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# THE DAILY TIMES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025

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## Nashville mayor targeted for response to immigration arrests

JONATHAN MATTISE  
Associated Press

NASHVILLE — Congressional Republicans are investigating Nashville Mayor Freddie O’Connell’s response to federal immigration arrests during hundreds of traffic stops over several days in May. Rep. Andy Ogles is leading the charge, pitting the Republican who represents part of the Democratic-leaning city against a pro-gressive mayor who has criticized immigration officials after they arrested nearly 200

people in the greater Nashville area. The dayslong presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents sent chills through well-known Nashville immigrant neighborhoods. Many Republicans, meanwhile, applauded ICE’s enforcement focus in the city. Republicans have criticized Nashville officials for publicly documenting interactions between local authorities and federal immigration agents on an official city government website. Some of the entries included authorities’ names before city officials removed

them. They have also blasted O’Connell for promoting a fundraiser for families affected by the ICE activity. O’Connell has said the arrests caused long-lasting trauma for families and were led by people who don’t share Nashville’s values of safety and community. Here is a look at the ICE activity and its fallout.

**THE ARRESTS**  
ICE has said that it arrested 196 people alongside the Tennessee Highway Patrol



Mayor Freddie O’Connell speaks during a Rotary Club of Nashville meeting Monday, June 2, 2025, in Nashville.

## Blount County’s best



A large crowd attended The Daily Times inaugural Readers’ Choice event at The Showroom at Five Points on Tuesday.

### The Daily Times Readers Choice awards honors Blount County’s best

Staff Reports

Businesses and residents from across Blount County came to The Showroom at Five Points Tuesday to honor the winners of the 2025 Inaugural Readers Choice awards. The promotion, which began in April, gave our readers the opportunity to nominate and vote for their Blount County favorites in a wide variety of categories including Business/Professional Service, People, and Food and Dining. Darren Haimer, General Manager for The Daily Times, served as the emcee for the event, presenting trophies for the award winners. For a complete list of award winners, be sure to check out the special Readers Choice Awards section in the June 18 edition of The Daily Times.



The Daily Times held it’s first annual Readers Choice Awards Tuesday at the Showroom at Five Points.

### The Steve Kaufman Acoustic Kamp is back, providing enjoyment and education

LEE ZIMMERMAN  
Correspondent for The Daily Times

Steve Kaufman’s Acoustic Kamps has become well-known as a decidedly desirable destination for those interested in furthering their musical skills. An award-winning camping retreat that makes its home at Maryville College every summer, it offers students of all skill levels an opportunity to immerse and explore traditional music within a friendly, supportive and uplifting environment where participants can play music, sing, jam and share valuable musical knowledge. After selecting to “major” in a specific instrument, the students then enroll in any of a variety of weekly classes. In addition, they can participate in four daily instructor-hosted jam sessions, an evening open mic, and the Kamp Concerts, which are open to the public. The founders and organizers, Steve Kaufman and his wife Donna Dixon, encourage students to develop a new repertoire, learn specific techniques, gain a renewed sense of direction and purpose, and find greater confidence and joy in the ability to make music. On June 12, Steve Kaufman’s Acoustic Kamp returns to the MC campus for its 26th year. It’s expected to draw students from across the country who come to East Tennessee to learn at the foot of instrumental masters who are internationally recognized experts on their particular instruments in the realms of old time, traditional and bluegrass music. This year, the Kamp will consist of two separate weekly sessions. June 8-14 has been designated as “Old Time and Traditional Week” with the focus on old time banjo, old time mandolin, mountain dulcimer, flat-picking, fingerpicking, Irish fiddle, Celtic guitar, traditional and old time rhythm guitar, old time fiddle, old time mandolin, hammered dulcimer and old time singing and harmony. June 15-21 is “Bluegrass Week” with emphasis on flat-picking, bluegrass banjo, bluegrass fiddle, mandolin, swing and western swing rhythm guitar, ukulele, bass, songwriting, bluegrass vocals, bluegrass rhythm guitar and dobro. Kaufman himself originally moved to

See **KAMP, 5A**



Bible Verse.....	2A	Crossword.....	7B	History.....	2A	Sudoku.....	7B
Bridge.....	2A	Daily Calendar.....	2A	Horoscope.....	7B	Taste.....	7A
Classified.....	4B	Dear Abby.....	7A	Opinion.....	6A	Trivia.....	2A
Comics.....	6B	Deaths.....	4A	Sports.....	1B	Weather.....	7B

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