	Jadon Perlotte	LB
95	Breeze Carter	DL	72	Jesse Perry	OL
38	Jowell Combay	DB	35	Ben Petermann	WR
30	JaColby Cooper	WR	13	Mason Phillips	QB
31	Lane Cope	WR	3	Tre Poteat III	DB
93	Grady Dangerfield	PK	59	Charlie Powell III	OL
0	Ethan Davis	TE	34	Will RajECKi	RB
9	Joakim Dodson	WR	28	Cooper Ranvier	PK
81	Ian Duarte	WR	4	Ty Redmond	DB
9	Mariyon Dye	DL	8	Jadais Richard	DB
85	CJ Edwards	DL	39	Darryl Rivers	DL
15	Edrees Farooq	DB	36	Nathan Roberts	WR
26	JJ Finch	DL	19	Nathan Robinson	DL
99	Logan Foley	P	98	Jackson Ross	P
44	Christian Gass	DL	28	Brayden Rouse	LB
35	Carson Gentle	DL	26	Doren Sacha	WR
63	Jeremy George-El	OL	70	David Sanders Jr.	OL
2	Xavier Gilliam	DL	50	Ryan Scott	LB
78	Gage Ginther	OL	57	Grier Short	LB
37	Kedric Golston II	DL	87	Nuk Simmons	DL
36	Carter Gooden	DL	30	Javonte Smith	DB
6	Javin Gordon	RB	1	Travis Smith Jr.	WR
56	Zach Groves	DL	13	Edwin Spillman	LB
29	Isaiah Hardge	DB	14	Braylon Staley	WR
88	Deon Hardin	WR	8	Ryan Staub	QB
12	Jaedon Harmon	LB	60	Thomas Storm	OL
97	Hezekiah Harris	DL	22	Jeremiah Telder	LB
80	Cole Harrison	TE	21	Jamyran Theodore	DB
69	Donovan Haslam	OL	82	Trent Thomas	TE
51	Jeremias Heard	OL	85	Luke Thompson	WR
5	Daevin Hobbs	DL	94	Josh Turbyville	P/PK
99	Charles House III	DL	74	Shamurad Umarov	OL
53	Blake Howard	LS	17	Ethan Utley	DL
3	Radarious Jackson	WR	23	Sidney Walton	DB
29	Jack-Henry Jakobik	WR	18	Tyree Weathersby	DL
19	Tyreek King	WR	51	TJ White	LB
65	Michael Kostantonov	OL	77	Ory Williams	OL
10	Dejuan Lane	DB	87	Luca Wolf	TE
14	Kayin Lee	DB	31	Joel Wyatt	DB
24	Dylan Lewis	DB			