



THE EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUSEUM of EAST TENNESSEE HISTORY

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For Immediate Release

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Prayers the Devil Answers
Lecture and Book Signing by
Award-winning Appalachian Author Sharyn McCrumb

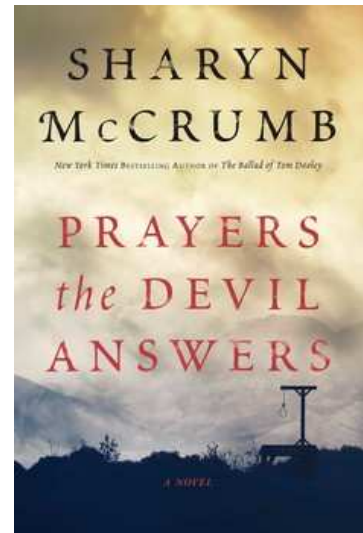
PROGRAM: *Prayers the Devil Answers*, Lecture and Book Signing
by Sharyn McCrumb

DATE: Wednesday, May 25, 2016. Light reception at 6:30
p.m.; lecture and book signing begins at 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: East Tennessee History Center
601 South Gay Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

ADMISSION: FREE

PRESENTED BY: East Tennessee Historical Society and the Friends of
the Knox County Public Library



(Knoxville, TN) Popular Appalachian author and *New York Times* best-seller Sharyn McCrumb will be at the East Tennessee History Center on May 25 as part of a launch tour for her new book, *Prayers the Devil Answers*. Finding herself thrust into the role of primary caretaker for her family following the tragic death of her husband, Ellie Robbins is appointed to serve out his term as sheriff of their rural East Tennessee mountain town. She soon confronts herself, as well as small town superstitions and dark secrets as she grapples with the task of executing a condemned killer.

The May 25 event at the East Tennessee History Center begins with a light reception at 6:30, followed by a lecture and book signing 7:00 p.m. The program is free and open to the public.

About Sharyn McCrumb

The award-winning Southern writer is best known for her Appalachian “Ballad” novels, set in the North Carolina/Tennessee mountains. Included in these are the *New York Times* Best Sellers, *She Walks These Hills*, *The Rosewood Casket*, and *The Ballad of Frankie Silver*. Sharyn McCrumb's other best-selling novels include *King's Mountain*, *The Ballad of Frankie Silver*, *The Songcatcher*, *Ghost Riders*, *St. Dale*, and *The Ballad of Tom Dooley*.

McCrumb, who was named a “Virginia Woman of History” in 2008 for Achievement in Literature, received the 2011 Perry F. Kendig Award for



Achievement in Literary Arts from the Blue Ridge Arts Council of southwest Virginia. McCrumb's many honors include: Appalachian Writers Association Book of the Year Award; the Wilma Dykeman Award for Literature given by the East Tennessee Historical Society; the Audie Award for Best Recorded Book; AWA Outstanding Contribution to Appalachian Literature Award; the Chaffin Award for Southern Literature; the Plattner Award for Short Story; and AWA's Best Appalachian Novel. She was the first writer-in-residence at King College in Tennessee. In 2005 she was honored as the Writer of the Year at Emory & Henry College.

About the ETHS

Established in 1834, the East Tennessee Historical Society is widely acknowledged as one of the most active history organizations in the state and enjoys a national reputation for excellence in programming and education. For 182 years the East Tennessee Historical Society has been helping East Tennesseans hold on to our unique heritage—recording the events, collecting the artifacts, and saving the stories that comprise the history we all share.

About Friends of the Knox County Public Library

Friends of the Knox County Public Library is a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster a love of libraries, books and reading in the Knox County area. The organization raises funds to sponsor community outreach programs, represent the interests of Knox County library patrons, and support a variety of services offered by the local library system that would otherwise not be available due to budget or staff restrictions.

The reception begins at 6:30 p.m., with the presentation at 7:00 p.m., followed by a book signing and is free and open to the public. The East Tennessee History Center is located at 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. Ms. McCrumb will be signing books following her lecture. For more information on the lecture, exhibitions, or museum hours, call 865-215-8824 or visit the website at www.EastTNHistory.org.

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