

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

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A PUBLICATION OF THE FARRAGUT WEST KNOX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MAY 2019

Gatsby Gala

Guests Go All Out

It was easy to lose count of just how many of the 200+ guests got all "dolled" up for the Chamber's 32nd Annual Auction "Diamonds & Pearls: A Gatsby Gala!" on Friday, April 12 at Rothchild Catering & Conference Center. Pinstripe suits, spats, suspenders, feathers and fringe felt right at home amongst the black, white and gold of the "speakeasy" ballroom, where signs told the story of the evening: "A little party never hurt NOBODY," "Prohibitions Ends HERE" and "Need a drink, dollface?" The event included a large silent auction, tabletop display competition and live auction.

Gatsby-era music ensured that guests had "Happy Feet" as they toured the silent auction bidding fast and furiously on 120 items ranging from home goods to dinner certificates to the ever-popular "Libations" tables. Rick Terry was back as the Chamber's Bling Sponsor and went above and beyond with a 14k white gold ring covered in 80 round brilliant diamonds, topped with a large South Sea pearl and valued at nearly \$7,000. The piece later sold to a happy high bidder during the live auction.

The Chamber was incredibly proud to present Stephanie Erb of Emerald Youth Foundation with \$1,500 taken from ticket sales. The funds will go to help equip three newly formed middle school baseball teams. The foundation's mission to "raise up a large number of urban youth to love Jesus Christ and become effective leaders who help renew their communities," places an emphasis on sports and extracurricular activities for urban and at-risk youth due to its likelihood of

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Jacobs Shares Vision & Special Announcement

An eager crowd of upwards of 185 businesses and community members gathered early at Rothchild Catering & Conference Center on Tuesday, April 30 to hear a sneak preview of Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs' vision for Knox County. The event took place one day prior to Jacobs' official budget address and presentation at Central High School.

Chamber President/CEO, Julie Blaylock, kicked off the event by awarding Pillar statues to two new Enterprise Club members, Nathan Hunter of FirstBank and Eric Whitener and Teri Jo Fox of The Fox Team: Crye Leike Realtors. Both have recently gone above and beyond their standard membership investment to the Captain level. Because such investments help support the Chamber's Continuing Education Scholarship program for business members (reimbursing applicants up to \$500 for education or training), both Hunter and Fox/Whitener were given the opportunity to personally give out two of the Chamber's newly approved scholarship checks to Adam Freitag-Liberty Mutual Insurance and David S. Rexrode, Attorney at Law. Both scholarships were able to be awarded in full as requested.

Before beginning his talk, Jacobs surprised the audience by having Knox County Commissioner John Schoonmaker appear at the podium for what he called "a very special announcement." Commissioner





Schoonmaker then requested the presence of the entire 3-person chamber staff, including board chairman, Beth Ann Carter-MBI Companies and immediate past chair, Tim Williams-Matlock Tire Service & Auto Re-

Schoonmaker delivered the news, which he stated was "an honor to present," that in recognition for the chamber's hard work



and small business support, Mayor Jacobs had appropriated a sum of \$50,000 for the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce in his inaugural budget. Chamber President/ CEO, Julie Blaylock, expressed her extreme gratitude following being caught speechless by the presentation, later saying, "We

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Town of Farragut Event on the 4th Filling Fast!

Business, organizations and area groups are encouraged to register NOW for the Town of Farragut's 32nd Independence Day Parade taking place on Thursday, July 4 in Farragut. The event is viewed by approximately 2,000-3,000 parade watchers and is the largest parade of its kind in the area. It begins at Farragut High School and travels west down Kingston Pike to Boring Road. Floats, bands/music, dancers and antique vehicles are all welcome.

Registration is free, however the Town fully expects to fill all of its 90+ spaces well before the original June registration deadline. Anyone registering to participate after spaces are filled will be placed on a waiting list for cancellations. Registration is online at www.townoffarragut.org/register (a free account is required). Questions about the parade or registering can be answered by Arleen Higginbotham (ahigginbotham@townoffarragut.org), Brittany Spencer (bspencer@townof-

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ENTERPRISE

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













































































- 1: Mike and Tanya Ickowitz-*Patdome* Promotions, pause cheerfully for the camera.
- 2: Pictured are Account Executive Jennifer Rolon-farragutpress, right, and her daughter, Alyssa Rolon.
- 3: Preparing for the bidding are husband and wife team Eric Whitener and Teri Jo Fox -The Knox Fox Team, and Colby Mc-Lemore-Colby's Photography.
- 4: Enjoying the evening festivities are
- John Haney-NAI Koella RM Moore, his wife Jennie (on his right), and Gloria Shipley-NAI Koella RM Moore.
- 5: Joseph and Kat Mahn-Kat's Lash Lounge & Wax Studio, LLC enjoyed themselves during the auction.
- 6: Pictured are John Sergent, Retail Banking Executive - East Region First Tennessee Bank, Tyler Helton, Financial Center Manager-First Tennessee Bank, and Fernando Pita, Financial Services Representa-
- tive-First Tennessee Bank.
- 7: Candance Viox, Water into Wine looks over the silent auction table.
- 8: Guests dined at tables impressively set with plates of gold, folded napkins resembling tuxedos, and feathered centerpieces draped in pearls.
- 9: Jesi Crane and Chamber Ambassador Beverly Kobus-BK Lash & Skin Boutique share conversation (undoubtedly about all the generous items donated for the eve-
- ning's auction).
- 10: Board Member Richard Qulia-Richard F. Qulia Investigations, his wife Cathryn, and Kathy Rutherford pause before casting their votes for the "Best Dressed Tabletop."
- 11: Taking a break from bidding are Dorothy Beaver-First Tennessee Bank-Northshore and Alicia Griego-First Tennessee-Campbell Station.

Gala

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predicting future success for participants.

Tabletops took on the 20s theme with their own interpretations of protesting prohibition like Eaton Tax and Business Services or Cumulus Media's "Shine" focused tablescape. The winner of the Best Dressed Tabletop was the returning 2017 champion, farragutpress, with their Al Capone theme that included fascinating history on the gangster, antique-inspired barware and a tour for 10 to the area's Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary.

Julie Blaylock presented a \$1,000 Continuing Education Student Scholarship to a surprised graduating Farragut High School senior Paige Gleason. Blaylock earlier recognized the chamber's Enterprise Club Membership which helps to fund the Chamber's Continuing Education Scholarships to

students and businesses.

Auctioneer Bear Stephenson wrapped up the evening with a whirlwind of live item and tabletop sales. Dinner for a Year at Abuelo's, massive advertising packages, a trip to Destin's white sand beaches, a chauffeured lake tour and a getaway to a secluded mountain cabin, and more were sold in short order to excited bidders.

The Chamber cannot express enough thanks to all the businesses who have participated as well as the committee who worked through the evening to make the event a success. The Chamber is proud and grateful for Presenting Sponsor TDS Telecom, Bling Sponsor Rick Terry Jewelry, Event Sponsors Rothchild Catering and the Town of Farragut; Community Sponsors MBI Companies and Y-12 Federal Credit Union; and Media Sponsors farragutpress, WKCE/1180 and ViaMedia. The 2020 auction is tentatively set for April 24.









12: Chamber Board Member Sherry Long-farragutpress, and Bling Sponsor Rick and Patty Terry-Rick Terry Jewelry Designs get ready for the live auction bidding.

13: Brian Carter and Chamber Chair Beth Ann Carter-*MBI Companies, Inc.* enjoy the evening's jovial atmosphere. 14: Nothing "prohibited" the *farragutpress* from winning Best Dressed Tabletop.

15: Looking sharp, as usual, are Tom Sharp-*ViaMedia* and his wife, Jennifer.

16: Ken and April Finster-*Cyan Insurance Solution*, "spoke easy" about the benefits of being a Chamber member.
17: One of many snazzy-looking couples included Cham-

ber Ambassador Arlene Weinstein-Arlene's Fun Travel and

her husband Scott.

18: Chamber President/CEO Julie Blaylock-*FWKCC* pres-

ents Stephanie Erb-Emerald Youth Foundation with a "LARGE" check/donation generated from ticket sales to help provide underprivileged youth with baseball uniforms.

19: Ambassador Chair Adam Freitag-*Liberty Mutual Insurance* cannot help but smile standing between two great members, Brenda Herron-*Copper Cellar Family* of Restaurants and Lisa Paul-*Bloom into Parenting*.

20: The evening sailed along effortlessly thanks to all the help provided by *Farragut High School* Intern Paige Gleason (L) and her fellow classmates: Yune Kim, Inshira Bediako, Joseph Maw, Priya Nangia, Ally Martin, Mun Choong, Cooner, Taylor, Maddie Lacy, Mary Hill, Grace Bass, Camryn Given, Aynsleigh Martin, Mary Beth Zetterberg and Will Thorley.

4th

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 $farragut.org) \ or \ Sue \ Stuhl \ (sstuhl @townoffarragut.org).$

The parade provides an excellent opportunity to advertise your business or group and participants can also give items away. Town officials recommend planning for enough items to last the entire route of the parade (items

are never to be thrown from vehicles, and participants may not encourage children to come into the parade route for safety reasons).

The Chamber, as always, invites member business volunteers to join the fun as part of the Chamber's group. Interested individuals can call 865-675-7057 or email info@farragutchamber.com.





Member Briefs

Looking for more details on a specific event, special or job?

Go to www.farragutchamber.com to see these and other member items!

The Small Business Administration offers Disaster Loans for Tennessee Private Non-profits affected by severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides. The U.S. Small Business Administration announced April 19, 2019 that certain Private NonProfit organizations (PNPs) in Tennessee that do not provide critical services of a governmental nature may be eligible to apply for low-interest rate disaster loans. These loans are available following a Presidential disaster declaration for Public Assistance resulting from damages caused by severe storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides from Feb. 19 through March 30, 2019. Additional information can be obtained by calling (800) 659-2955, by email to disastercustomerservice@sba. gov. Loan applications can be downloaded from www. sba.gov. Completed applications should be returned to a recovery center or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155. The filing deadline to submit applications for physical property damage is June 17, 2019. The deadline to submit economic injury applications is Jan. 17, 2020.

Mountain Commerce Bankcorp, Inc. reports strong Q1 2019 earnings. The Knoxville, Tennessee-based bank holding company and parent of Mountain Commerce Bank (MCB), reported consolidated net income of \$2.89 million for the first quarter of 2019, up from \$2.33 million for the first quarter of 2018—an increase of 24 percent. Earnings per fully diluted share for the quarter ended March 31, 2019 totaled \$0.46 versus \$0.38 for the first quarter of 2018. Visit www.mcb.com for more information.

As a Veteran do you know what benefits are available to you or how to apply for them? You are invited to attend a Q & A Session with Attorney Julia Price with Elder Law of Tennessee. She will let you know what you qualify for and how to apply. Sponsored by **Kevin Denning, Edward Jones Financial Advisor**, June 3, 2019 at Sherill Hills Resort Lifestyle Community, 271 Moss Grove Blvd., Knoxville, TN 37922. Gather at 3:45p, session begins at 4p. For more information, contact Charlotte Jensen at (865) 690-0907 or visit http://www.EdwardJones.com/KevinDenning

The **Smoky Mountain Service Dogs** family is extremely excited as they begin construction of their SMSD Veteran/Canine Training Center. A ground breaking ceremony has been scheduled for Saturday May 11th at 2PM, 8376 Fairview Road, Lenoir City, TN. Please join them and feel free to invite your friends! For more information, contact (865) 408-3070 or visit http://www.smokymountainservicedogs.org

Revitalist is excited to announce Vitamin Massage starting May 1st! Come relax, unwind, and see what a powerful tool massage can be to help you take charge of your health and well-being. Offering both traditional table and chair massages, they are also excited to present Knoxville's first vitamin massage services! Tailored to your specific needs, this hydrating and relaxing body treatment focuses on intravenous replenishment of vitamins and minerals while the use of aromatherapy and traditional massage unwinds the body, reboots the mind, and transforms stress into balance. For an appointment or more information call (865) 392-6262 or visit http://revitalistclinic.com

Young-Williams Animal Center (YWAC) announced May 2 that it has achieved "no-kill shelter" status. As the official animal shelter of Knox County and the City of Knoxville, this significant milestone means the shelter saved almost all animals that passed through its doors last year - a total of 8,311! CEO Janet Testerman announce this achievement with the help of local media at the Division Street location, thanking the community, donors and elected officials on behalf of her team for their instrumental support in making this possible. To find out even more, the public can attend YWAC's upcoming Open House & Wine Tasting on May 16, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Young-Williams Animal Village at 6400 Kingston Pike. A minimum \$20 donation is requested. RSVP to Sophie at (865) 215-6664 or visit www/young-williams.org/wine-tasting.



Who's Who Q&A

by Paige Gleason, Chamber Intern





Member Business: Young-Williams Animal Center

Name/Title: Stephanie Vozar/Development

How you got involved with YWAC: I've been in development a long time. They posted the development director position, I applied and they invited me to meet everyone. I'm the first development director they've had, so it's very exciting.

Favorite part of the organization: Every single one of our teams is dedicated, caring, and hardworking. I like that we are constantly looking forward, being innovative, and growing.

Most challenging part of your role: Not bringing home all the animals!

Favorite moment on the job: When I get to see animals adopted or how happy lost animals and family are to be reunited; those moments make my day.

Type of atmosphere YWAC would like to create: We create a culture of being supportive of one another and being nonjudgmental to the community. We want to advocate for the animals, and make sure we're building the best environment for them as well as for the people who come in.

If YWAC were a music genre, what would it be: Classic rock because it's a very mixed genre, and I think we're like that, too. Classic rock is comfortable for a lot of people, and you can listen to songs everybody likes. Customer service and team/staff wise, we're like that. We like to please everybody.

accomplishment? Greatest achieved a 90% save rate! That makes us a "no-kill shelter," but we don't like to say it that way because every shelter has to make hard decisions due to sickness or otherwise. The criteria to be a no-kill shelter is a 90% save rate, and we want to be sure we're being transparent in the way that we are communicating that message.

What makes YWAC stand out as an organization among its peers: That we truly are a resource for the community, and we are trying to be that resource in as many ways as possible. Our customer service, 90% save rate, and pet resource center are all special and unique to us.

How YWAC benefits from being a Chamber member: We love the community calendar, publicizing our information, and getting our events out there. We're really gaining lots of partner connections, and that has led to awareness, adoption events, and fundraising.

Greatest lesson you have learned here: That the process for change, communication, and innovative teamwork is a unique challenge. I am the first development director, and we really had to get to know and trust each other. We're coming to the point now where I'm seeing some of the fruit of all our efforts.

Greatest lesson you/Young Williams *tries to teach:* We really want to educate the public by answering any questions related to taking care of your animal, where to turn for what you need, and how to know what animal is right for your home. We want everyone to know that we are a support network for all things animal related. Hopes for the future of Young Williams: To find a home for every pet is our vision, but in the meantime, we've got a lot of goals. We'd like to offer more services through our vet clinic like vaccines, heart worm treatments, rabies, and microchip. Our pet resource center will continue to expand, and with our new program, Community Cat, we are going to see fewer cats in the shelter which means more resources to put into other projects.

Most important thing people should know that they may not? We're not just a place where you either adopt or drop off an animal. We're much more than that. There are a lot of myths that when an animal goes to any shelter, they have a limited time there, but that doesn't happen here. An animal that is adoptable is here until they find a home, however long that takes.

To find out more about ALL of YWAC's animal/owner resources, how to adopt or foster one of their pets or ways you can help, visit www.young-williams.org or one of their two locations at 3201 Division Street (865-215-6599) and 6400 Kingston Pike (865-215-6345).

Welcome to our new Farragut **West Knox Chamber Members!**

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

Adventure Action Park Summer Jo Brooks

9305 Kingston Pike Knoxville, TN 37922 https://adventureactionpark.com/

The Balance and Hearing Institute Karen Brown

11000 Kingston Pike Suite 5 Knoxville, TN 37934

Brothers Flooring Inc. Edwin Soriano

38323 Martin Mill Pike Knoxville, TN 37923

Cannon & Cannon, Inc. Harold Cannon

8550 Kingston Pike Knoxville, TN 37919 http://www.cannon-cannon.com

Farragut Modern Dentistry Ashley Rogers

109 S. Campbell Station Rd. Farragut, TN 37934 http://www.farragutmoderndentistry.com

Knoxville Academy of Music Jody Comas

11230 Kingston Pike Knoxville, TN 37934

http://www.knoxvilleacademyofmusic.com

RiteRug Floor Covering Melissa Majors

4833 Lumbar Lane Suite 103 Knoxville, TN 37921 http://www.riterug.com

Southland Realtors Alice Huber

244 N. Peters Road Knoxville, TN 37923 alice@southlandrealtors.com

University Health Systems, Inc. (The University of Tennessee Medical Center)

Amy Burton

2121 Medical Center Way Suite 110 Knoxville, TN 37920 http://www.utmedicalcenter.org

UT Federal Credit Union Anne Hewitt

9700 Kingston Pike Suite 24 Knoxville, TN 37922 http://www.utfcu.org

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 April. 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.

Appalachia Business Communications Baker, Donelson, Bearman,

Caldwell, & Berkowitz Blue Ridge Yoga & Wellness Center, LLC Bryan Insurance Group, Inc. -

Maryville Office Burns Mailing & Printing, Inc. The Casual Pint Northshore Coldwell Banker Wallace & Wallace,

REALTORS **Farragut High School Education**

Foundation Foxy Locks, LLC

Games & Things, Inc. Graphic Creations, Inc. Hilton Knoxville Airport Hush Puppy's Pet Services **JCPenney**

Junior Achievement of East Tennessee Kinetic Business Strategies LBMC – Thank you for your Anchor

Enterprise Membership! MEDIC Regional Blood Center Pinnacle at Turkey Creek; The Planet Fitness Farragut Rose Mortuary/Mann Heritage Chapel Russells Pest Control

Saah Salon Suites Farragut Sword & Shield Tennessee Smokies Baseball

Total Hair & Body Medical Water into Wine

Calendar of Events

Members can guickly RSVP for events in their Member Portal at http://members.farragutchamber.com/login.

Call 675-7057 or email info@farragutchamber.com for a link to create your account! Visitors/Guests can register by clicking the links on the Chamber Calendar (www.farragutchamber.com > "Events") and registering under "Not a Member?".

May 9, 2019 8:00am - 9:30am

Networking

State Farm Insurance – Mansour Hasan Agency 10811 Kingston Pike, Knoxville 37934

May 16, 2019

Networkina 8:00am - 9:30am

Volunteer Ministry Center 511 N. Broadway, Knoxville 37917

May 23, 2019 8:00am - 9:30am

Networking

IMS, Inc.

8907 Linksvue Dr., Knoxville 37922

May 27, 2019

Chamber Office Closed - Memorial Day

May 30, 2019

Networking

5:00pm - 6:30pm

Nautical Boat Club

10903 S. Northshore Dr., Knoxville 37922

June 6, 2019 5:00pm - 6:30pm Networking PCS Inc.

1720 Topside Rd., Louisville, TN 37777

June 13, 2019 8:00am - 9:30am

Networking

AMR/Rural Metro

Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Dr., Farragut 37934



Farragut West Knox **Chamber of Commerce**

11826 Kingston Pike, Suite 110 | Farragut, TN 37934

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

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TSBDC

by Laura Overstreet, Small Business Specialist and GrowthWheel® Certified Advisor

The Knoxville TSBDC has several valuable small business training seminars and workshops coming soon.

Join us for some of the following training opportunities:

How to Get Found Online:

Social Media

What are you posting online? Join Victory as she discusses the TYPE of content your SHOULD be posting. Discover the differences between Social Listening, Social Influencing, Social Networking, and Social Selling and the importance of each to your business's online presence.

Tuesday, May 14 9:00AM to 11:00AM

Fee: No Cost

Speaker(s): Victory Harbin, The Social Brand

17 Market Square, Suite 201 **Government Contracting – TVA Proposal Workshop**

The program will focus on how to participate in the TVA procurement process. Come to find out what products and services TVA is seeking, how to apply to participate, and if any "set asides" may be included.

Wednesday, May 15 11:30AM to 3:30PM

Fee: No Cost

Speaker(s): Paul Middlebrooks, UT Procurement Technical Assistance Center

17 Market Square #201, Knoxville

Start Up Training

The seminar discussion includes the forms of business organization, tax requirements, business licenses, business planning and financing options.

Thursday, May 16 9:00AM to 11:00AM Fee: No Cost Speaker(s): TSBDC Staff

201 South Washington Street, Maryville For registration information call 865-246-2663 or visit our website at www.tsbdc.org.



Jacobs

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assure you that we will continue to strive to both meet and exceed the needs of our businesses, and we will work together with our board to make certain this sum is put to uses which can have the greatest impact."

Jacobs spoke for approximately 30 minutes to the audience, detailing his original dreams to become a professional athlete, and having those dreams dashed after a knee injury. Despite the change in plans, he went on to a successful 25-year career with the WWE. Jacobs illustrated how this path and a driven focus on never giving up related to his dreams for the county and his goal to make Knox County the best place to live and a place where businesses and workforce wish to relocate to.

Audience members were welcome to ask questions and did on a number of topics, one of which was about the mayor's thoughts on Governor Bill Lee's Basic Education Program funding formula. Jacobs quipped that he'd been placed "on the spot" but goodnaturedly took on the question, explaining why he does not agree with its structure, pointing out that the formula causes a loss of \$1,600 in funding per student in Knox County, totaling \$70M less than neighboring counties. He hinted that his new budget would attempt to rectify some of the short-

Jacobs remained for at least 30 minutes after the event concluded to speak to individuals, including a younger team member from First Utility District, who asked what the Mayor most wants young people to take away from his vision series. He shared several thoughts and then said, "the main thing is... it's your future. Take ownership of it."

The chamber is immensely grateful to Mayor Jacobs for his time, thoughts and support, and graciously thanks Presenting Sponsors First Utility District, Lenoir City Utilities Board and Town of Farragut, Community Sponsors FirstBank and Mike Baker Insurance Consulting, and Media Sponsor farragutpress. Details for any upcoming installments of the 2019 Breakfast Speaker Series can be found at www.farragutchamber.com > Events > Breakfast Speaker Series.