MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR TIM BURCHETT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor Burchett announces effort to raise funds for wreaths at veteran cemeteries

Knoxville, Tenn. — Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett is once again launching a Wreaths Across America team in an effort to raise funds to place as many live wreaths as possible on the graves of veterans buried at the three veterans cemetery locations in Knox County.

A $15 sponsorship will pay for a wreath made of live greenery to be placed on a veteran's grave at either the Old East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery on Lyons View Pike, the New East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery on Governor John Sevier Highway or the Knoxville National Cemetery on Tyson Street near Old Gray Cemetery.

"If you simply sponsor one wreath or choose to sponsor 100, you are honoring veterans and families who have honored our community with their service," said Mayor Burchett. "Whether the men and women buried in our veteran cemeteries were lost during combat or after living a long life, we do this for the family members who are still living."

There are more than 15,000 veterans buried at the three veteran cemetery locations in Knox County.

Anyone wanting to sponsor a wreath can do so by visiting http://www.knoxcounty.org and clicking on the Wreaths Across America banner. The organization is also offering a "three-for-two" sponsorship special, which means it will donate a wreath for every two that are sponsored.

The deadline for online donations is Nov. 28, and the deadline for donations made by check is Nov. 21. Checks should be made payable to "Wreaths Across America" and mailed to 400 Main Street, Suite 615, Knoxville, TN 37902. The wreaths will be placed on the graves Dec. 17.

Wreaths Across America is a national non-profit that works to place live wreaths on veteran graves during the holidays.

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