



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

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Mayor Jacobs to Recognize Black History Month Throughout February

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— Through a series of interviews, features and documentaries in February, Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs will recognize Black History Month.

“It is a privilege to be able to recognize Black History Month in this way,” said Mayor Jacobs. “It’s also important to celebrate and appreciate the diversity that gives strength to our neighborhoods and builds community within Knox County year-round.”

As part of his bi-weekly small business series, Mayor Jacobs will focus on Black-owned businesses with video interviews airing on Wednesdays on the county and Mayor’s various social media platforms.

The first, which will be released Feb. 8, is with Marcus Blair, founder of Omega Digital Solutions, and the other released on Feb. 16 with Mayor Jacobs interviewing Randall Turman, president of Elite Diversified Construction.

The Mayor also will highlight Black community leaders, including pioneers of the civil rights movement in Knoxville. These mini documentaries will feature Robert Booker, a former City Councilman and Knoxville’s first Black State House Representative; Theotis Robinson Jr., the first Black University of Tennessee of Knoxville student; and Phyllis Nichols, who has served as CEO of the Knoxville Area Urban League since the turn of the century.

These videos – a part of the Knox Narratives series – were put together last year. They, too, will be published on the Mayor’s various social media platforms during the second, third, and fourth weeks of February.

The county, through a joint effort with the Knoxville Museum of Art and the Beck Cultural Exchange Center, will also display work – from Black artists – along the City/County Building’s sixth floor hallway outside the County Mayor’s Office.

In addition, Knox County Public Library is featuring African American authors on its social media feeds throughout the month. On their website is a list of [recommended](#) books and movies that highlight African America authors, filmmakers, and artists. On Sunday, Feb. 27, patrons are invited to [The Lost World of East Knoxville: A Walk with Bob Booker](#). Reservations are required.

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