



MEDIA RELEASE

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Mayor Jacobs Sits Down with Veterans Services Office

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs interviewed retired United States Marine Corps Sg. Maj. Tom Humphries, Veterans Service Officer for Knox County, as part of his small business series. The Knox County Veteran’s Services Office helps veterans and surviving spouses/family members of veterans apply for benefits from the U.S Department of Veteran’s Affairs.

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 various social media platforms.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Knox County was home to just over 29,000 veterans in 2019. Mayor Jacobs commended the dedication and hard work of Humphries and his staff who help not only Knox County veterans, but also those across the East Tennessee region.

“I am extremely proud of the work that they do,” said Mayor Jacobs. “I think it’s important for all of us to take care of the people that served this country. I believe that’s a moral obligation we have.”

Help and support has been a theme for Humphries and his 24-year USMC career, as he says he, too, needed help along the way and enjoys being able to give back in his current capacity.

“One of the things I’ve always took with me in doing this job, is you get a chance to help folks. Throughout my career in the marine corps there was somebody that helped me. I look at this as something I’m passionate about, but it’s also a chance to give back.”

Mayor Jacobs asked for a way folks could help a veteran they know in need. Humphries encouraged the community to bring them to his office.

“If you know someone or you’ve got a neighbor or family member that’s never asked, we encourage you to help them. We have a lot of veterans, an aging veteran population that can’t get in here. We ask that you bring them or come on their behalf and get information to see if they may qualify for VA benefits.”

Watch the [video](#) for more on this interview.

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