

# 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:** Sam Oldham, mayor; Andrew Agbunag, McKlain Kirkpatrick, Will Ryan, Joseph Sykes, alderman; Mateo Davis, T.J. Teamer, county commissioners; Preston Bennett, Ben Bentley, Jesse Flowers, Matthew Lynn, Austin Moore, Trevin Ross, Isaac Sandoval, Max Troyer, state representatives.

**Hammer City:** Tristan Riggs, mayor; Jaden Hicks, Morgan Hoffman, Powell Lowe, Bryce Wilcoxson, aldermen; Will Arnett, Tyler Chan, county commissioners; Seth Blackburn, Braden Donnell, Ethan Kessinger, Trey Lowe, Sean Monkhouse, Luke Petitt, Isaiah Watkins, Ethan Zook, state representatives.

**Kreider City:** Aaron Juriasingani, mayor; Parker Fleming, Luke Hayslette, Pranav Mudiam, John Henry Woods, aldermen; Conner Bostion, Lane Steinshultz, county commissioners; Gage Barnettt, Carter Deer, Bryant Goolsby, Max Grayson, Brent Howard, Bryant Knott, Campbell Murrey, Zachery Swafford, state representatives.

**Lahiere City:** Kevin Currie, mayor; David Bohn, Miller Edgin, Brandon Hagewood, Gage Olsen, aldermen; Grant Kizer, Preston LaCoursiere, county commissioners; Jacob Breeden, Zach Malone, Parker Payne, Kendall Purdom, Will Richardson, Nathan Robertson, Thomas Sexton, Marshall Steelman, state representatives.

**Levi City:** Miles Nealy, mayor; Luke Brown, Preston Buck, Devin Cole, Parker Proffitt, aldermen; Jones Allison, Shikhar Baheti, county commissioners; Stevie Boyle II, River Carroll, Andrew Collier, Keegan Embry, J.B. King, Blaine Lindsey, LB Liverman II, Jacob Reeves, state representatives.

**Loring City:** David Chalmers, mayor; Gavin Hardin, Justin Gao, Alex Putz, Carson Wood, aldermen; Nick Davis, Bryan Guffey, county commissioners; Jeremy Burgess, Cameron Buss, Brice Carvell, Carter Duke, Davin Dyal, Colby Long, Eli Payne, Tate Stevenson, state representatives.

**Maddux City:** Dane Hankins, mayor; Noah Campbell, Hayden Harvel, Matthew Sanders, Robinson Walsh, aldermen; Tre Black, Matthew Martin, county commissioners; Drent Brown, Din Hardy, Mason Mounger, Caleb Orr, Abhi Perumalla, Jamie Pratt, Jared Sasser, David Wright, state representatives.

**McCullum City:** Nick Carpenter, mayor; Drew Bailey, Jacob Rich, Andrew Runions, Jay Walker, aldermen; Benji Headrick, Dallas Schultheis, county commissioners; Ty Carter, Roger Chen, Ahmadre Darrisaw, Caleb Estes, Alex Overholt, Josh Runyon, Austin Russell, Jackson Schierling, state representatives.

**Reel City:** Joshua South, mayor; Joey Clemmer, Benedict Iduoze, Bill Nguyen, Brentley Whitwell, aldermen; Evan Holt, county commissioner; Mason Austin, Grant Countess, Jack Medlin, Braden Morris, Noah Rogers, Pierce Rose, Luke Tyler, Bailey Woodall, state representatives.

**Roberts City:** Ethan Haley, mayor; Antonio Basilio, Spencer Hall, Nicholas Smythia, Luke Worsham, aldermen; Ethan French, Clay Williams, county commissioners; Issac Bradley, Bunker Brock, Andrew Butcher, Mason Cook, Tre Falls, Aaron Lay, Konnor Reece, Jon-Luke Wilson, state representatives.

**Summitt City:** Griffin Hawkins, mayor; Tripp Chinn, Jonathan Hodge, Luke Humphrey, Paxton Smith, aldermen; Preston Head, Nick Simmons, county commissioners; Charlie Baker, Jordan Chapman, Leif Erikson, Drew Greenway, Alexander Jones, Caleb Kiddy, Solomon Trapp, Dale Thompson, state representatives.

**Young City:** Brent Phillips, mayor; Gaige Guyer, Henry Sloan, Tyler Williams, Eli Wright, alderman; Tommy Trotter, Zach Wolfson, county commissioners; Mason Clanin, Miguel Hayes, Trevor Kuehl, Alex McBride, Carson Richardson, Cade Rogers, Jack Sompayrac, Colton Short, state representatives.

**Dornan County:** Matt Hatton, county executive; Caleb Brady, county sheriff; Jacob Mester, county court clerk; Troy Bearden, register of deeds; Tyler Chan, county trustee; Levi Burns, county attorney; Tanner Buchanan, county tax assessor; Grayson Blount, circuit judge; Samuel Turner, chancery judge; Ethan Bagley, Seth Bowers, Samuel Carter, Ethan Jennings, Danny Lawson, Austin Travis, Tyler Vaughn, Connor Wood, state senators.

**Hildebrand County:** Drew Williamson, county executive; Holden Lovelace, county sheriff; Hunter Vaught, county court clerk; Will Mastalerz, register of deeds; Austin Craig, county trustee; Michael Boyd, county attorney; Max Greenberg, county tax assessor; Daniel Graves, chancery judge; Shaun McNallie, circuit judge; Ty Banks, Joseph Crowder, Andrew Dai, Tucker Duke, Jason Houbre, Logan Louis, Will Smith, Clay Sweeten, state senators.

**Markham County:** Austin Wattenbarger, county executive; Sid Chowdhury, county sheriff; Matthew Howell, county court clerk; John Tapp, register of deeds; Hunter Shamblin, county trustee; Parker Lamb, county attorney; Trey Herrell III, county tax assessor; Davis George, chancery judge; Tanner May, circuit judge; Dakota Bourne, Will Carter, Cole Fontenot, Noah Harris, Griffin Klein, Ellis Lambert, Murray Perkins, Micah Smith, state senators.

**Robinson County:** Curran Mann, county executive; Tucker Chumley, county sheriff; Brant Adams, county court clerk; Anders Rider, register of deeds; Collin Wilcox, county trustee; Tristan Pope, county attorney; Trent Baldwin, county tax assessor; Jay Blackburn, Circuit Judge; Haden Blair, chancery judge; Jarrid Bell, Zachary Chamberlain, Bryce Currie, Lane Daniel, Bryce Hill, Tyler Leblanc, Chuka Onuh, Pranav Saravanan, state senators.