

Special Session with the Senator

United States Senator Lamar Alexander held a "Special Session" with the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members and local citizens Wednesday, October 10, at Farragut Town Hall. After enjoying a continental breakfast in the lobby from Panera and provided by TDS Telecom, the standing room only crowd filled into the auditorium. Former Farragut Mayor Bob Leonard introduced Alexander, noting that the senator is a seventh generation Tennessean and the only person to have served as the president of the University of Tennessee as well as governor and senator of his home state.

Alexander spoke briefly about his childhood and brought laughter to the audience when recounting a story from his high school days. "I had a teacher at Maryville High School who made me write the word 'just' on the blackboard 100 times," he said. "She told me that I wouldn't amount to anything if I continued to talk with improper diction and that I had to learn to say that word correctly. She told me, 'It's not just it's just'"

Noting that he was governor of Tennessee during Homecoming '86, Alexander said that he was pleased that the Town of Farragut opened the Farragut Folklife Museum as part of the Homecoming Celebration.

Alexander addressed three main points during his speech. The first being the bi-partisan politics in Washington D.C. "I am trying to change the way we do business in Washington, instead of letting it change me," he said. "I suggested to some of the Senators that we meet for breakfast, put our political views aside and discuss the issues; keeping in mind what is best for America." The senator then spoke to the war in Iraq and said that we are in a "political stalemate." Alexander said that he believes that we need to "finish honorably and move from a combative role to a supportive role." The third point that Alexander addressed is over-spending in Washington. "I'm used to balancing budgets," he

said. Alexander said that Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid will cost more in 20 years than the U.S. government is spending today. The senator said that he is in favor of the line item veto and believes it would be beneficial for Senators to work on a two-year budget ... meaning that the first year would be devoted to a budget lasting for two years; allowing for the second year to be dedicated to legislation and implementation.

Before taking questions from the audience, Alexander spoke of a visit to an elementary school in Piney Flats, Tennessee. He noted that the children were interested and knowledgeable about U.S. history and politics. He asked the students if any had seen the Ken Burns film, "The War", which is a PBS documentary about World War II, and many had. Alexander quoted Burns

saying, "Our country was more united at this time (WWII) than at any other time in history." The senator noted that with diversity comes unity, ending with our country's motto, "E Pluribus Unum," or "Out of Many, One", and said that we as Americans need a little more Unum and a little less Pluribus in order to keep our country strong.



United States Senator, Lamar Alexander, made a visit to Farragut Town Hall for a "Special Session" with the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members and Farragut residents, Wednesday, October 10. Pictured above with Alexander are Alderman John Williams, Chamber President, Bettye Sisco, Alderman Tom Rossee and Knox County Mayor Mike Ragsdale.

The Town of Farragut is holding its second annual "BUY IN FARRAGUT" campaign beginning Thursday, November 29 and continuing through Monday, December 24. Participating businesses will have extra signs, use of the Town logo and outdoor sales. The Town has purchased special advertising in local print and radio as well as ads on the Town of Farragut cable station and Web site. The "BUY IN FARRAGUT" campaign is provided by the Town at no cost to participating businesses as a way to promote the many excellent businesses in the town of Farragut.

member briefs...

First Tennessee recently named Michelle Carr regional sales manager of the Farragut financial center. Carr has been with First Tennessee for 19 years. In her new position, she will manage four First Tennessee financial centers. Carr resides in Farragut with her husband, Gordon, and has lived in the community for 30 years. She is a member of the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce and is a volunteer and member of the Concord/Farragut Sertoma club.

First Tennessee recently named Kathy Arwood manager of the Farragut financial center. Arwood has been with First Tennessee for more than 13 years. In her new position, Arwood will work with her staff to provide individual and business customers in the West Knoxville and Farragut areas with financial services such as loans, financial planning, insurance and banking.

See MEMBER BRIEFS page 2

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Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members gathered for a ribbon cutting ceremony at **Jeannette Rogers State Farm** office Wednesday, October 10. Pictured left are Rogers (holding scissors) Kim Hughes, office manager, Melissa Fields, receptionist and Sheena Davis, associate among Chamber members and friends. Jeannette Rogers State Farm office is located at 9648 Kingston Pike, in the Franklin Square Shopping Center. For more information, call Jeannette Rogers at 865-693-7541.

Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members gathered at **Memories Portraits** for a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new location, 717 South Peters Road, Friday, October 26. Owner, David Gerwels, holding scissors, said he chose to manage his entire business from this location because the building is surrounded by three acres of land, allowing him to use the natural surroundings to further enhance his quality portraits. Along with Gerwels are (front row, left to right) Greg Carter, Rennie Leon, Jennifer Colon, Rena Amerson and Curtis Johnston. Back row, left to right are Chamber President, Bettye Sisco, Shayna Doubly, Lisa Wells, Joeva Merriion and Rick Disheroon.



member briefs..

from page 1

National College of Business and Technology's Knoxville campus recently celebrated Medical Assisting Week, the week of October 15. Students had the opportunity to meet perspective employers at a mini job fair. The week was capped off with the annual medical scrubs fashion show.



Rather & Kittrell Capital Management moved its offices to 11905 Kingston Pike in the Farragut Professional Park earlier this month. The move has given the business additional physical space allowing them to continue to provide their clients with exceptional service. For more information about Rather & Kittrell, call 865-218-8400.



Jameson Inn has announced two new positions at its location at Market Place Blvd. Sydney Hogan has joined the company as director of sales and Todd Keiskell has joined as assistant general manager. Hogan and Keiskell have more than 17 years of sales and hotel and restaurant experience.

See MEMBER BRIEFS page 4



Chamber members Raeus Cannon of Cannon Networking Systems and Gene Collins of Gevity are surrounded by fellow Chamber members as they catch up on current events at the networking hosted by the **Optimist Club** Thursday, October 4, at Farragut Town Hall.



Chamber members Kari Branum and Trey Adams of Highland West Memorial and Marti Townsend and Joy Seaver of Knoxville News Sentinel listen for their names as door prize winners at the evening networking at **Carino's Italian Grill**, Thursday, October 11.



Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members gather at the **Knoxville Museum of Art** for an evening networking Thursday, October 18.



Executive Director of the **Knoxville Museum of Art**, David Butler, Chamber President, Bettye Sisco and Executive Assistant, Joeva Merriion, greet the Chamber members and present a door prize at the networking at the **KMA**, Thursday, October 18.

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 ORNL Federal Credit Union – Farragut Branch
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 Puma & Associates Insurance Solutions
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 Rush Fitness Complex
 Servpro of West Knoxville
 State Farm Insurance – Cindy Doyle
 Stone & Hinds, P.C.
 SunTrust Bank – Turkey Creek
 The Eye Group, P.C.
 Valpak of East Tennessee
 Volunteer Chiropractic



Members of the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce and Farragut Kiwanis Club's K-Kids pass out necklaces and candy to the trick-or-treaters at **Freaky Friday**.



Batman and Robin aka Jonathon (left), 21 months and Jake Harper, 4 years, were among the many trick-or-treaters at **Freaky Friday** at Mayor Bob Leonard Park, Friday, October 26.



Joani Leeds of PostNet introduces herself to Chamber of Commerce members at the **New Member Breakfast** held at Baptist Hospital West/Baptist Hospital for Women, October 9. New member orientation breakfasts are held twice a year to welcome new members and to inform them of Chamber benefits available.

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President Quotes 'n Notes

by Betty Sisco



"The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come... I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving... And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions... singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union..."

- Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation October 3, 1863

This time of year is a time of reflection and gratitude. It is a time for celebration and giving thanks for all our friends, family and for what God has given to us. Here are "some" of the blessings in my life.

I have been blessed with the gift of life. I have learned to not take life for granted. You never know when it will be taken away from you. So today, enjoy life as much as possible.

It's about more than being thankful for one day, it is an entire lifetime. Be thankful for all the things in your life, no matter how big or small. Even in our deepest sorrow, we can find things to be thankful for.

Remember, although the harvest might not always be plentiful and family and friends may be few, God has given us each a great deal to be thankful for. It is much easier to thank God for our blessings than to find a way to be thankful in the midst of our troubles.

I'm thankful that I have the strength to meet the challenges that come with life. I'm thankful for each memory that family and friends have given me. I'm thankful for having a profound understanding that it is more important to give than to receive. This Thanksgiving I have much to be thankful for.

I am thankful for you.

Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce

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www.farragutchamber.com

This newsletter is published monthly by the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce.

Welcome to our new Farragut West Knox Chamber members!

Farragut Wine & Spirits
Retail
Robin Purvis
11238 Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37934
(865) 777-2001

Fox College Funding
Financial
Angela Keathley
200 Prosperity Drive
Knoxville, TN 37923
(865) 824-2728

Jorg Movers
Moving Company
Leo Ebbert
1224 Wallingford Road
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J.D. Best Tax Services
Accounting and Tax Service
Judith McGlothlin

8200 Kingston Pike, Suite 7
Knoxville, TN 37919
(865) 531-9700

Mulligan's Restaurant
Donald Anderson
8923 Linksvue Drive
Knoxville, TN 37923
(865) 862-8923

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Knoxville, TN 37922
(865) 694-8100

Regal Entertainment Group
Theater
Jason Hasko
11240 Parkside Drive
Knoxville, TN 37922
(865) 966-3500

Sentry Insurance
Insurance
Greg Carter
1449 Staffwood Road
Knoxville, TN 37922
(865) 806-8688

Snap Fitness - Hardin Valley
Fitness Club
David Banks
10673 Hardin Valley Road
Knoxville, TN 37932
(865) 693-4303

Staging Home Design
Design & Staging
LaToya A. Williams
2121 Amherst Road
Knoxville, TN 37921
(865) 386-2145

member briefs...

from page 2

Shaun Becknel, a professional with more than 20 years of accounting and managerial experience, recently joined Moxley Carmichael public relations firm as office manager. Becknel is a New Orleans native who relocated to Knoxville. Prior to joining Moxley Carmichael, she was chief financial officer for Space Walk Interactive, LLC. Located in First Tennessee Plaza, Moxley Carmichael provides public relations expertise to many major East Tennessee businesses and organizations.

Turtleheads Tea and Coffee Company, LLC celebrated its one-year anniversary November 1, 2007. Owners Tamara and Jan Miller opened the retail store located at 11130 Kingston Pike in Farragut with a line of loose leaf teas from around the globe, artisan roasted fresh organic coffee beans and coffee and tea gifts and accessories. Turtleheads also has a collection of traditional and contemporary tea ware and accessories from around the world, infuser mugs and tea and coffee storage solutions. For more information about Turtleheads Tea and Coffee, visit the Web site at www.turtleheadsteandcoffee.com or call 865-675-5505.

The Knoxville Chapter of Executive Women International installed its officers for the upcoming year including Terrye Whitaker as vice president. Terrye is the Career Center Director of National College of Business and Technology. This organization currently provides the opportunity for one of the students to win a \$2,500 scholarship and Terrye will be overseeing the collection of applications for that scholarship. Executive Women International is a non-competitor organization that provides professional development, business networking opportunities and community activities.

Calendar of Events

Please call the Chamber office at 675-7057 for information

November 15 *Networking Event, 8:00 a.m.*
Fitness Together
11521 Kingston Pike
865-671-2422

November 22 *Happy Thanksgiving*

November 27 *Chamber Holiday Open House, 5:00 p.m.*
Chamber of Commerce Office at 11826 Kingston Pike

November 28 *Ribbon Cutting*
Broyles Photography
12748 Kingston Pike, Suite 106

November 29 *Networking, 5:00 p.m.*
Yessick's Design Center
11035 Parkside Drive
865-671-3100

December 6 *Networking, 8:00 a.m.*
Jefferson Federal Bank
11916 Kingston Pike
(865) 288-1460

December 13 *Networking, 5:00 p.m.*
Dermatology Associates of Knoxville/Skin Care Center
11416 Grigsby Chapel Road, Suite 101
(865) 675-8000



Who's who... It's Benefits Time!



Leslie Tucker

This time of year, many of us are busy making lots of decisions -- what to serve for Thanksgiving, how to budget for the holidays, what to resolve in the New Year, etc. etc. But beyond turkey and trimmings and shopping for the perfect gifts, this is when most employers and employees think about a different kind of package -- not those wrapped with a pretty bow but those that could be the difference between life and death. I'm talking about benefits packages!

A good benefits package can be as valuable as a generous salary. Insurance options are numerous and often confusing, so it's a good thing there are professionals to help. Utilize their knowledge and make sure you are familiar with all options. That may mean purchasing supplemental insurance to complement existing policies. Supplemental insurance can be tailored to your particular health and security needs. Many companies offer a full range of services and payroll-deducted insurance policies on a voluntary basis -- a win-win for both employer and employee.

"Most people don't realize that our supplemental plans are free to the employer. It helps them meet the individualized needs of each employee without having to fund another expensive plan," says Cynthia Moore, an independent Aflac agent and new Chamber member. Aflac offers many types of supplemental insurance including policies for cancer, heart disease, accidental, short term disability, dental and vision. "People can pick and choose what they need. It is so rewarding because I get to help people when they're in a crisis. Usually, our policy holders have a check in seven to ten days."

Aflac offers supplemental insurance to companies with as few as three employees. "It's great for smaller companies." She can sell to clients directly but if people purchase the plan under an employer, they receive around a 40 percent discount. So, if you're an employer who wants to offer your staff a gift that keeps on giving, consider supplemental insurance. No gift wrapping required!

Cynthia Moore can be reached at 865-414-4235.

Leslie Tucker is a local writer/photographer. She served as Managing Editor at Cocoon Publishing, is a former farragutpress reporter, wrote for Scripps Productions and spent nearly three years working in New York before making Knoxville home. She can be reached at ltpro2006@yahoo.com.