



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

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Mayor Jacobs Business Series Features Battlefield Farm

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs interviews Chris Battle, the owner of Battlefield Farm, as part of his small business series.

Throughout the past year, the Mayor has conducted interviews with small business owners, offering them the opportunity to talk about what they do; to highlight their work; and share any future plans. This month, the series focuses on agricultural-related businesses as farmers' markets begin opening across the county and East Tennessee. A new vignette runs each week on the county and Mayor's various social media platforms.

Battle said he began a community garden in 2018 to help fight food disparity in East Knoxville after he learned that the area is located in what the USDA classifies as a food desert.

When asked what they grow on site, Battle said, "We got greens, beans, potatoes, tomatoes, onions, strawberries, watermelon, kale...a little bit of everything. We're going to be growing a lot of tomatoes and peppers in our hot tunnel...mint julep and mojito, every type of mint: spearmint, peppermint, apple mint, pineapple mint, orange mint...everything!"

The Farm also has a teaching area and has students that will come from different homeschooling networks.

Mayor Jacobs asked Battle why he thought the community should get involved and care about access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

"If you don't have fresh vegetables in your neighborhood, the likelihood that you're going to be obese, have high blood pressure, diabetes, all those things, increases exponentially...we want to provide those," answered Battle. "It's amazing how people come together over food and what we have learned through the market, we found out that when fresh vegetables are available, accessible and affordable, people will eat them."

Battlefield Farmer's Market starts in June and runs on Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. through September.

To hear more of what was said, and see Mayor Jacobs plant some peanuts, check out the [video](#).

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