

# 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. I guarantee you something in your life will set you back. Do you bounce back or do you quit? That is the real test of a leader."

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:** Dillon Todd, mayor; Cody Ramangkoun, Jake Salter, Spencer Stanley, Lance Williams, alderman; Will Lankford, Caleb Stewart, county commissioners; Craig Barbour, Eli Christman, Gavin Duvall, Damien Gallindo, Brady Hancock, Brady Heath, Brent Jones, Chad Nix, state representatives.

**Hammer City:** Chip Dail, mayor; Zack Cartright, Houston Phillips, Nick Treadway, Dexter Woods, aldermen; Jacob Savage, Ethan Slate, county commissioners; Austin Abbott, Haynes Binkley, Caleb Briggs, Bryant Crawford, Adam Foster, Adam Tyler, Nick Whitener, Moses York, state representatives.

**Kreider City:** Hunter Rogers, mayor; Micah Abner, Charles Connors, Tanner Parish, Jon Michael Thompson, aldermen; Dalton Beard, Alec Hudson, county commissioners; Sam Barber, Mac Conn, Jack Fitchpatrick, Jake Funderburk, Thomas Littleton, Rylan Lorange, Eli Norman, Jonathan West, state representatives.

**Lahiere City:** Daniel Reissner, mayor; Brendan Breedlove, Gino Diordano, Matthew Keith, Jake Walkup, aldermen; Noah Hulen, Matt Montgomery, county commissioners; Corey Batchelder, Nick Chauncey, Noah Cook, John Dockery, Andrew Dorris, Drake Oberholtzer, Peyton Taylor, Zachary Towne, state representatives.

**Levi City:** Dylan Vagts, mayor; Wiley Barton, Joey Bonnaire, James Brown, Tom Pelkey, aldermen; Kouki Kubo, Tommy Quinn, county commissioners; Clayton Cook, Jaydon Coon, Josh Couch, Riley Gilbert, Brett McGehee, Ty Rose, Justin Sisk, Jon Wade, state representatives.

**Loring City:** Logan England, mayor; John Baggett, Baylor Harrington, Hunter Meeks, Bo Whitlock, aldermen; Bryson Gentry, Archer Thompson, county commissioners; Michael Celiberti, Silas Delk, Mason Flannery, Heath Hester, Josh Jones, Nick Tilley, Austin Wendt, Jackson Williams, state representatives.

**Maddux City:** Pranay Sakhrani, mayor; John Brown, Jairus Darnell, Wesley Punzalan, John Turner, aldermen; Davis Hendricks, Alex Leatherwood, county commissioners; Alexander Criswell, Hayden Everett, Dominic Gonzalez, Andrew Koskey, Austin Malugin, Maverick Smith, Frazier Wilson, Jerry Zhou, state representatives.

**McCollum City:** Ty Sather, mayor; James Coe, Samuel Good, Dylan McLain, Cameron Powers, aldermen; Erik Galvez, Hayden Richardson, county commissioners; River Bailey, Wesley Coble, Mickey Crump, Eric Hall, Tyler Hutton, Ryan Parsons, Riley Qualls, Haden Welch, state representatives.

**Reel City:** Martin Anderson, mayor; Ryan Benton, John Lawson, Ty Ralson, Logan Wilson, aldermen; Tucker Darden, Krishna Patel, county commissioners; Preston Campbell, Quin Hebert, Josh Johnson, Josh McCutcheon, Tauseef Nadeem, Parth Patel, Abraham Viar, JB West, state representatives.

**Roberts City:** Timothy McLauchlin, mayor; Jacob Holmes, Baylor Ingram, Eric Jordan, Jake Schneider, aldermen; Tucker Kennedy, Logan Morris, county commissioners; Spencer Blair, Zach Conner, Keondre Dixon, Sebastian Figueroa, Malik Murray, Luis Santamaria, Dymond Smith, David Weeks, state representatives.

**Summitt City:** DJ Swift, mayor; Dallas Bernard, Matt Grizzle, Austin Jones, Henry Pace, aldermen; Eian Brown, Elliot Garrett, county commissioners; Will Bailey, Will Browder, William Geasley, Andrew Godwin, Liam Langford, Nick Lawson, Stone Stephens, Blain Wilson, state representatives.

**Young City:** Lennon Tomlinson, mayor; Blayne Cowan, Landon Bressler, Thomas James, Coleman Self, alderman; Trenton DuBose, Daniel Sartor, county commissioners; Jo Brown, Demetric Gould, Josh Hatfield, Mark LeNoir, Jalen Powell, Logan Scott, Bryson Thompson, Hunt Tidwell, state representatives.

**Dornan County:** Curtis Colvett, county executive; Jake Hickman, county sheriff; Jacob Butler, county court clerk; Ravi Patel, register of deeds; Jackson South, county trustee; Colton Rue, county attorney; Jacob Piggott, county tax assessor; Anighya Crocker, circuit judge; Leo Reyna-Benitez, chancery judge; Garren Gilreath, Jacob Greenberg, James Hall, Andrew Johnson, DJ McDowell II, CJ Neal, Ben Robinson, Micah Thomasson, state senators.

**Hildebrand County:** Keaton Allison, county executive; Logan Jones, county sheriff; Tyler Youngblood, county court clerk; Parth Doshi, register of deeds; Nevada Woodard, county trustee; Jake Tibbs, county attorney; Trey Bundrant, county tax assessor; Ty Myers, chancery judge; Isaac Swafford, circuit judge; Jackson Arnette, Luke Bartlett, Nicholas Clift, Matthew Dilday, Michael Miller, Deven Montgomery, Jay Patel, Jesse Roseberry, state senators.

**Markham County:** Carson Watts, county executive; Ty Genz, county sheriff; Knox Davis, county court clerk; Myles Kumrow, register of deeds; Wyatt Henson, county trustee; Trevor Good, county attorney; Xander Miller, county tax assessor; Peyton Hickman, chancery judge; Christian Hamrick, circuit judge; Grant Bumpus, James Johnson, Jack Johnson, Collin Kasefang, Cameron Kirk, Chandler Maynad, Caleb Patrick, Douglas Watts, state senators.

**Robinson County:** Jack Brewer, county executive; Jonathan Hernandez-Sepulveda, county sheriff; Jared Roberts, county court clerk; register of deeds; Clay Richard, county trustee; Elliot Garrett, county attorney; Shane Spicer, county tax assessor; Austin Lane, chancery judge; Dakota Harris, circuit judge; Matthew Cone, Lane Coulter, Bryce Gray, Alexio Guzman, Alex Haynes, Xander Kehoe, Tucker Kennedy, Connor McClelland, state senators.