

# TENNESSEE AMERICAN LEGION

# BOYS STATE

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## Judge Gary McKenzie Shares Qualities of Leadership

Judge Gary McKenzie shared his advice on *A Life of Service: Qualities of Leadership* during Monday night's session. He emphasized the characteristics held by Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King Jr., and Franklin D. Roosevelt. They shared positive traits including good character, good communication skills, confidence and mindful decision making.

"Lincoln and King both suffered from clinical depression; FDR suffered from polio and eventually could not walk," McKenzie said. "They all overcame difficult circumstances. Their most important character trait was resiliency."

He then shared his keys to becoming a great leader:

1. Self awareness: Know your strengths and your limitations.
2. Self regulation: Think before you act.
3. Optimism: Avoid the negativity bias.
4. Connections: Be able to rely on others when you are in need.

McKenzie then asked the audience if they believed one person could change the world. Some were sure. Some said no. He then told the true story of prosecuting a man accused of abusing an 8-year-old boy. He spoke admiringly of the boy as he described him on the stand.

"The boy leaned into the microphone and testified for one minute about the abuse," he said. "The jury convicted the man and he's spending 22 years in prison. He was accused of abusing others, and because one boy in that one minute testified, no other child could be hurt in the future by this man. Don't ever let anyone tell you that you can't make a difference."

He encouraged delegates to focus on positive changes. "Find a passion. Get involved in your community. Plan for your future. Always believe you can make a difference."

## BOYS' STATE ELECTS CITY, COUNTY OFFICIALS

**Cain City:** Javier Torres, mayor; Logan Binkley, Neyland Darnell, Owen Flomberg, Miller Garrett, alderman; Austin Holt, Wilson Miskelly, county commissioners; Zach Brown, Kordell Cannon, Tristan Choate, J.D. Donnell, Colten Dotson, Spencer Edmonds, Jordan Gillespie, Davy Read, state representatives.

**Hammer City:** Ryan Louallen, mayor; Pedro Garza-Ramos, Jackson Griffey, Tyrone Halliburton, Isaac Westmoreland, aldermen; Ian Clark, Brody McDonald, county commissioners; Jake Bacon, Christian Cyrul, Chuck Harris, Dylan Miller, Jason Roth, Reynolds Spencer, Garrett Steelman, Landon Taylor, state representatives.

**Kreider City:** Will Turner, mayor; Brady Bingham, Sean Lennon, Taylor Peters, Robert Worley, aldermen; Jaret Bailey, Luke Wilson, county commissioners; Coleman Alford, Carter Billingsley, Daniel Calhoun, Thomas Cantrell III, Gabe Cooper, Wyatt McGray, Tyler Thompson, Tyler Wombles, state representatives.

**Lahiere City:** Graham Boone, mayor; Alex Arbogast, Jon Wayne Browing, Brady Parker, Alex Schramkowski, aldermen; Kenny Malone, Lewis Purdue, county commissioners; Chance Arnold, Wesley Ball, John Thomas Bryant, Brantley Clendenin, Mason Cunningham, Eli DeLashmet, Collin Killins, Levi Lorenzo, state representatives.

**Levi City:** Chris Davis, mayor; Eric Allen, Seth Randall, Dillon Spann, Nathan Stine, aldermen; Ammiel Asfaw, Matthew Yarbrough, county commissioners; Parker Albert, Jackson Britt, Lee Burk, Will Henry, A.J. Holland, Sam Jones, Nick True, Hayden West, state representatives.

**Loring City:** Kris Powers, mayor; Sandi Beganovic, Jackson Bentley, Colby Brandt, Wyatt Valentine, aldermen; Drew Bradford, Colby Downs, county commissioners; Adam Brock, Chris Coley, Andrew Cooper, Logan Garrett, Khalil Love, Matthew Meadows, Mitch Merrick, D.J. Vanderwerf, state representatives.

**Maddux City:** Joseph Harding, mayor; Trent Comeaux, Casey Kowalski, Peyton Pisacane, Jack Staley, aldermen; Jacob Ginn, Bailey Peters, county commissioners; Logan Abbott, Isaac Estes-Adolf, Josue Garduno, Sam Garner, Cameron Moore, Logan Naifeh, Barrett Ray, Ben Smith, state representatives.

**McCullum City:** Devin Cullom, mayor; Mariano Del Rosso, Wyatt Mansell, Nico Pacheco, Darian Pride, aldermen; Logan Campbell, Ryan Patterson, county commissioners; Tyler Baeumel, Kyle Brooks, Logan Kouba, Gavin Knight, Will Meadows, Thomas Morris, Donald Partin, Ronnie Tran, Nathan Scarbrough, state representatives.

**Reel City:** Matthew Englehardt, mayor; Brandon Haley, Nathan Harvel, Collin Harvel, Parker Lewis, aldermen; Elijah Dierx, Kent Dix, county commissioners; Elias Brady, Jason Chung, Stone Craft, Eli Creasy, Neil Kyle, Tyler Lee, Jack Rymer, Ben Williams, state representatives.

**Roberts City:** Griffin Dodd, mayor; Peyton Brown, Ryan Hitch, Trey McAdams, Alec Yen, aldermen; Trevor Farrar, Woody Wilson, county commissioners; Michael Brown, Harrison Calhoun, Kyle Evans, Jonathan Ferrer, Shubh Sinha, Cory Suss, Tell Walker, Alex Watkins, state representatives.

**Summitt City:** Tristan Pisacane, mayor; Perry Atkins, Al Gunn, Tristan Miranda, Mathew Saunders, aldermen; Daniel Ellis, Jeremiah McCaleb, county commissioners; Samuel Adkins, Houston Carson, Ellis Ellis, Preston Evers, Nate Long, Kendall Mehling, Case Miller, Jonathan Wade, state representatives.

**Young City:** Ryan Desjarlais, mayor; Noah Kerstiens, Blake Mastalerz, Logan Owens, Christian Staton, alderman, Mathew Rutherford, Luke Sower, county commissioners; Jones Albritton, Jacob Garst, Jordan Haney, Cainan Howard, Petyon Mitchell, Tyler Naranjo, Ryan Smith, Caleb Yankee, state representatives.

**Dornan County:** Blake Walker, county executive; Nate Emerson, county sheriff; Michael Smotherman, county court clerk; Trevin Worke, register of deeds; Zach Banks, county trustee; Owen Johnson, county attorney; Sean Utley, county tax assessor; Dillon Todd, circuit judge; Ben Cox, chancery judge; Andy Baumberger, John Beasley, Nate Bumpus, Caleb Bunch, Timothy Demonbreun, George Fenton, J.B. Shank, Alex Warren, state senators.

**Hildebrand County:** Aiden Pace, county executive; Caleb Wilkinson, county sheriff; Jayson McClendon, county court clerk; Michael Agapos, register of deeds; Josh Hubbuch, county trustee; Joey Hitchcock, county attorney; Scott Jones, county tax assessor; Brett Jackson, chancery judge; James Hale, circuit judge; Andy Chance, Jackson Cordell, Sterling Evon, Ryan Fehr, Will Hammond, Seth Hardman, Ben Jones, Mitchell Lamb, state senators.

**Markham County:** Kaz Kazmierowicz, county executive; Cole Stovall, county sheriff; Ryan Courtright, county court clerk; Diego Boggan, register of deeds; Andrew Coulson, county trustee; John Barnes, county attorney; Jay Perry, county tax assessor; Joel Turner, chancery judge; Woodrow Young, circuit judge; Will Anderson, Colby Brown, Quinton Douglas, Will Fleming, Joey He, Dylan McClanahan, Dylan McLaughlin, Noah Young, state senators.

**Robinson County:** Buck Bond, county executive; Issachar Kirk, county sheriff; Grady Stafford, county court clerk; Derek Walker, register of deeds; Antwan Puryear, county trustee; Jacob Collier, county attorney; Seth Bailey, county tax assessor; Reece Edmondson, chancery judge; Reed Bonee, circuit judge; Brock Brauer, Eric Brown, Daniel Clegg, Levi Draper, Kizer Harris, Charles Harrison, Jim Sherwood, Clay Whitt, state senators.



