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Salutes

DINNER OF FIRSTS 2013
Honoree

Grady Williams

THE PROGRAM

6:00 – 7:00 p.m.  Reception
7:00 p.m.  Seating for Dinner

Welcome  Leonard Fant
Event Chairman

Invocation  Reverend Paul McDaniel

7:30 p.m.  Opening Toast  Keith Sanford, First Tennessee
Greg Vital, Morning Pointe

7:35 p.m.  First-in-the-Family  Dr. Jim Catanzaro

7:40 p.m.  Master of Ceremonies  Jed Mescon
Roasters  Patsy Hazlewood
Tom Edd Wilson
Sonia Young
Craig Holley
Fletcher Bright

8:30 p.m.  Rebuttal  Grady Williams
8:45 p.m.  Adjournment  Leonard Fant

The Commemorative Wine Glass at each place setting is to be taken home by the guests.

Proceeds of the event fund First-in-the-Family Scholarships.
GRADY P. WILLIAMS

Grady P. Williams was born in Sequatchie Valley in Bledsoe County where he grew up on a farm. He graduated from Bledsoe County High School in 1953. One of six children, Grady was the first in his family to attend college. He worked and paid almost all of his way through college at Tennessee Tech University where he graduated with honors and a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting.

After walking the streets of Chattanooga looking for a job, Grady joined the accounting firm of Hazlett, Lewis & Bieter, PLLC in 1957 as a staff accountant making $325 per month. While working for HLB, Grady took a two-year leave of absence for military service as a U. S. Army Paratrooper Infantry Officer. He was honorably discharged as a Captain and returned to HLB where he became a partner in 1968. He was named Managing Partner in 1977. During his tenure as Managing Partner, the firm grew from thirty plus people to approximately ninety, and he spent a total of forty-seven years with that firm.

Grady served as president of the Tennessee Society of Certified Public Accountants (TSCPA) and served for fifteen years on the Tennessee State Board of Accountancy. He has served as a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. In 1992, Grady received the TSCPA Public Service Award.

Today Grady is associated with Lattimore Black Morgan & Cain, PC and has practiced accounting in Chattanooga for nearly six decades. Mr. Williams is an Organizer of CapitalMark Bank & Trust and a member of its Board of Directors. He serves as the Lead Independent Director and is a member of the Executive/Loan and Audit committees.

COMMUNITY LEADER

Grady is led by a passion to help others, make a difference in people's lives, and leave this world a better place. He has established scholarships for deserving students and been instrumental in helping new business startups. He is well known for successfully leading many community organizations in their fundraising efforts.

At a young age, Grady became actively involved in church as a Deacon, Sunday School Superintendent, and served on the Finance Committee. Today he is an elder at Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church.
Named the Tennessee Tech Outstanding Business Alumnus in 1990, he has served in a wide variety of civic and philanthropic activities. In the Chattanooga community, Mr. Williams has served as chairman of the United Way campaign, the United Way Board, the American Heart Walk, the HCA Parkridge Hospital Board, and as president of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga. He has been a member of the boards of Allied Arts, the American Diabetes Association, the American Heart Association, the Chattanooga Little Theatre, the Community Research Council, the Fortwood Center, the Manker Patten Tennis Club, the Mountain City Club, and the Tennessee River Gorge Trust. Grady serves on the Chattanooga State Foundation Board, the University of Chattanooga Foundation Board, and the Executive Advisory Board for the School of Business at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Grady also serves on the Advisory Board for the School of Business at Tennessee Technological University where he has established a scholarship fund.

In 1999, he was named the Leadership Fundraiser of the Year by the National Society of Fund Raising Executives (now Association of Fundraising Professionals). In 2008, he received the Kiwanis Club of Chattanooga Distinguished Service Award. Also in 2008, he received the Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Philanthropy. In 2010, Grady was named the Chattanooga area “Manager of the Year.” Siskin Star Night’s Golden Jubilee in 2012 was co-chaired by Grady and his wife Phyllis.

“I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy.”

~ Rabindranath Tagore
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NOVELS BY ARCHIE MEYERS

These two mystery novels are the most recent books authored by Archie Meyers, a long-time Chattanooga State Foundation board member. After traveling the world as chairman and CEO of a large international company, Archie Meyers returned to live and write in the southern Appalachian Mountains where he was born. He currently lives with his wife, Nancy, near Chattanooga.

APPALACHIAN INTRIGUE

Dex was the best athlete in school; Marie was the neighborhood tomboy. They were best friends and next-door neighbors until her family moved away when they were teenagers. Seven years would pass before they saw each other again.

Now he was preparing to sign a multi-million dollar NFL contract, and she was a successful entrepreneur. Their unexpected reunion prompted an instant romantic attraction, but they could have never guessed that the transformation from friends to lovers would be the catalyst for a series of violent, tragic events that would soon dominate their peaceful Appalachian town.

SUMMER INTRIGUE

Tyler Montague is, by anyone’s estimation, successful: he’s a young, handsome, and wealthy Wall Street investment banker living in Manhattan with his beautiful girlfriend. So why is he so restless, so deeply discontented? When he finally admits that he’s homesick for his birthplace—the mountains, the lakes, and the serenity of southeastern Tennessee—Tyler abandons his career, his girlfriend, and the frenzied atmosphere of New York and heads home.

In Tennessee, Ty rejoins his mother to manage the family marina, but the tranquility and contentment he craves is soon shattered when he becomes caught up in a series of brutal murders that seem somehow to be related to the marina.
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**MASTER OF CEREMONIES**

Jed Mescon co-anchors Channel 3 Eyewitness News TODAY and participates as a co-host on 3 Plus You weekdays at 11:00 a.m. He also investigates area health inspection scores in the WRCB weekly Restaurant Report Card. You can see Jed’s report every Friday on Live at Five. Jed was born in Atlanta in May 1960. As a teenager, he had the chance to host a children’s television show, which really sparked his interest in television. After graduating from Arizona State University, his television news career took him to Savannah, Charleston and Chattanooga. Jed also reports on news that gives viewers a real slice of the Tennessee Valley. Jed, his wife Phyllis, and daughter Caroline, live on Signal Mountain with lots of pets.

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**ROASTERS**

Patsy Hazlewood is the Regional Director for the Southeast Tennessee, Department of Economics and Community Development. She previously served as senior executive with more than thirty years’ experience with BellSouth and AT&T. Patsy earned her Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. In addition, she completed a 720-hour academic program in Strategic Professional Development at Georgia Tech University and the University of Alabama at Birmingham that was designed to develop emerging leaders within the BellSouth corporate structure. In 2005, she helped to organize CapitalMark Bank and Trust, where she continues to serve as a director, chairing the HR Committee.

In 1999, Patsy was named Chattanooga Area Manager of the Year and was recognized as one of Ten Women of Distinction by the Chattanooga Lung Association. In 2001, she chaired the United Way Campaign in Chattanooga. She served as chair of the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce in 2001 and 2002 where she played a key role in raising nine million dollars for the Chamber’s initial economic development effort. From 2000 -2002, she chaired the board of directors of the Greater Chattanooga Area Sports Committee and was president of the board of the Better Business Bureau from 1999-2000. She has chaired Siskin Star Night, was president of the Urban League Board, was a member of the River Valley Partners Board, and a member of the Chancellor’s Roundtable for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Patsy was honored during the Chattanooga Better Business Bureau Golf Tournament, received the Chattanooga Junior League’s Community Service Award, and was recognized as the 2012 Tennessee Woman of Distinction.

She currently serves on the boards of the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce and the United Way of Greater Chattanooga. She is vice-president of The Speech and Hearing Center and Chair of the Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga. Patsy is the mayor’s appointee to the Enterprise Board where she chairs the Personnel Committee. She is the legislative delegation appointee to the Stadium Corporation board where she serves on the Friends of Finley campaign. She is the past president of the Chattanooga downtown Rotary Club, serving as the first female president in its ninety-eight year history. A former Trustee and Deacon for Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church, Patsy currently serves as an elder.
Tom Edd Wilson retired as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce in January 2013. In that position, he led an extensive restructuring of the Chamber that resulted in an increased emphasis on growing the economy and aggressively seeking new industries for the Chattanooga community. The results of this strategy provided the teamwork necessary to successfully recruit Volkswagen, Amazon, and Alstom as well as a number of other companies creating thousands of new jobs.

A native of Crossville, Tennessee, he graduated from the University of Tennessee with a BS in Accounting and from The Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University. Following graduation, he began his professional career with Arthur Young, an international CPA firm. He subsequently spent forty years in the banking industry, retiring in 2002 as President of the East Tennessee Region of Bank of America.

Tom Edd has chaired many organizations and events in the community and around the state including Allied Arts, Chattanooga Symphony and Opera Association, Cherokee Area Boy Scouts of America Council, United Way of Greater Chattanooga and served as President of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga. He served on the Board of Trustees of Tusculum College and the East Tennessee State University Foundation. He has chaired Siskin Star Night, Chattanooga Symphony & Opera Gala, A Night to Remember, and the Siskin Possibilities Luncheon.

He has been honored with numerous awards including the National Philanthropy Day Leadership Fundraiser of the Year, Chattanooga Manager of the Year, and The Kiwanis Club of Chattanooga Distinguished Service Award. The Boy Scouts of America honored him with the Silver Beaver Award as well as the prestigious Distinguished Eagle Scout Award, making him one of only two Chattanoogans to ever be selected for this national honor.

He presently serves as the Executive Director of the non-profit Aegis Law Enforcement Foundation of Greater Chattanooga. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Erlanger Hospital, Bible in the Schools, and the SunTrust Advisory Board.

Tom Edd and his wife, Barby, live on Signal Mountain and have three children, seven grandchildren and one very special dog, Molly Mae. They attend Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church where he has served as an Elder.
Sonia Young is an intrepid social butterfly that has made her mark in Chattanooga as one of the outstanding promoters of cultural and social events. Sonia, a freelance journalist whose profession has taken her all over the world, covers many community events for the Mountain Mirror. She is a graduate of Tulane and holds a Master’s degree in psychology from UTC.

Education and volunteerism have always been her main missions, especially when it comes to children and animals—those who do not have a voice of their own. She has been an adjunct professor at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga for twenty-four years and worked at Siskin Children’s Institute for eighteen years. Sonia has volunteered for numerous arts and civic organizations, including the boards of the Chattanooga Theatre Centre, Chattanooga Ballet, Chattanooga Symphony & Opera, T.C. Thompson Children’s Hospital, Tennessee River Gorge Trust, Chattanooga Zoo, and the McKamey Animal Care and Adoption Center. Although she has received numerous awards, the two she is most proud of are the Tennessee Women of Distinction award from the American Lung Association of Tennessee and the JC Penny Golden Rule award, both given for volunteerism.

Sonia has a daughter Melanie who lives with her husband in New York. Melanie has just published a book about surviving breast cancer.

Craig Holley is Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of CapitalMark Bank & Trust. Craig earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Economics at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama in 1979, and graduated in 1987 from the School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University. In 1998, he successfully completed Georgia State University’s Management Development Program at the Center for Executive Education in Atlanta, Georgia, and in 2002 graduated from the Center of Creative Leadership in Greensboro, North Carolina. Prior to founding CapitalMark, Craig worked for over twenty-five years with AmSouth Bank, serving as regional president for the bank’s southeast Tennessee/north Georgia area before departing in 2005.

Active in every community in which he has lived, he has chaired successful United Way campaigns in both Huntsville and Chattanooga, and has continued to serve on the board of directors of the United Way of Greater Chattanooga. In addition, he currently serves on the board of directors for the Hunter Museum of American Art, Siskin Children’s Institute, and the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce. Craig is a past member of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga College of Business Advisory Board and the Chancellor’s Roundtable. He has served on the Board of Directors of Allied Arts of Greater Chattanooga, Girls Preparatory School, Ochs Center for Metropolitan Studies, Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise, T.C. Thompson Children’s Hospital Foundation, Tennessee River Gorge Trust, Cherokee Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, First Things First, and the YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga.
Fletcher Bright is Chairman of the Fletcher Bright Company, a full service real estate company located in Chattanooga with a mortgage loan office in Atlanta, Georgia. He is a native of Lookout Mountain, Tennessee. He attended the Bright School and McCallie School and received a bachelor's degree from Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina, an MBA degree from the University of Chattanooga, and an LLB degree from McKenzie School of Law.

In 1953, Fletcher began his career in real estate working with his father, Gardner Bright. Since that time, the Company has expanded into a full-service real estate company. Fletcher Bright Company includes residential sales, commercial development of shopping centers, strip centers and office complexes, as well as property management and loan servicing. Under the direction of his son, George Bright, the Company has been involved in the development and management of multi-family apartment complexes and renovation of older homes in the Atlanta area.

Fletcher is also an accomplished bluegrass musician. He is one of the founding members of The Dismembered Tennesseans and has played fiddle for more than sixty-two years with this group. He has taught bluegrass fiddle at various camps for more than twenty-one years here in the United States, and has just recently completed a third term at Sore Fingers Bluegrass School outside London, England this spring.

Fletcher and wife, Marshall (1935-2002) have five children: George Bright, Elizabeth Bright Graham, Frank Bright, Ann Bright Monk, and Lucy Bright Griffin. In addition, there are seven grandchildren.

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CHATTANOOGA STATE FOUNDATION

The Chattanooga State Foundation was chartered in 1977 by citizens interested in the educational well-being of Chattanooga State's students, faculty and staff. In addition to providing more than $250,000 annually for student scholarships, the Foundation underwrites a strong faculty and staff development program ensuring that Chattanooga State employees can expand their expertise in technology, instructional methodology and effectiveness.

The Chattanooga State Foundation is a nonprofit organization and maintains a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. The Foundation is supported by private donations and contributions, tax-deductible as allowed by law.

For information about the Chattanooga State Foundation, please contact the Development Office at (423) 697-2630.

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FIRST-IN-THE-FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

The Dinner of Firsts at Chattanooga State is the primary fundraising event for the college. Proceeds from the Dinner fund the Chattanooga State Foundation’s FIRST-IN-THE-FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP. The inaugural Dinner of Firsts was held in 2012 with a toast and roast honoring Dr. Jim Catanzaro, who was the first in his family to attend college.

The tradition continues now with Grady Williams. One of six children, Grady was the first in his family to go to college. With your support, we hope to continue this mission-driven celebration of “FIRSTS” for many years to come.

For the 2012 – 2013 academic year, twelve deserving students received a FIRST-IN-THE-FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP. We anticipate being able to double the number of scholarship awards next year with proceeds from the Dinner of Firsts 2013. Qualifying students for this annual scholarship must be first-generation college students attending school full-time.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of Grady and Chattanooga State:

Tonight is, first and foremost, about supporting our young people, many whom seek to climb out of challenging life situations into better employment opportunities and to live the American Dream.

Proceeds of our second annual Dinner of Firsts support our life-transforming efforts to assist first generation college students. Today, more than 43% of Chattanooga State students that apply for financial aid are the first in their families to attend college, and when we invest in them, we not only invest in one life, but a family and our community as well.

Our celebration of Grady Williams this evening, led by our dedicated Foundation Board member Leonard Fant and his wonderful committee, recognizes the many successes Grady has had as an esteemed accountant, extraordinary volunteer, an inspiring community leader, and the first in his family to attend college. Grady is a true role model who demonstrates in his professional and civic life the remarkable possibilities of many of our young aspirants.

Grady and I thank you for your recognition of his many achievements and your support for the potential community leaders among us and yet to come through our important First-in-the-Family Scholarship program. Celebrating Grady as the 2013 Dinner of Firsts Honoree is a fitting tribute to his legacy and the future legacy of our graduates. On behalf of the Chattanooga State Foundation where we are accelerating the impact of the ChattState experience through philanthropic support like yours, we are grateful for your generosity in being here tonight. From all our students, faculty and staff, we say thank you.

Sincerely,

Jim Catanzaro, Ph.D.
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