

# Rotary



## Rotary Club of Tullahoma January 27, 2023 What's A Cookin

Meal Service: 11:50

Program: 12:15

### Club Leaders

Jack Thoma  
President

Anthony Watts  
President-Elect

Rachel Ferrell  
Vice President

Brian Coate  
Secretary

Linda Bean  
Treasurer

Jody Baltz  
iPast President

Hank Jordan  
Club Administration Chair

Anthony Watts  
Service Projects Chair

Jim Woodard  
Club Membership Chair

Rachel Ferrell  
Public Relations Chair

### Upcoming Schedule

February 3 - Jordan Ennis

February 10 - tbd

February 17 - Dr. John

Schmisser - UTSI

February 24 - Tullahoma Police

Chief Williams

March 3 - Dr. Ben Sawyer -

MTSU & Road to Now Podcast

### Sponsors

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Bryant, Fran Marcum, Jim Jolliffe,  
John Nauseef, First Vision Bank,  
Pam & John Carver, Hank Jordan

### U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn - January 27



Speaking to our Club on January 27th will be U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn. The Rotarian responsible for arranging the program is Dr. Paul Bass.

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Senator Blackburn was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2018, and is currently serving her first term representing the state of Tennessee. She currently serves on the Armed Services, Veterans' Affairs, Judiciary and the Commerce, Science, and Transportation committees of the U.S. Senate. Before her election to the Senate, she represented Tennessee's 7th Congressional District.

Blackburn's public service is dedicated to promoting opportunities for women and making America a more prosperous place to live. Marsha's leadership philosophy is based on her experiences in the private sector as a small business woman and author, as well as being a mother and grandmother.

Blackburn went to college on a 4-H scholarship and worked her way through school selling books for the Southwestern Company as one of their first female sales associates, and later as one of their first female sales managers.

She then became Director of Retail Fashion and Special Events for the Castner Knott Company, which was a Nashville-based regional department store. Later, she founded her own business, Marketing Strategies, which focused on the retail marketplace, as well as electronic and print media.

Blackburn began her career in public service in 1995 when she was named executive director of the Tennessee Film, Entertainment, and Music Commission. In 1998, she was elected to the Tennessee State Senate. In the state legislature, she earned a reputation for fiscal responsibility and government accountability by identifying waste and offering realistic solutions to Tennessee's budget challenges.

While serving in the Tennessee Senate, she led a statewide grassroots campaign to defeat a proposed state income tax. The tax was defeated, and Marsha's leadership earned her a reputation as an anti-tax champion. In 2014, the people of Tennessee passed an amendment to the state constitution to expressly prohibit a state income tax – a fitting cap to a 14-year battle.

In 2002, she was elected to represent the people of Tennessee's 7th Congressional District based on her record in the state legislature. She brought her Tennessee values to Washington, DC, and became a leader in the fight for small, efficient federal government that is accountable to its citizens. As a Congressman, Marsha was often selected by her colleagues to lead the charge for principled conservatism. Her congressional career was also noted for her Chairmanship of the Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, as well as bipartisan expertise in defending songwriters' and performers' rights.

Blackburn is a member of numerous charitable organizations and is an active member of her church, Christ Presbyterian. Marsha and her husband Chuck live in Williamson County. They have two children, Mary Morgan (Paul) Ketchel and Chad (Hillary) Blackburn, two grandsons, and a granddaughter. Originally from Laurel, Mississippi, Marsha is a graduate of Mississippi State University.

### Jordan Ennis - February 3rd

Jordan Ennis was born in Tullahoma, TN. Upon his graduation from Tullahoma High School, he went on to attend the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN where he earned his bachelor's degree in Business with a specialization in Marketing. After graduation, he moved to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, where he accepted a position with Coca-Cola Consolidated's Management Trainee Program. After successfully completing this program, he was promoted to an area sales manager for Coca-Cola Consolidated's Tifton, GA branch. After about a year and half there, he decided to go back to school to get his master's degree in Business at Vanderbilt's Owen School of Business. After completing this program and receiving his master's degree, he moved back to his hometown of Tullahoma to work in his family-owned Coca-Cola Business and worked there for the next 20 years

up until the sale of the company in 2019. He served as President and CEO of the company from 2015 – 2019 and helped grow the company 30% in terms of revenue. During his tenure, the company also received bottler of the year 2 of those 4 years. He is now involved in various beverage business projects and serves on the boards of many non-profit companies in the Tullahoma area. He is married to his lovely wife, Ginger, and has two teenage boys, Steven and Landon.

In July 2005, Jordan's father, Steve Ennis, was diagnosed with ALS, which is commonly referred to as Lou Gehrig's disease. ALS is a terminal neurological disease, and the average life span for the victim is 2-5 years. This changed his family's lives dramatically. At the time, there were not many support groups out there for ALS and not much awareness. So, his family, led by his sister and brother-in-law, decided to start a fundraiser in Atlanta, GA called the Night of Hope thru the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). They held the first event in 2006, and it has become MDA's largest ALS fundraiser in the United States. And the event is still growing. In February 2022, the Night of Hope Gala welcomed 650 people to the event and raised about \$1.1 million. Through its 15 years, the gala has raised over \$10.5 million specifically for ALS research, and has an executive committee of over 30 individuals, all who have a personal connection to ALS. The Ennis Family and the Night of Hope Committee seeks to welcome families diagnosed with ALS and help support throughout their journey. Jordan is an ALS advocate, helping to spread education and help raise funds to end ALS. He has spoken at many ALS events all over the United States and will continue until a cure is found.