



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

400 Main Street, Suite 615, Knoxville, TN 37902

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Contact: Mike Donila Abbey Harris
306-1177 cell 215-4579 office
705-1681 cell

Mayor Jacobs Small Business Series Features Stowers Machinery

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs interviewed Wes Stowers, chairman and CEO of Stowers Machinery, as part of his small business series.

Each week, the Mayor conducts interviews with small business owners, offering them the opportunity to talk about what they do; highlight their work; and share any future plans. A new vignette runs each Wednesday on the county and Mayor’s social media platforms. This month, the series focuses on veteran-owned businesses in honor of National Veterans & Military Families Month.

Stowers, who served 12 years of active duty in the U.S. Air Force and another decade in the reserves, joined the family-owned company in 1988 after completing his service.

Since then, the company has grown from 180 employees to 420, right here in the Knoxville facility. Stowers Machinery—which has six full-service locations—sells, rents, leases, and provides “24/7/365 parts and service support for a wide variety of construction equipment.”

“We’re involved in a lot more parts of the construction industry than just heavy construction, grading, and mining – that includes building construction and electric power generation,” Stowers said. “Change is part of the human condition, but our biggest success and our growth has been our work force. We’ve got some of the finest people in this industry.”

Mayor Jacobs and Stowers also talked in part about Stowers’ military career, why he chose to live and work in Knox County, and what the U.S. Air Force taught him about business.

“It’s not about me – it’s about we,” he said. “If you have people who are committed to what they’re doing within your company, you have to take good care of them and make sure they’re treated fairly and it’s a good place to work. The best commanders I ever had, took good care of us, hence we were able to get our mission done.”

To hear more of what was said, check out the [video](#).

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