Celebrate Black history today

Join in Knoxville's observance of Black History Month with this event scheduled for today.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

- Beck Cultural Center will celebrate the "Divine Nine," the group of nine historically African American fraternities and sororities, in a special Black History Month program, "The Divine Black Expression," at 6:30 p.m. at the Bijou Theatre. "Legacy in Motion" features the Austin-East Dance Co. and is hosted by Tanisha Fitzgerald Baker.

Scan to see the full list of Black History Month events for February 2026

Knoxville NEWS SENTINEL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026 | KNOXNEWS.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

EUGENIA WILLIAMS HOUSE

The historic Eugenia Williams House on Lyons View Pike will open soon, following years of restoration work.
PHOTOS BY BRIANNA PACIORKA/NEWS SENTINEL

Architectural jewel soon will shine again

Coke heiress' estate includes acres of gardens, trails

Hayden Dunbar
Knoxville News Sentinel | USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

After decades hidden behind brick walls, the Eugenia Williams House will begin to share its secrets with Knoxville when it opens this spring.

Tucked away on Lyons View Pike, the grand home once occupied by Coca-Cola heiress Eugenia Williams sat largely untended for many years, starting when Williams moved into senior living in the 1980s and continuing after Williams died and left the house to the University of Tennessee.

> **"So from the moment you pass through that gate, you feel like you've been offered and extended an invitation to a really special, private place."**
>
> **Brandon Pace**
> Sanders Pace Architecture

By the time the Aslan Foundation acquired the property in 2020, some minor improvements had been made, but aside from the effects of time, little had changed since Williams had it built. Now, after years of fastidious restoration and rehabilitation, the home is slated to welcome the public this spring – but it's not your typical historic house museum.

The Aslan Foundation, a nonprofit family foundation, and its board were drawn to the site originally because of its

See HOUSE, Page 10A

Brandon Pace of Sanders Pace Architecture and Katharine Killen of the Aslan Foundation look through renovation booklets made for the restoration.

Lawyers ask judge to toss warrantless ICE arrests

Two citizens detained at Hardin Valley work site

Tyler Whetstone
Knoxville News Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

Charges against two American citizens stemming from a federal immigration raid on a Hardin Valley construction site should be tossed, defense attorneys said in a federal court filing.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents swarmed the private construction site Jan. 13 without a warrant, which would make the arrests they made unconstitutional, the attorneys for Alexander Bonilla-Servin and Tyler Wells argue in their Feb. 20 filing. In fact, ICE provided no warrant then or after the men were arrested, the attorneys said.

It follows, the attorneys say, the charges should be tossed, or at least the evidence suppressed, because the entire case is predicated on an unconstitutional search in violation of the Fourth Amendment's ban on warrantless searches.

The two workers face multiple felony charges. Federal prosecutors

See ICE, Page 7A

Family of teen killed in crash sues KCSO, driver's parents

Tyler Whetstone
Knoxville News Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

The family of Conor Dolin, the 15-year-old boy who was killed in a single-vehicle wreck in South Knox County in 2022, is suing the Knox County Sheriff's Office and the family of the underage and unlicensed driver.

The lawsuit, filed Feb. 23 in Knox County Circuit Court, follows extensive reporting by Knox News into the mistake-filled initial investigation and second investigation by the sheriff's office.

The Dolin family is accusing the sheriff's office of negligence after the agency lost the initial investigative

See LAWSUIT, Page 7A

America's Most Trusted Gutter Protection!

Leafguard
a Great Day Improvements brand

SCAN ME FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

Clog-free, maintenance free gutters!

We can only offer these special savings until 2/28/26

LIFETIME WARRANTY

Winter Savings:
Exclusive Deals on Leafguard Gutters

75% OFF INSTALLATION
OFFER ENDS 2/28/26*

+ $50 VISA CARD
with your Leafguard purchase!**

AND 0% INTEREST
If Paid In Full Within 18 Months***

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING · MADE IN USA · A+ rating · 25+ Years · 500,000+ Satisfied Customers!

Call now for your FREE estimate
201.500.6644

*Does not include cost of material. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Leafguard or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Previous/future purchases are not eligible for a discount or sale price adjustment. Sales tax does not qualify for discount. This offer cannot be combined with any other sale, promotion, discount, code, coupon and/or offer. This promotion has no cash value. Leafguard reserves the right to end any promotion at any time without notice. Offer ends 2/28/26. **Consumer Disclosure/Award Rules: All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation and choose to make a purchase will receive a $50 VISA card. Retail value is $50. Offer sponsored by Leafguard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Card may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a card of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 30 days of receipt of the promotion form provided at presentation. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by VISA and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Except in the states of MD, NY and DC, where the gift card offer is limited to $25. Offer not available in the states of CA, IN, PA and MI. Expires 2/28/26. ***Finance offer details can be found at leafguard.com/ finance/disclaimer. Expires 2/28/26. License #s: L201900981, 32777, BL020003-04-2020, 238170, Bz-7199, SBL20-000141, 25 00046051, 29210, 4322, 25461, 168338, 9137087990, 2402511, 9633, 498485, 15500, 9635003681, 5501, 25951, 16203, 36936, 230003735, 16178,363035, 66513, 2023-836,202204245, NBA23-000324, 202314682, 26038, 6186, 227, 263556, 2023-1542, 101588, 32777, BL020003-04-2020, 238170, Bz-7199, SBL20-000141, 25 00046051, 29210, 4322, 230005052, 6258, & 25SFL-GC-0404, 4523, 32777, BL020003-04-2020, 238170, Bz-7199, SBL20-000141, 25 00046051, 25 00046051, 29210, 4322, WV055024, 005071, & 3466, 6258, & 25SFL-GC-0404, 0663233, 191456, GC-48219, GEN22-36941, 5257, 19486, 1606, 1163, 00080036, 1000724543, 196498, 2705176457, RCE-47143, 101588, 3753, 2959, 19612, 00080036, 1000724543, 196498, 397440224, PBR-00011734, PBR-00011733, NBF-00000807, 6258, 25SFL-GC-0404, DC-052200604, 2622450, HICN 0204113, PBR-00011734, PBR-00011733, NBF-00000807, 25461, 168338, 9137087990, 2402511, 9633, 498485, 15500, 9635003681, 5501, 25951, 16203, 36936, 230003735, 16178,363035, 66513, 2023-836,202204245, NBA23-000324, 202314682, 26038, 6186, 227, 263556, 2023-1542, PBR-00011734, PBR-00011733, NBF-00000807, 00080036, 1000724543, 196498, 3753, 2959, 19612, DC-052200604, 2622450, HICN 0204113, 223377, BUS-1241-2021, LBPR223377, CCB 234836, LEAFGHI821RC, 500180361, 604339569, R7484, 101588, 2705176457, RCE-47143, 1201900981, 25461, 168338, 9137087990, 2402511, 9633, 498485, 15500, 9635003681, 5501, 25951, 16203, 36936, 230003735, 16178,363035, 66513, 2023-836,202204245, NBA23-000324, 202314682, 26038, 6186, 227, 263556, 2023-1542, 223377, BUS-1241-2021, LBPR223377, CCB 234836, LEAFGHI821RC, 500180361, 604339569, 7484, RCE47143, 275054, IR796203, 19486, 1606, 1163, 126357, 13VH09010100, LC8336, 2015605717, 11650889-5501.

Leafguard | Great Day Improvements
Leafguard is a Great Day Improvements brand

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper.
Enjoy every page by going to knoxnews.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device.
You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!

Volume 100 | No. 93
Subscribe 844-900-7097
©2026 $3.49