MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

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Mayor Jacobs Interviews Local Trailblazers for Women's History Month

KNOXVILLE, TN – Beginning today, Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs will honor and recognize Women's History Month with special interviews highlighting the achievements of two East Tennessee residents: University of Tennessee Women's Athletic Director Emeritus Joan Cronan, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory Engineer Clarice Phelps.

"I'd like to encourage our community to spend some time learning about the contributions of women like Joan Cronan, who blazed a path for women in athletics here in East Tennessee, because it was very enlightening," said Mayor Jacobs. "Clarice Phelps, a U.S. Navy veteran, also has a great story, and her contributions to science and engineering shows just how fortunate we are to have talent like her making a difference in our region. Both women continue to have a profound effect on our community."

Cronan served as the women's athletics director at UT from 1983 to 2012 and was the university's first female AD when she serviced as Interim Vice Chancellor and Athletics Director in 2011.

Clarice Phelps, who joined ORNL in 2009, helped discover Tennessine (Ts), or 117, the newest element listed on the periodic table. Phelps continues to lead the way in technology and innovation, inspiring young female students to get involved in STEM based programs in chemistry and engineering.

Both interviews will air on the Knox County government and Mayor Jacobs' social media platforms with the first appearing, today, March 6 and the next on March 20.

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