

# State soaring behind jobs, education, governor says

**NASHVILLE (AP)** — Gov. Bill Haslam used his eighth and final annual address Monday to tout the state's achievements and challenge Tennessee to "be the best" in the nation in jobs, education and government efficiency.

In his 34-minute State of the State speech, the term-limited Republican noted the state has achieved the lowest recorded unemployment in its history, experienced gains in K-12 and higher education, and cut more than \$500 million in taxes.

"When I began as your governor, I challenged us to be better," Haslam said. "Tonight I'm challenging

us to take the next step. While we have accomplished so much, our work is not done. We must not let up. We must not slow down."

Haslam said Tennessee is on pace to be two years ahead of schedule in meeting its goal of 55 percent of residents with higher education degrees or certificates by 2025.

The Drive to 55 program, one of Haslam's signature initiatives, includes free state community college and technical school tuition for new high school graduates and adults without a college degree or certificate through programs nicknamed Tennessee

Promise and Tennessee Reconnect.

On Monday, Haslam also announced the new Complete to Compete initiative, which aims to offer resources to ensure those students start strong, stay on track and graduate.

"The research is clear: taking the credits needed to graduate on time results in better academic performance, higher retention rates, and the increased likelihood of completion," Haslam said.

He touted his \$30 million plan to combat opioid abuse, TN Together, noting that Tennessee writes 7.6 million prescriptions a year and there are only 6.6 million residents. The plan addresses prevention, treatment and law enforcement, including 10 new opioid-focused agents at the TBI.

Democratic lawmakers have said that's not even a drop in the bucket of the \$37.5 billion state budget. They noted the proposal only uses \$14.5



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million in state money, with the rest from federal and other funds. The Democrats said \$250 million should be set aside to address the problem.

Sen. Jeff Yarbro, a Nashville Democrat, said the governor spent too much time taking a victory lap, and too little time talking about the challenges facing the state.

"I think there's a real recognition across the state that we have to be real about addressing this problem," said Yarbro, Senate Democratic Caucus chairman. "Just doing something that checks the boxes isn't good enough."

Haslam went on to note that \$500 million will have gone toward increasing teacher pay in his tenure, including the \$55.1 million he proposed for raises in the next budget. He also said the state has started holding students to a higher standard.

"We are no longer lowering our hoops to five feet and telling everyone our kids can dunk," Haslam said.

Haslam said he has delved into legislation on another topic with agreement across party lines, juvenile justice reform. The state should "focus the most significant state intervention on the most serious offenses," he added.

## OBITUARIES

### Douglas Wilson Moyers, 96

Douglas Wilson Moyers, 96, a McMinnville resident and Claiborne County native, was born Nov. 30, 1921 and died Jan. 28 in NHC Healthcare of McMinnville following a brief illness.

Mr. Moyers was an avid reader and always kept up with the news and economy. After retirement, he and his wife, Nettie, traveled to all 50 states and capitals and every continent except for three. After Nettie passed away, he traveled out west and to Florida and Washington D.C. with the nieces and Vaughn. He was a veteran of the United States Army, retired supervisor with USDA Soil Conservation and son of the late O.G. and Lena Heath Moyers. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by wife, Nettie Walling Moyers; brother, Lloyd Grant Moyers; sister, Mary Ruth Cox; and nephew, Dan Cox.

Survivors include two nieces, Carolyn Moyers of Tazewell and Anne McCoy and husband Vaughn of Fall Branch; great-nieces and nephews, Amy, Vanessa, Katy and Billy; great-great-nieces and nephews, Emma, Ali, Ruthie, Dawson, Harrison, Alexander and Callie Jess; great-great-nephews, Vincent and Everett; and special friends, Roger and Geneva Bratcher of Morrison.

Funeral service was held Tuesday, Jan. 30, at High's Chapel with Vaughn McCoy officiating. Interment followed at Mt. View Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at [www.highfuneralhome.com](http://www.highfuneralhome.com).

High Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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(McMinnville, Tenn.) Jan. 31, 2018

### Annie Laura Macon, 92

Annie Laura Macon, 92, of Morrison, died Sunday, Jan. 28, at Alive Hospice in Murfreesboro.

She was born in Woodbury, on Dec. 31, 1925, was a homemaker and member of the Church of Christ at Hiwassee. Mrs. Macon was preceded in death by parents Alton and Laura Alexander Crisp, husband Walter L. Macon Sr., brothers Oscar Crisp, James Logan Crisp, and T.C. Crisp, sisters Alberta Crisp and Ella Mae Perkins, and grandchildren Hullon Bonner Jr., Mark Anthony Bonner, and Gloria Ann Bonner.

Survivors include her daughter Patricia Ann (Hullon) Bonner, son Walter L. Macon Jr., sister Maggie Lois Martin, brothers, Oliver Lee (Carmalita) Crisp, John Lewis Crisp, grandchildren Shannon Renee Macon Porras and Corey Lavelle Woods, great-grandchildren Alexia Porras and TayShaun Porras, and special friends Mike Schklar, Mark Schklar, Maggie Locke, Eva Savage, Dynasty Barks, Crystal Bell Myers, and Lisa Brooks. Several nieces and nephews also survive.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, at McMinnville Funeral Home Chapel. George King and Chris Whitaker will officiate. Interment will follow at Elam Cemetery in Coffee County. The Macon family will receive friends during the wake from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday at the parlors of McMinnville Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.mcminnvillefuneralhome.com](http://www.mcminnvillefuneralhome.com).

McMinnville Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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### Penny Anne Muncey Johnson Nowak, 44

Penny Anne Muncey Johnson Nowak, 44, a McMinnville resident and native, was born May 20, 1973 and died Jan. 23 at her residence surrounded by family after a seven-year battle with cancer.

She was a member of Bonner Church of Christ, a Warren County High School graduate who attended the Atlanta Art Institute and served her country in the U.S. Army with the Airborne Transport Unit.

She is survived by her parents, Eddie and Brenda Stotts Muncey, her children, two sons, Tanner Muncey and Brady Johnson; daughter Graela M. Nowak; grandson Eli Johnson, several aunts and uncles, Treva Lawson, Raymond and Joyce Lawson, Marietta Garrison Stotts, Al and Marietta McBride Stotts, Gary and Carolyn Stotts, all of McMinnville, Davis and Mary Jo Stotts of Cincinnati, Ohio, and many devoted friends and cousins.

She was preceded in death by brother Michael B. Muncey; grandparents, Isaac and Mattie Dodson Stotts, Lester and Doris Bogle Muncey, aunt and uncles, Larry and Anna Stotts, James Stotts, and cousins, Gregory and Steven Stotts.

A celebration of life will be held in spring. She donated her body to science and research with hopes of helping others battling cancer. She was loved by many and will greatly missed by all. Family and friends will be alerted when arrangements are made for the celebration of life.

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### Houston Parker Jr., 70

Houston Parker Jr., 70, of McMinnville passed away Friday, Jan. 26, at his home. He was a native of Cannon County.

Survivors include his wife of 42 years, Martha Lynn Braswell Parker of McMinnville; children, Brad (Tiffany) Parker of Woodbury and Melissa Cantrell (Jeremy) Lance of McMinnville; grandchildren, Mackenzie and Mackayla Parker; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Bernie Brazle, Faye Reed, Ray and Joan Braswell, and Louise and Paul Foster; and uncle and aunt, Grover and Mary Parker. Several nieces, nephews, and friends also survive.

Mr. Parker was preceded in death by his parents, Clyde Houston Parker Sr. and Martha Davis Parker, and an infant son. He was a member of Blues Hill Church of Christ and was retired from Carrier after 34 years. He was a veteran of Vietnam serving in the United States Army. Mr. Parker enjoyed hunting, fishing, and shooting, but loved spending time with his granddaughters.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Jan. 30 in the Chapel of Woodbury Funeral Home with Jerry Gilley and David Gilley officiating. Interment followed at Pleasant View Cemetery.

Woodbury Funeral Home, 615-563-2311, [www.woodburyfuneralhome.net](http://www.woodburyfuneralhome.net).

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### Eian Zackary Frazier

Eian Zackary Frazier, the infant son of Eric Frazier and Amanda Barrett of McMinnville, was born and died Jan. 26 at Saint Thomas Rutherford Hospital in Murfreesboro.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by sister, Elissia Frazier of McMinnville; paternal grandparents, Kim and Kary Frazier of McMinnville; maternal grandmother, Sheryl Anderson of Murfreesboro; maternal grandfather, Edwin Sloat of Murfreesboro; and paternal great-grandfather, James Johnson of Viola.

A private graveside service and interment was held at Mt. Zion Cemetery with Richard O'Conner officiating. Online condolences may be made at [www.highfuneralhome.com](http://www.highfuneralhome.com).

High Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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### Vancie "Buster" Martin, 66

McMinnville resident and Warren County native Vancie "Buster" Martin, 66, was born June 9, 1951 and died Jan. 26 at Saint Thomas River Park Hospital following an extended illness.

Retired from Oster Corporation and a member of the Church of God of Prophecy, he was the son of the late Vancie Ray and Geraldine League Martin Sr. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother Jerry Martin.

He is survived by fiancée Cathy Spencer of McMinnville; stepdaughter Latoya Jackson of McMinnville; two step-grandchildren, Keiondre Jackson and Kenisha Waller; goddaughter Keyonna Bryant of McMinnville; three sisters and brother-in-law, Carolyn Martin, Donna and Ricky Johnson, all of McMinnville, and Linda Cunningham of Richmond, Calif.; aunts Bertha Blackmon of Charlotte, S.C., Alice Stratford of Sarasota, Fla., and Martha League of Detroit, Mich.; special aunt, Mary Boyd of McMinnville; uncle, Michael Harris of McMinnville; and one niece, one nephew and a host of cousins also survive.

Funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2, at High's Chapel with Willie Cameron officiating. Burial will follow at Bethlehem Cemetery at Martin Charge. Visitation will be Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m., and from 9 a.m. until the time of service Friday at High's. Online condolences may be made at [www.highfuneralhome.com](http://www.highfuneralhome.com).

High Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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### Joe Thomas Braxton, 85

Joe Thomas Braxton, 85, passed away Jan. 29 at the age of 85. His father, Herman Braxton, mother, Coreen Scott, and brother, Jim Braxton all preceded him in death. Joe was married to Mary Elizabeth (Turner) Braxton, who died in 1998.

He is survived by son David Braxton, daughter Jerri Braxton Dearden, and son-in-law Rob Dearden, who live in Murfreesboro. Joe had three grandsons who brought him much joy and laughter - Daniel Hunzicker and David Hunzicker and wife Kristin of Murfreesboro, and Nathan Hunzicker and wife Alixandra of Little Rock, Ark. Joe was blessed with four great-grandchildren, Braxton, Judah, Anna, and Delilah. He is also survived by sister, Betty Smith of McMinnville and brother, Bill Braxton of Nashville, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Joe was born and raised in Warren County. He loved the McMinnville community where he owned and operated Joe's Body Shop. After retirement, he spent most of his time working in the Benevolent Program at the Central Church of Christ where he was a member. He was no stranger to hard work and felt most comfortable wearing overalls. His sense of humor and steadfast faith in The Lord carried him through some very difficult times.

Funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31 in High's Chapel with Daniel, David and Nathan Hunzicker, and Ben Bailey officiating. Burial will follow at Gardens of Memory Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until the time of service Wednesday at High's. In lieu of flowers, please make donations and gifts to the Benevolent Outreach at Central Church of Christ. Online condolences may be made at [www.highfuneralhome.com](http://www.highfuneralhome.com).

High Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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### Patrick E. Hutson, 61

Patrick E. Hutson, 61, of McMinnville, formerly of Sheridan, Ind., passed from this life Monday, Jan. 22 at decedent's residence in McMinnville.

Patrick was born Wednesday, Oct. 24, 1956 in Fishers, Ind. He was the son of the late Ernest Hutson and the late Nancy (Goodnight) Hutson. He was the husband of Peggy (James) Hutson.

He work as a maintenance man for most of his life. Patrick is survived by his wife Peggy (James) Hutson of 35 years of McMinnville, two sons, Kristopher Hutson and wife Mary of Indiana, Robert Edwards Jr, and wife Mendi of Indiana, one daughter, Melissa Edwards of Indiana, one brother, William Hutson and wife Pam of Texas, Two sisters, Charlotte Stock of Arizona, Pamela Crum of Indiana. Four grandchildren, Anika Hutson, R.J. Edwards, Kayla Parry, Kameron Parry. Several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends also survive.

Mr. Hutson is to be cremated and the ashes given to the family. Online condolences may be made to the family at [gardensofmemoryfuneralhome.com](http://gardensofmemoryfuneralhome.com).

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## CLARIFICATION

Those wishing to sign the online guestbook in memory of Monty Clell Wanamaker should go to [manchesterfuneralhome.com](http://manchesterfuneralhome.com) where you can write remembrances and view other memories. Memorial donations may be made to the Southern Museum, 210 East Main Street in McMinnville or Magness Memorial Library, 118 West Main Street in McMinnville.

**McMinnville Funeral Home**

**OBITUARY LINE**

**473-5700**

mcminnvillefuneralhome.net

**117 Underwood Rd.**

**473-6606**

**High's Inc.**

24 Hour

Obituary Information

**473-8585**

For Other

Information or Service

**473-2137**

www.highfuneralhome.com

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**Cathy McNulty 630-235-1220**



**MARY ANN B. KRICKEL**

The family of Mary Ann B. Krickel is humbled & grateful for the care & love shown to our family during our time of grief at the death of our mother, Mary Ann.

In this time of sorrow, we want to give special thanks to the staff at Riverview Terrace, NHC Nursing Home, Wanda Fults Boarding Home, Friendship Home Health, staff & nurses at Riverpark Hospital, Bro. Bob Case & the professional staff at High's Inc.

Special thanks to many friends & neighbors who visited, called & sent flowers & food for the memorial service. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts. May God bless you for your love & concern.

Sincerely,  
The Krickel Family