



# CHAMBER LIFE

"THE MISSION STATEMENT IS TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY BY PROMOTING BUSINESS GROWTH, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT."

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## Member Briefs

Looking for more details on a specific event, special or job? Go to [www.farragutchamber.com](http://www.farragutchamber.com) to see these and other member items!

Kathryn Schrader, CMA Founder of **Eaton Tax & Business Services** in Knoxville, was honored with the Women Who Count Small Business Professional Award from the Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance (AFWA). The Women Who Count Awards recognize women who demonstrate a drive to take on challenges and strive for success. They are leaders in their companies and communities. They've earned the trust and respect of their clients and peers, and they show enthusiasm toward their career and the accounting and finance industry as a whole. Congratulations Kathryn!

Hitson Crum & Blazer Insurance, Inc. has expanded under the new company name of **Bryan Insurance Group, Inc.** and opened an additional office in Farragut, locally owned by Matthew Bryan. Services include home, auto, business, and life insurance coverage.

**Mountain Commerce Bank** has received a superior five-star rating from Bauerfinancial, Inc., the nation's leading independent bank and credit union rating and research firm.

**Cirrus Insight** was ranked the best start-up culture according to participants in The Tennessee Tech Census, a data initiative from Powerkeg national innovation network. Jim Biggs, Knoxville Entrepreneur Center executive director, added "It was fun to see companies like Cirrus Insight be recognized for having a strong culture, which is, I think, another thing we try and help people develop as entrepreneurs."

**Pinnacle Financial Partners** is two-for-two in making FORTUNE magazine's list of the Best Workplaces for Women. The firm earned the No. 12 spot on the list for 2018, its second year in a row to be ranked.

Give the gift of repair this year! There may be someone on your shopping list who could use a smartphone screen repair for Christmas, or how about a tablet that no longer charges or a computer that has a virus? Give the folks at **uBreakiFix Turkey Creek**, located at 11133 Parkside Drive, Knoxville 37934, a call at (865) 288-4091 or visit <https://www.ubreakifix.com/locations/turkeycreek>. The technicians would love to help you give the gift of repair, you'll just love their low prices and high-quality repairs plus the devices are safe with them and will be returned looking and working as good as new in only one hour!

**InXpress Knoxville Central, Inc.** is DHL's Global Partner owned and operated by Dan Doyle. Have frustrations in International Shipping? Customs issues, paperwork frustrations? If you are a business owner that ships at least once a week, DHL has allowed Dan to offer business account rates that won't increase in 2019 if you activate and ship before the new year. Save time, money and hassle with a local representative. Call Dan at (865) 201-9175, or visit <http://inxpressknoxvillecentral.com> for more information.

See MEMBER BRIEFS on Page 4

## Holiday Open House is an outstanding success

Business exhibitors were BUSY the night of December 11 when the Chamber threw its doors wide open for its annual Holiday Open House, a beloved tradition that welcomes chamber members and their guests to celebrate the season with a festive event that thanks them for their support all year long! Hundreds of members and guests gathered together for the Chamber's final large-scale member event before preparing to close out 2018.

Event Rentals by Rothchild provided a NEW clear sided heated and decorated tent in front of the Chamber office that let anyone passing by get a glimpse of the fun inside. Member restaurants/businesses stationed around the interior showcased some of their favorite items. The variety of food available to try was sure to please any palate and included both longtime members of the chamber and newcomers. Samplings of smoked brisket mac n' cheese, boursin bites, spicy salmon, wings, fresh juices, almond champagne, prime rib sliders and more were provided by Abuelo's: The Flavor of Mexico, Big Kahuna Wings, Clean Juice, Dickey's Barbecue Pit, Jet's Pizza Farragut, Knoxville Room Service, Manorhouse Assisted Living, Tropical Smoothie Café, and Water Into Wine. Dixie Lee Wines & Liquors provided fabulous wines served by The Pour Guys while The Casual Pint - Farragut offered some of their favorite ales and AquaClear transformed their filtered water into toasty hot cocoa.

Music, sound equipment and soulful holiday vocals were courtesy of students from Angela Floyd School of Dance & Music.

Guests inside the Chamber office eagerly anticipated the soon-to-

open Farragut Starbucks by sampling coffee courtesy of the Cedar Bluff area store. Cakes, pies and pastries were plentiful from Apple Cake Tea Room, Buttermilk Sky Pie Shop, Edible Arrangements, "Mom's" Truffles, Panera Bread, NHC Farragut and State Farm - Vanessa Brown. A long line quickly formed outside President Julie Blaylock's office for chair massages from Glenna Butler and Frieda Fontinella.

Most exciting was watching the floor and walls fill with toys and donations for "The Giving Tree" inside the office. Representatives of St. John Neumann's Saint Vincent De Paul Society were gracious and in disbelief over the generosity of member businesses. Items will be wrapped and distributed next week to six local families with small children through SJN's St. Vincent de Paul Society, a worldwide voluntary Christian community founded in 1833. Members show commitment through person-to-person contact and service, providing any help that alleviates suffering and deprivation and promotes human dignity.

The Chamber thanks these businesses who stepped up to take on adoption of entire families to ensure that most, if not ALL wishes/needs on their lists would be fulfilled: His Security Farragut, Michael Brady, Knoxville Executive Suites, The Casual Pint Farragut and Manorhouse Assisted Living.

Thank you to ALL who helped make this event the huge success that it was. We hope to see everyone again next December and wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday season!

## Chamber ends regular season with Scholarships

The final regular networking of the 2018 calendar year concluded with host HomeTrust Bank in Farragut, but it was not all coffee and conversation on Thursday, December 6.

The Chamber was proud to present not one, but two \$500 Continuing Education Scholarship reimbursements to business members Superior Carpet & Rug Cleaning and BK Lash & Skin Boutique. Respective owners, Kerry McDuffie and Beverly Kobus each applied for scholarships in recent months through the Chamber's Scholarship program, a benefit exclusive to members of over one year.

McDuffie has been a member for almost 15 years, while Kobus just celebrated her 1st membership anniversary in November. The Executive Board reviews and considers each scholarship request, then determines the amount to be awarded as a reimbursement after the specified training/coursework has been completed.



Scholarships are only possible through the Chamber's ongoing event fundraising efforts (i.e. the Annual Auction) and through the support of is Enterprise Club members, of which HomeTrust Bank is one. Enterprise Club members go above and beyond their regular annual investment at one of four

levels: Admiral Elite, Admiral, Captain and Anchor. The Chamber was thrilled to have the Town of Farragut (Admiral Elite) and Michael Brady, Inc. (Anchor) on hand in addition to host HomeTrust Bank (Anchor). Congratulations to the recipients!

# ENTERPRISE CLUB

These Chamber members generously contribute to the Chamber and the Continuing Education Scholarship Program above and beyond their annual dues.

ADMIRAL ELITE



ADMIRAL



CAPTAIN



ANCHOR



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**TVA**  
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 Insurance Consulting

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 @deathtaxlayer

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 (865) 474-9495  
 @HISecurity

**Pinnacle Financial Partners**  
 (865) 766-3070

**The DW Designs**  
 (865) 288-7008  
 @thedwdesigns

**Sparks Insurance**  
 (865) 687-1855  
 @SparksInsurance

**Tennessee State Bank**  
 (865) 288-5040  
 @tnstatebank

**Beltone**  
 (865) 630-2430  
 @beltone.south.hearing.aid

**The Tennessee Credit Union**  
 (865) 693-9500  
 @TheTennesseeCU

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

from  
**Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce**

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**SouthEast bank**  
 Your community bank • Wherever you are

**farragut**

**ADMIRAL**

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**CAPTAIN**

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**Pinnacle**  
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**KRUGGEL LAWTON CPA**

**NHC PLACE**  
 FARRAGUT

# Who's who...

## Connors Steak & Seafood

**Member Business:** Connor's Steak and Seafood  
**Name/Title:** Cory King, General Manager  
**How you benefit from our Chamber:** A lot of communication about social events, it's like an old school form of social media.  
**Greatest business success:** We received #1 on Trip Advisor and #1 the past two years for Forbes Business Insider for Chopped Steak Houses.  
**Greatest business frustration:** Staffing; it gets pretty busy here!  
**Most positive trend facing businesses today:** Foot and guest count is higher than it's been in years!  
**Most negative trend facing businesses today:** For our industry, again, staffing, and more the positions we call "back houses" such as the cooks that have a lot of hard work to do with the place being so busy.  
**How you got into the business:** I always enjoyed cooking and knew I wanted into the business. I've been here for 19 years, since 1998; the people are just great.  
**What makes you stand out:** We put people first, the servers, greeters, and people in the back. It is 100% the people.  
**What genre of music embodies your business:** Light smooth jazz. It's easy on the ears and light and calm for a better dynamic for the space.  
**Favorite product/service you offer:** When you come to Connor's you have to try a little of everything or you've missed out. From homemade calamari with cocktail sauce, to our lobster crab bisque, and of course the steak and seafood with homemade toppings.  
**What you love about the atmosphere/culture of your business?** It has a smaller feel, more private, while still being lively and energetic where people can come and enjoy their time. It doesn't feel big or massive; it has a small feel without being TOO small.  
**Most influential person in your life/business?** Mike Connor and all the others that work with him. His values are the core of the business and make it successful.  
**Greatest lesson you have learned?** Mike's recipe for success.  
**Greatest lesson you teach?** The guest comes first; they are spending their time and hard earned money here and should walk away feeling like they got value and good service.

By Giuliana Castillo



## President Quotes 'n Notes

Julie A. Blaylock



While the Chamber office winds down our calendar year in preparation for the holidays, we also look forward to a busy and bright 2019 full of business networkings, new members, great programs and service offerings and the privilege of continuing to serve this community and the businesses who make it thrive.  
 But let's not get ahead of ourselves if we can help it! More and more it is all too easy to let time race by us without truly taking a few moments to pause and enjoy the PRESENT. So on behalf of the Farragut West Knox Chamber Board of Directors, Ambassador volunteers and staff, we want to urge you to have the happiest holiday

possible. Enjoy each moment as you live it, and enjoy these quotes to help lift the spirit of the season:

"Joy is what happens to us when we allow ourselves to recognize how good things really are." (Marianne Williamson)

"The holiday season is a time for storytelling, and whether you are hearing the story of a candelabra staying lit for more than a week, or a baby born in a barn without proper medical supervision, these stories often feature miracles." (Lemony Snicket)

"My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?" (Bob Hope)

"Love the giver more than the gift." (Brigham Young)

"There is nothing in this world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humor." (Charles Dickens)

"Gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect." (Oren Arnold)

"New Year's Day is every man's birthday." (Charles Lamb)

## Welcome New Members!

The Chamber welcomes these businesses who joined us recently in the month of November! Did you know businesses/organizations can submit an application & payment online? Visit [www.farragutchamber.com](http://www.farragutchamber.com) and click "Join the Chamber!"

**Bryan Insurance Group – Farragut Office**  
**Matthew Bryan**  
 102 Chaho Road  
 Farragut, TN 37934  
<http://www.bryaninsurance.com>

**Tech Nav**  
**Charlie and Victory Harbin**  
 PO Box 27691  
 Knoxville, TN 37927  
<http://www.technav.org>

**Fresh Coat Painters of Knoxville**  
**Greg Spradling**  
 118 N. Peters Road  
 Suite 346  
 Knoxville, TN 37923  
<http://www.FreshCoatKnoxville.com>

**University of Tennessee – Center for Career Development – Employer Development**  
**Daniel Pape**  
 201 Student Union  
 1015 Philip Fulmer Way  
 Knoxville, TN 37996  
<http://https://career.utk.edu/>

## Welcome NEW Enterprise Members

CAPTAIN LEVEL:  
**inclineHR**  
**Gregory Cline**  
 811 Weatherly Hills Blvd.  
 Farragut, TN 37934



CAPTAIN LEVEL:  
**The Knox Fox: Teri Jo Fox & Eric Whitener, Crye-Leike Realtors**  
 9539 Kingston Pike  
 Knoxville, TN 37922



## Welcome Back Renewing Members

The Farragut/West Knox Chamber welcomes back these businesses who have renewed their investment in the Chamber as of this past November. We are privileged to count them as Farragut/West Knox Chamber of Commerce members! We urge members to patronize one another when the goods or services a member can provide are needed. It is also our hope that area residents recognize the commitment a business makes to its community when it becomes part of its local chamber of commerce and reward that commitment with their patronage.

Acti-Kare Responsive In-Home Care  
 Admiral Title, Inc.  
 Aleex Conner/Realty Executives  
 Aleex Conner/Residential Real Estate  
 All Occasions Party Rentals  
 Brandon's Awards  
 Buddy's Bar-B-Q-Farragut  
 Campbell Station Wine & Spirits  
 Christian Brothers Automotive  
 Dura-Line  
 The Eye Group, P.C. –  
*Thank you for your Anchor Enterprise Membership!*  
 Farragut ENT & Allergy  
 First Baptist Church of Concord

Graham and Cook Insurance  
 Home2Suites by Hilton  
 Horne Properties  
 Image Matters, Inc.  
 Karen Greene with United Real Estate Solutions  
 Knoxville Real Estate Professionals Inc.  
 LC Fence, LLC  
 Linda's Hallmark  
 Little Joe's Pizza  
 The Maddox Companies  
 Movement Mortgage  
 Net3 Information Technology

NHC Place - Assisted Living –  
*Thank you for your Anchor Enterprise Membership!*  
 Patdome Promotions  
 Profile by Sanford Health  
 Promo Joe by Jessica, Inc.  
 REO, LLC  
 Superior Carpet and Rug Cleaning  
 The Stokely Company  
 The Travel Authority  
 Town of Farragut –  
*Thank you for your Admiral Elite Enterprise Membership!*  
 Tradebank of Knoxville, Inc.  
 US Bank - Hardin Valley

## Calendar of Events

Members can quickly & easily RSVP for events in their Member Portal at <http://members.farragutchamber.com/login>.  
 Guests can register by clicking the links on the Chamber Calendar ([www.farragutchamber.com](http://www.farragutchamber.com) and "Events").  
 Call 675-7057 or email [info@farragutchamber.com](mailto:info@farragutchamber.com) for a link to create your account!

**December 20, 2018** No Networking

**January 10, 2019** Networking  
 8:00am – 9:30am  
 Matlock Tire Service & Auto Repair  
 10730 Kingston Pike, 37934

**December 24, 2018 through January 1, 2019** No scheduled events / Office Closed  
 Shop LOCAL for the holidays!

**January 17, 2019** Networking  
 8:00am – 9:30am  
 FASTSIGNS  
 8333 Gleason Drive, 37919

**January 3, 2019** Networking  
 5:00pm – 6:30pm  
 K9 Center of East Tennessee  
 11225 Threadstone Lane, 37932

**Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce**  
 11826 Kingston Pike, Suite 110 | Farragut, TN 37934  
**865-675-7057 | 865-671-2409 Fax**  
 e-mail: [info@farragutchamber.com](mailto:info@farragutchamber.com) • [www.farragutchamber.com](http://www.farragutchamber.com)

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

### Member Briefs

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**Help Volunteer Ministry Center** win \$10,000 with a simple vote! VMC is one of three non-profits that have been selected by Team Health to compete to win \$10,000! The non-profit with the most votes wins. You can only vote once from each email address, but c'mon, you've got more than one email address! Please vote for VMC and ask your friends to vote, too. Visit <https://www.team-healthcares.com/> to cast your vote!

**The Brewing + Distilling Center** is a trade school that trains folks to get jobs in two of the hottest industries in the US today—Craft Brewing and Craft Distilling. Jobs in these industries are available regionally and nationally. Since 2013, Dr. Todd White and his staff of professional brewers and distillers have been helping young people find their new career path and locking up great positions of employment. For a nominal investment for yourself (or a loved one) and for a fascinating and fulfilling career, go to [www.brewinganddistillingcenter.com](http://www.brewinganddistillingcenter.com) or call 865.622.7511 for more information. The next session of the Professional Brewing/Distilling Technology Certificate Program begins January 14, 2019. This session is filling up quickly.



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