

# *The Chamber* Communique

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A Bi-Monthly E-Newsletter of the  
Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce

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## Cookeville to Host Tennessee State H.O.G. Rally in 2012

Representatives from the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce and Convention & Visitors Bureau with support from Boswell's Harley Davidson and the Upper Cumberland Harley Owners Group (H.O.G) Chapter made a winning presentation in Nashville at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel in front of dealers and local chapters from across the state at the Tennessee Annual Harley Owners Group meeting.

Cookeville-Putnam County was awarded the bid to host the Tennessee State Harley Owners Group Rally in June 2012. Others competing for the event included Nashville, Knoxville and Maryville. Once again, Cookeville, the Highlands and Upper Cumberland region was the smallest market to compete and win. In 2009, Cookeville was awarded the TSSAA State High School Football Championships and in 2010, hosted the first-ever televised gubernatorial debate held outside a major metro area in Tennessee history.

Past rallies have been held in cities such as Nashville, Chattanooga, Murfreesboro, Maryville and Knoxville with the 2011 rally being held in Jackson. Between 2,000 and 3,000 Harley riders attend the state rally, with approximately 50 percent coming from out of state for the four-day event. Economic impact in other cities has been cited as \$2.5 to 3.5 million impact.



*Cookeville presenters celebrate in front of a Harley just after Cookeville was selected to host the 2012 State H.O.G. Rally. Kneeling in front is Ottis Phillips, CVB Chairman, SEC Enterprises and lifetime H.O.G. member. Seated on stage is Al Enochs, First Realty and Harley rider. Standing from left is George Halford, Chamber president; Laura Canada, Chamber vice president and CVB director; Kristie Phillips, Tennessee Tech University; Lindsay Barnett, Miller Girl; and David Prowse, Chamber board member and Harley rider.*

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## Chamber News

# 4th Annual Chamber Golf Tournament Presented by Charter Business Tees Off May 27

The Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce's 4th Annual Golf Tournament presented by Charter Business tees off Friday, May 27 at White Plains Golf Course located at 4000 Plantation Drive in Cookeville.

"This tournament is a fun, relaxing event, which enables Chamber members to build existing relationships as well as make new ones," said Jim Woodford, Chamber Golf Tournament chairman. "The tournament also serves the Chamber as a fundraiser to help with its many programs."

Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. compliments of Cookeville Chick-fil-A, and the tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.

Chamber members and their guests are invited to form a four-person team for the scramble. The cost per team is \$450 and includes a practice round, range balls on the day of the tournament, entry into the putting contest for each player, two signs on your team's golf cart, lunch and a golf shirt for each player.

"We are thrilled to be part of this year's tournament," said David Price of Charter Business. "Charter Business is excited to support the Chamber and businesses in the Upper Cumberland."

"We appreciate our title sponsor, Charter Business, and all our member teams and various other sponsors," said Dianne Callahan, membership services director for the Chamber. "Many volunteers, led by Jim Woodford, come together each year and work hard to make this outdoor networking event one of the best during the year. It makes a great kickoff for everyone's Memorial Day weekend."

There will also be putting, closest to the pin and longest drive contests. Prizes for first, second and third in three flights will be awarded immediately following the tournament.

## Monterey Downtown, Inc. Gets New Office Furnishings from Chamber

Bob and Vicki Henley have donated office space to Monterey Downtown, Inc. And the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce has donated office furniture and equipment to the group. Pictured moving in are, from left, Theresa Pugh-Godsey, Ruth Ann Woolbright, Margaret Stephenson, and Franny Ray, all of MDI.

Photo: Dale Welch/Hilltop Express

"The Chamber's annual golf tournament is a way the Chamber shows appreciation to our membership for all they do to support the economic well-being of our community," said George Halford, president/CEO of the Chamber.

"There is still time to register a team or purchase one of our sponsorships, priced at levels to match your marketing dollar," Callahan said. "We are please again this year at the positive response from our membership."

For more information about this event or sponsorship opportunities, contact Dianne Callahan at 931-526-2211 or [dcallahan@cookevillechamber.com](mailto:dcallahan@cookevillechamber.com). For more information about the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce and future events, visit [www.cookevillechamber.com](http://www.cookevillechamber.com).



*Pictured from left are David Price of Charter Business, Dianne Callahan of the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce, Teresa Galey of White Plains Golf Course and Jim Woodford, Membership Golf Tournament chairman as they get together at White Plains Golf Course to prepare for the Chamber's 4th Annual Golf Tournament taking place on May 27. For more information or to reserve a team, call 931-526-2211 or email [dcallahan@cookevillechamber.com](mailto:dcallahan@cookevillechamber.com).*



### Chamber Celebrates Industry Appreciation Week May 23 - 27

The Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce is celebrating Industry Appreciation Week May 23 through May 27 with a variety of activities, events and industry recognition.

"The Chamber annually holds Industry Appreciation Week in recognition of the over 6,000 jobs that Putnam County industries provide for the region and the associated impact," said Jim McGeehin, Chamber Board chairman. "Industry is part of the lifeblood of the region, and it is our sincere pleasure to hold events this week in honor of the contributions of this vital segment of the Upper Cumberland."

The week will kick off with an Industry themed Business Before Hours on Tuesday, May 24 at the Leslie Town Centre in Cookeville. Kingsley Brock, Assistant

Commissioner of Business Development for the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development will speak as we salute our existing industries. Business Before Hours will begin at 7 a.m. as attendees network and enjoy breakfast hors d'oeuvres, while the program will begin at 7:30 a.m. There will also be regular updates from Tennessee Tech, city and county officials.

The highly anticipated groundbreaking for the Highlands Business Park will take place at 9:30 the same morning.

"With the groundbreaking of the Highlands Business Park, we are one step closer to attracting and accommodating more industry interested in our region," said George Halford, Chamber president/CEO.

The industry-themed week of events will continue on Wednesday, May 25 with an industry appreciation themed Noonday Rotary meeting happening at the Leslie Town Centre in Cookeville, with Don Rigsby, Jobs Development Specialist for Middle Tennessee with the Tennessee

Department of Economic and Community Development, as the keynote speaker.

The week of industry appreciation events will culminate with a day on the golf course for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Chamber Golf Tournament on Friday, May 27 at White Plains Golf Course located at 4000 Plantation Drive in Cookeville.



*Baxter Mayor Jeff Wilhite, signs a proclamation declaring May 23 through 27 Industry Appreciation week in Putnam County. In back, from left, is George Halford, Chamber president; Vaughan Larson, Algood city reporter; Jeanie Lee, Winell Lee Specialty Hardwood Floors; Connie Albrecht, Cookeville city council member; Scott Ebersole, Putnam County commissioner; Dennis Tennant, TTU; and Lillian Hartgrove, Chamber vice-president of economic development.*

"The Chamber's annual golf tournament is the highlight of the Chamber's Industry Appreciation activities, and is an excellent way to show appreciation to all its members and all they do to support the economic health of this community," McGeehin said.

The four-person scramble will begin with lunch provided by Chick-fil-A at 11:30 a.m. and a shotgun start at 1 p.m. There will be prizes for first, second and third place in three

flights, a putting contest, closest to the pin contest and longest drive. Spankies Restaurant and Institutional Wholesale Company will provide food for the awards ceremony.

The Chamber will also be recognizing and highlighting various industries throughout the week by releasing articles to local media.

The mission of the Chamber is to be a world-class, regional leader, partner and catalyst by protecting and improving our pro-business climate; cultivating and supporting future community leaders; creating and retaining high quality, 21<sup>st</sup> Century jobs; enhancing our region's quality of life; and adding value for our members' investment.

If you would like to reserve your spot for the Chamber's Business Before Hours or participate in the Chamber's Golf Tournament, contact 931-526-2211 or email [info@cookevillechamber.com](mailto:info@cookevillechamber.com).

## Member News

### Highlands Delegation Visits Nashville for Day on the Hill

A delegation of Highlands' representatives recently met in Nashville for Highlands Day on the Hill to share the message of the Highlands, speak with one voice and increase visibility.

The group, led by Steve Copeland, Sr., chair of the Highlands Infrastructure and Advocacy Committee, collectively shared the message and vision of the Highlands Initiative, a three-county collaborative effort between Overton, Putnam and White counties focusing on regional economic development and quality of life issues for the people of the Upper Cumberland.

The full agenda of activities began at TDEC, meeting with Deputy Commissioner for Parks and Conservation Brock Hill. Tennessee Tech University President Bob Bell was the spokesperson for the group emphasizing the Save

Cummins Falls project and what a positive impact that will have on the region.

The group then heard an update from Lori Odom, International Investment director for the Department of Economic and Community Development. Odom stressed the importance of having "shovel ready" industrial sites when companies are looking to relocate. "It is the expectation for most all companies now that they are looking for the 'perfect' site," Odom said. "If you don't have it, you will be eliminated."

Odom also discussed a focus on small existing industries to help them grow and prosper in the state in addition to the new regional jobs camp approach and increased investment in innovation and entrepreneurship.

On behalf of the group, Susan Elkins, vice president for Extended programs at Tennessee Tech added that the Highlands has a good teamwork approach established with the recent hosting of the Governor's regional roundtable at Tennessee Tech and the recent unveiling of the new Tech REDI program.

Other meetings were held with TDOT Commissioner John Schroer and Chief Engineer Paul Degges, Speaker of the House Beth Harwell, Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey and local representatives Ryan Williams, Charles Curtiss and John Mark Windle.

The day culminated with a photo opportunity with Governor Bill Haslam who commended the hard work and success of everyone who helped put on the Highlands Debate held in 2010 on the campus of Tennessee Tech and applauded the regional approach of the Highlands Initiative.

For more information about the Highland Initiative or the 2011 Day on the Hill, contact the Chamber at 931-526-2211 or email [info@cookevillechamber.com](mailto:info@cookevillechamber.com).



*Governor Bill Haslam meets with the Highlands Initiative. Top row from left is Wallace Austin, Sparta-White County Chamber executive director; Joe Albrecht, Highlands Initiative II campaign chair; and Mark Farley, White County finance director. Middle row from left is Herd Sullivan, White County Executive; Laura Canada, Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber vice president of communications/programs; Steve Copeland, Sr., Highlands Infrastructure & Advocacy Committee chair; Thomas Lynn, Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber board chair elect; and Jeff Young, Mayor of Sparta. Bottom row from left is Jeanie Lee, Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber board member; Jim Woodford, Cookeville City Council; Connie Albrecht, Cookeville City Council; Jim Martin, Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber Public Policy Division vice-chair; Governor Bill Haslam; George Halford, Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber president; and State Representative Ryan Williams.*



## Second Annual Highlands Eighth Grade Career Fair Held at Tennessee Tech May 10

Approximately 1,600 eighth grade students from Jackson, Overton, Putnam and White counties attend the second annual Highlands Eighth Grade Career Fair on Tuesday, May 10 at Tennessee Tech University's Hooper Eblen Center from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the Highlands Career Fair was to motivate students at a younger age to become college and career ready.

"We know students consider dropping out of school long before their senior year," said Lynda Breeden, career fair committee chair. "We hope the career fair will make a real-world connection to the high school courses eighth graders are choosing as they transition out of middle school and help motivate them to work hard."

Students were given the opportunity to interact with professionals from a variety of occupations as well as realize the importance of completing their education.

"It's essential that students understand early that the fastest growing jobs will require some type of post-secondary education and that higher levels of education are vital to their ability to complete in a global market and thrive as adults," stressed Breeden.

Eighth graders visited booths set up along the concourse gathering information about various professions.

"This is a terrific opportunity to help educate and excite young students about how their successes in the classroom can prepare them for specific jobs and careers," said Susan Elkins, vice president of extended programs at Tennessee Tech and workforce development and education committee chair for the Highlands. "We encouraged speakers and booth sponsors to help students make the connection between education and career success by providing fair attendees with detailed job information that



includes specific duties, pay scale, education and training requirements."

The second annual Highlands Eighth Grade Career Fair was organized by the Highlands Workforce Development and Education Committee. The committee is an active part of the Highlands Initiative, a collaborative public/private sector program designed to boost economic and community development in Overton, Putnam and White counties. For more information about the Highlands Initiative, visit [www.HighlandsofTN.com](http://www.HighlandsofTN.com).

For more information about the Highlands Eighth Grade Career Fair, contact Lillian Hartgrove at 931-526-2211 or [L.Hartgrove@CookevilleChamber.com](mailto:L.Hartgrove@CookevilleChamber.com).

## Existing Industry Committee Visits ATC Automation

ATC Automation recently received a visit from the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce's Existing Industry Committee, playing host to their first quarter meeting.

Members of the committee schedule site visits to existing industry throughout the year, and meet quarterly to review opportunities to assist existing industries and plan action steps to address any issues.

ATC provides custom automated assembly and test systems for a variety of industries, including the medical

device, energy storage, consumer product and automotive sectors. They apply a wide range of assembly technologies and engineered solutions in all aspects of discrete part assembly. ATC employs over 130 people with approximately 50 engineers, many who are Tennessee Tech graduates.

ATC's president Bill Curran and vice-president Gene Bressler welcomed the committee to the facility and provided a site tour after the quarterly meeting.

"We are extremely impressed with ATC **cont'd on page 6**

## Chamber News

### Automation Tool Visit continued...

Automation's operation and appreciated the opportunity to see another excellent example of a high caliber organization producing highly engineered products for the manufacturing industry right here in Cookeville," said Steve Copeland, Chair of the Existing Industry Committee. "ATC, like many other local, companies, has an incredible impact on the local economy, not only for hiring local talent but by selling product around the globe, bringing clients to Cookeville who stay in our hotels and eat in our restaurants."

The Existing Industry Committee's primary purpose is to maintain a comprehensive business expansion and retention program that provides information and resources necessary to enable existing industries to thrive.

"ATC Automation is a jewel of the Highlands that represents us very well to the world," said Randy Adams of Epic Technologies and Existing Industry Committee member.

ATC Automation is located at 101 Mill Drive in Cookeville. Visit [www.automationtool.com](http://www.automationtool.com) for more information. For more information about the Existing Industry Committee or the Chamber, contact Lillian Hartgrove at 931-526-2211 or email [lhartgrove@cookevillechamber.com](mailto:lhartgrove@cookevillechamber.com).

### Cookeville Ranked 4th Least Expensive Place to Live in Nation

It's official, you get more "bang for your buck" in Cookeville than almost anywhere else in the country. According to the American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association's Cost of Living Index, Cookeville is ranked fourth least expensive urban area out of the 312 areas that participated in the first quarter 2011 Cost of Living Index.

"Cookeville has been consistently ranked as one of the least expensive places to live in the nation for two decades," said George Halford, president/CEO of the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce. "This area offers such a high quality of life at a low cost."

The ACCRA Cost of Living Index is based on six component categories, which include housing, utilities, grocery items, transportation, health care and miscellaneous goods and services. The results are based on more than 90,000 prices covering 60 different items for which prices are collected quarterly by chambers of commerce participating in each area.

The national average for all 312 participating areas is given a benchmark of 100. Based on that figure, Cookeville's rating of 84.5 ranked just under the nation's least



*ATC Automation recently received a site visit from the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce's Existing Industry Committee. Pictured in front from left are Gina Whitehead, Metcom; Heather Robbins, Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce; Steve Copeland, Jr. Cumberland Insurance and Committee Chair; Lillian Hartgrove, Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce; Johnny Stites, J & S Construction; and Don Rigby, State Economic Development. Pictured in back from left are Ken Oakley, Metcom; Randy Adams, Epic Technologies; David Prowse, Flexial Corporation; Ethan Bernhardt, ATC Automation; Bill Curran, ATC Automation; and Gene Bressler, ATC Automation.*

expensive places to live. Harlingen, Texas, with 80.5 was rated the least expensive urban area, followed by Fort Smith, Ariz., with 83.7; and Pueblo, Colo., with 84.2. Cookeville ranked just ahead of Temple, Texas, and Muskogee, Okla.

With a rating of 218.4, over double the national average, Manhattan, N.Y., was ranked the most expensive place to live, followed by Brooklyn, N.Y.; Honolulu, Hawaii; and San Francisco, Calif.

To find out exactly how Cookeville ranks in comparison to other communities around the country, visit [www.CookevilleChamber.com](http://www.CookevilleChamber.com) and click on the Cost of Living Index calculator icon. Enter your current base salary and the city you are comparing to see how economical it is to live in Cookeville.

ACCRA data is recognized by the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, CNN Money, and the President's Council of Economic Advisors.

For more information about the ACCRA's Cost of Living Index, visit [www.coli.org](http://www.coli.org).

## Logos Galore at the Spring Small Business Tabletop Expo Sponsored by UniFirst Corporation

Logos and advertisements filled the room at the Leslie Town Centre Thursday, March 24 for the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce's 2011 Spring Small Business Tabletop Expo and Business After Hours presented by UniFirst Corporation.

"Advertising, Advertising, Advertising," was this year's booth design theme for the Expo. In business, it's all about branding and getting your name out there, so to add value to Expo exhibitors' investment, the Chamber highlighted each business's logo by making logos a vital part of the booth design contest for the evening.

The Expo's booth exhibitors were judged for the logo with the best "WOW Factor," based on how well their booth tied in or represented their business logo, how well their logo differentiates their business from their competition, how many places they used logos, how they keep their logo fresh and relevant in today's market, how their logo originated, and how recognizable was their logo.

The top three booth designs were presented awards, with first place receiving a free booth at the 2011 Fall Small Business Expo in September.

This Spring Expo's first place booth award went to First National Bank of Tennessee for their excellent use of logos in their booth design. Second place went to Roland Digital Advertising, while Cookeville Promo took third place.

"With over 60 exhibitors and so many great booth designs, these three stood out to our judges. They should be proud of their company logos and marketing tactics," said Laura Canada, vice president of communications and programs for the Chamber.



*The 2011 Spring Small Business Tabletop Expo's booth design contest was all about logos. The first place award went to First National Bank of Tennessee, with Roland Digital Advertising taking second place, and Cookeville Promo winning third. Pictured, from left, is Cynthia Ledbetter, Cheryl Sandlin, Becky Thomas and Thomas Lynn of First National Bank of Tennessee; John Moody of UniFirst Corporation; Todd Pile of Roland Digital Advertising; and Tricia Dowdy of Cookeville Promo.*

The next Small Business Expo and Business After Hours will be Thursday, September 29. For more information, contact Dianne Callahan at 931-526-2211 or [dcallahan@cookevillechamber.com](mailto:dcallahan@cookevillechamber.com).



*First place booth design went to First National Bank of Tennessee. Pictured to right is Thomas Lynn.*



*Second place booth design went to Roland Digital Advertising. Pictured is Shane Hutton.*



*Third place booth design went to Cookeville Promo. Pictured is Tricia Dowdy.*

## Cookeville-Putnam County CVB Participates in 2011 Tennessee Sampler Express

The Cookeville-Putnam County Convention and Visitors Bureau recently participated in the 2011 Tennessee Sampler Express in an effort to create awareness and attract media outlets to the Highlands region.

The Tennessee Sampler Express is a grassroots and economical approach for Tennessee tourism that take teams on the road along several different routes, conducting more than 125 sales and public relations calls to travel editors, tour operators and various media outlets.

Representing Cookeville, Putnam County and the entire Highlands region was Stephanie McQueen, communications coordinator for the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber. McQueen joined a public relations team departing from Chattanooga and traveled through Georgia and Alabama promoting this area to various editors, writers and bloggers.

“It’s encouraging to know that there are groups from all over Tennessee doing the same thing across the Midwest and Southeast trying to promote our state,” said McQueen.

McQueen’s team traveled to Atlanta, Birmingham and Huntsville over three days. The team met with 12 various media outlets including editors and writers from Where2NowMag.com, The Atlanta Journal Constitution, The Trip Chicks, The Birmingham News, The Huntsville Times, Southern Lady, Cooking Light, Southern Living, and Birmingham magazines.

Across the state, teams pitched story ideas including the states picturesque and adventurous outdoor recreation opportunities, the state’s vast musical heritage including bluegrass, Americana, country, blues and jazz, as well as the many fun and unique festivals in Tennessee.

“When it comes to our region, there’s so much to pitch,” said McQueen. “We are a university town surrounded by six beautiful state parks, three gorgeous lakes perfect for fishing and floating. We have a thriving arts community which is evident in the historic West Side cultural arts

### H.O.G. Rally continued...

Details will be worked out over the next few months with the H.O.G. rally planning committee and a follow up release will be issued in the next week. Stay tuned to the Chamber website and social media sites to watch details unfold.



*Attendees of the 2011 Tennessee Sampler Express visit The Birmingham News in an effort to create awareness and attract travel writers to Tennessee. Pictured are, from left, Jason Nelson, Andrew Jackson’s Hermitage; Stephanie McQueen, Cookeville-Putnam County Convention & Visitors Bureau; Cindy Dupree, Tennessee Department of Tourist Development; Carol Elliot, Tennessee Overhill; and Melissa Woody, Cleveland-Bradley County Chamber of Commerce.*

district and around our courthouse square, which goes hand in hand with influences from the Appalachian Center for Craft in Smithville. We also have countless opportunities for culinary excursions; from several wonderful wineries to fine dining and quaint eateries you’ll only find here. We are filled with historic landmarks and have a unique musical heritage unique to the Upper Cumberland. There’s so much to see and do in this region, we want everyone to realize what a special place this is and experience it for themselves.”

For more information about the Cookeville-Putnam County CVB, contact Laura Canada at 931-526-2211 or [L.Canada@CookevilleChamber.com](mailto:L.Canada@CookevilleChamber.com).

For more information, contact Laura Canada at the Chamber at 931-526-2211.

# Welcome New Chamber Members

The following businesses/individuals joined the Chamber in March and April 2011. Please help us welcome them to the Chamber.

## March

### **Allstate Inspection Service**

PO Box 1396  
Cookeville, TN 38503  
931-359-3773  
Cristina Bass

### **Bangham Heights Baptist Church**

5961 Hilham Rd.  
Cookeville, TN 38506  
931-528-8885  
Arlene Mason

### **Billy G. Smith & Associates**

15 S. Jefferson Ave.

Cookeville, TN 38501  
931-526-4445  
Billy Smith

### **Clarence Smith**

409 Shawn Ln.  
Cookeville, TN 38501

### **Double Precision**

4811 Edgebrook Dr.  
Cookeville, TN 38506  
931-260-7227  
Seth Gilbert

### **Quality Private Duty Care**

418 N. Willow Ave.  
Cookeville, TN 38501

931-525-1399  
Linda Bilbrey

### **Willow Place Realty**

225 N. Willow Ave.  
Cookeville, TN 38501  
931-528-8899  
Peggy Hamilton

## April

### **Coit Services**

86 S. Willow Ave.  
Cookeville, TN 38501  
931-372-0755  
Dan Desserich

### **Foothills Running Company**

155 W. Broad St. #B  
Cookeville, TN 38501  
931-526-1288  
Brian Shelton

### **LPL Financial Inc.**

3425 Manassas Rd.  
Cookeville, TN 38506  
931-537-2269  
James Perry

### **Mac Systems**

3878 Mirandy Rd.  
Cookeville, TN 38506  
931-349-0259  
Matthew McClearen

### **R-Cubed Environmental Solutions**

204 Cherry Ave.  
Cookeville, TN 38501  
931-529-3945  
Jason McCormick

### **Salt The Earth Inc.**

158 W. McCormick Rd.  
Livingston, TN 38570  
865-850-2332  
Marshal Huddleston

### **Water Works Designs**

PO Box 4153  
Cookeville, TN 38502  
931-261-9242  
Randy Dodson

# Renewals

The following members have renewed their membership in **March** and **April** 2011. We appreciate your continued support and investment in the Chamber and community.

## March

Algood Drugs  
Bluewaters Equipment Rental  
CareAll Home Health  
Cedar Hills Senior Living  
Comfort Suites  
Comfort Inn & Suites  
Cookeville Glass & Mirror, Inc.  
Cookeville Jaycees  
Cookeville Metal Enterprises  
Crowdaddy's Inc.  
Cumberland LP Gas  
Cummins Filtration  
Debot Computer Services  
Don Haile & Son Decorators  
EPIC Technologies LLC  
French's Shoes & Boots  
James E. Woodford  
Lafever Insurance Agency

Lane & Lane CPAs  
Michael Brady Inc.  
Monterey United Methodist Church  
Mullins Vision Associates PLLC  
Noble Cody  
Norrod Builders, Inc.  
Odyssey Hospice  
Oreck Manufacturing  
Security 7 Alarms, Inc.  
Star Physical Therapy  
Synergy Products, Inc.  
T. Thomas & Associates  
Thompson Machinery Commerce Corp.  
Wal-Mart Supercenter

## April

Apollo Distributing Company  
Barrett Chiropractic

Buckner Bros Rental Property & Home Construction  
Cavender's LLC, The Interior Company  
Charles Stone Heating & Cooling  
Community Options, Inc.  
DP Personnel Services  
Danny Roberts Construction Company  
Farm Bureau Insurance - Phillip Baker  
Friends of Cookeville/ Putnam County Animals  
Grade-A Catering  
H & R Block  
Highland Rim Academy  
James Dial  
Lighthouse Learning Center

Lowe's of Cookeville  
Luna & Birdwell Investment Group  
Monterey Depot Historical Society  
Reliable Building Services, LLC  
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
Sand Products, LLC  
Southern Hills Golf & Country Club  
Super 8 - Monterey  
Susan Hogan - American Way Real Estate  
The Chop Shop Salon  
The Integrity Inspection Group, LLC  
US Bank  
Zaxby's

## Member News

### March & April Ribbon Cuttings and Groundbreakings



**Fastsigns**

770 S. Jefferson Ave. Ste.B, Cookeville  
(931)854-9007



**Frontier Communications**

219 E. Broad St., Cookeville  
(931)528-0613



**Middle Tennessee Federal Credit Union**

1255 E. Spring St., Cookeville  
(931)528-9400

To schedule a ribbon cutting or ground breaking for your business, please call **Dianne Callahan, Membership Services Director** at (931) 526-2211 or [DCallahan@cookevillechamber.com](mailto:DCallahan@cookevillechamber.com)

### Thanks to our March and April Event Sponsors

The Chamber's **Business Before Hours**, was held **March 8** at the Leslie Town Centre, with Cookeville Regional Medical Center giving a community update. Business Before Hours was sponsored by **Pepsi**.

**Pepsi** Pepsi is located at 237 West Spring Street in Cookeville. Visit [www.refresheverything.com](http://www.refresheverything.com).

**Fastsigns** offers visual communications solutions including sign and graphic consultation, design, production, delivery and installation services. Whether you need architectural

services, vehicle graphics, point-of-purchase posters or a building identification sign, they can help. Fastsigns is located at 770-B S. Jefferson Avenue in Cookeville. Visit [www.fastsigns.com/578](http://www.fastsigns.com/578).

The Chamber's **Small Business Tabletop Expo and Business After Hours** was held March 24 at the Leslie Town Centre and presented by **UniFirst Corporation**. The Small Business Expo is geared toward small businesses and provides an opportunity

to showcase products and services while networking with other Chamber members.

**UniFirst Corporation** is a leading supplier of uniforms, workwear and related products to businesses big and small since 1936. UniFirst's mission is to be recognized as the quality leader in their industry. They are located at 765 Humble Drive in Cookeville. Visit [www.unifirst.com](http://www.unifirst.com).



## Member News

### Baxter School 4th Graders Coloring Contest Winners at Celebration of Spring, Edgar Evins State Park

It was a beautiful spring day for the 300 people who attended the third annual Celebration of Spring at Edgar Evins State Park on Center Hill Lake, Silver Point. This free event for families and individuals was hosted on April 9 by the Friends of Edgar Evins State Park and park employees. Features included sack and three legged races, pontoon boat rides, living history demonstrations, a crafts workshop, pontoon boat rides, face painting, snake show, wildflower, birds, and butterflies nature walks, and a family friendly Easter Egg Hike led by members of the Tennessee Trails Association.

The highlight of the day for several 4th grade students at Baxter and Gordonsville Elementary Schools was the awarding of cash prizes by Fount Bertram, President of the Friends of Edgar Evins State Park, for the winning entries in the coloring contest. These students received entry forms for their choice of mammal, butterfly, bird, or wildflower at the end of a school day. They colored the pictures at home and returned them to the schools for pickup by a Friends volunteer. Next year different area schools will be invited to take part. For more information, pictures of this event, and others offered throughout the year check out the Friends of Edgar Evins State Park website at <http://foecsp.ne1.net>.

#### Winners in the Celebration of Spring 4th Graders Coloring Contest, Sponsored by the Friends of Edgar Evins State Park, April 9

(Baxter and Gordonsville Elementary Schools)  
1st Place, \$25: Benjamin Nixon, Gordonsville  
2nd Place, \$20: Destiny Worley, Gordonsville  
3rd Place, \$15: Taylor Lamb, Baxter  
4th Place, \$10: Julian Davis, Baxter



*4th Grade Student Winners pictured left to right: Jaydon Kanipe (Baxter), Jacobb Hamlet (Baxter), Taylor Lamb (Baxter), Destiny Worley (Gordonsville), Kenzie Judd (Baxter), Alexis Hines (Gordonsville), Julian Davis (Baxter), Benjamin Nixon (Gordonsville), Brady Whitehead (Baxter). Fount Bertram, standing in the back between Kenzie Judd and Julian Davis, is the President of the Friends of Edgar Evins State Park*

5th Place, \$5: (Miss) Lindsey J.N. Kinnard, Baxter (not present due to illness)  
Judges Choice, \$5 each:  
Alexis Hines, Gordonsville  
Kenzie Judd, Baxter  
(Mr.) Jaydon Kanipe, Baxter  
Christy Troglin, Baxter (not present)  
Honorable Mention, \$5 each  
Brady Whitehead, Baxter  
Jacobb Hamlet, Baxter

### UC Child Advocacy Center to Move Location Again

The Upper Cumberland Child Advocacy Center was just getting used to its new location on 10th St. in Cookeville, but are having to prepare to move again. "Unfortunately, the owner of the building we rented has sold the space, so we will be moving our location again," said Jennifer Wilkerson, Executive Director for the UCCAC.

"We're hoping to secure a new location off of Old Kentucky Rd.," said Wilkerson, "This location may actually give us room to add a permanent Thrift Store as well."

The UCCAC is also busy planning for their annual Bike Marathon on September 17 and their fun, dinner and dancing event, The Butterfly Ball on October 22. "As a Non-Profit business, fundraisers are a necessity to keep

financial support for the services we offer to the public." said Wilkerson.

The Upper Cumberland Child Advocacy Center treats children and families who are victims of sexual and physical abuse and acts as a resource available to hospitals and physicians in providing services for these children and their families. Opening their center in Cookeville in 2004, the UCCAC provides services in a warm, child-friendly environment. The UCCAC works with approximately 1000 children each year from the counties of Putnam, White, Cumberland, DeKalb Overton, Clay and Pickett.

For more information on the Upper Cumberland Child Advocacy Center, contact their offices at 708 E. 10 St. in Cookeville or call 931-854-0115.

## Member News

### J & S Signs \$1.2 Million Contract with Stones River Manor



J&S Construction Company is proud to announce a \$1.2 million contract signing with Stones River Manor, located in Murfreesboro, Tenn. Stones River Manor, sponsored by

Rutherford County area Churches of Christ, is the county's only faith-based, not-for-profit senior living community. J&S will be responsible for the design and construction of an 8,000 square-foot, nine-unit, independent living apartment building.

Stones River Manor is a full-service senior living community offering independent living apartments, stepped-care assisted living, memory care, adult day care, respite care, physician and clinic services, and complete nursing and therapy services.

J&S Construction competed with four other construction companies and was selected primarily because of its long term history of delivering buildings on time and on budget and its proven expertise in green building and Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) experience.

J&S Construction has designed and built over 100,000 square feet of LEED Certified buildings.

"We are pleased to be working with John Stites and his professional team at J&S Construction Company on this project," said Kirkland Mason, Administrator of Stones River Manor. "Stones River Manor is committed to excellence in the services we provide, a commitment that J&S shares which is reflected in the quality of their work. We look forward to a mutually rewarding and fruitful partnership."

Due to a rise in demand for independent living apartments, Stones River Manor is expanding to meet its growing waiting list and is also aiming for this new facility to be an environmentally friendly, LEED certified building.

"I think one reason we were selected was our consideration in the owner's energy and lifecycle cost and not just the initial cost of the construction just to get the project," said J&S Construction CEO, Johnny Stites. "We are extremely pleased to have been selected by Stones River Manor and look forward to this new relationship."

### J & S Construction Welcomes Two New Employees

J&S Construction has announced the addition of two employees to its Project Management team.

Born in Waterloo Iowa, Ron Gardner moved to Tennessee in 1987. He has been in the construction industry for 45 years. Ron has worked his way up through the line of command, beginning his career as a foreman, and moving up the ranks as a superintendent, salesman and on to project management. He and his wife Cheryl have two daughters, Jennifer and Jessica.

Ron comes to us with experience in construction and design-build projects. His experience includes design-build, estimating, scheduling, proposals, budgeting, field management, design management, quality control,

procurement and safety. His responsibilities include estimating, purchasing, project management, customer relations, as well as sales.

Matt Davenport, an Assistant Project Manager and native of Celina, Tenn., is a graduate from Tennessee Technological University with a degree in Business Management. Prior to joining J&S, Matt worked six years with a company which primarily focused on residential construction and development build outs.

He has been married to his wife Brittany for three years, and they are the proud parents of a nine-month-old son named Andrew.

### Manpower Hires New Branch Manager

Manpower International of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, recently announced that Joe Bontrager has joined the company as branch manager for the Cookeville office. As branch manager Mr. Bontrager is responsible for sales and marketing in Cookeville and the surrounding counties.

Manpower Inc. was founded in 1948 and is the world's largest temporary-help company. Manpower Inc. world leader in innovative workforce solutions, has been

recognized as the industry leader by Fortune Magazine, who named the company in first place on its 2011 list of the Most Admired Companies in the temporary help sector.

Prior to joining the Manpower team Mr. Bontrager served as Director of Marketing and Business Development for J&S Construction Company in Cookeville. You may reach Mr. Bontrager at 931-526-9040.

## Member News

### Cookeville Pregnancy Clinic Wins Together We Care Award



*Together We Care 2nd quarter winner Teen Challenge of UC represented by Pastor Tim McLaughlin (left) draws the 3rd quarter 2011 winner Cookeville Pregnancy Clinic for their event on September 27 at the Leslie Town Centre. On hand for the drawing was Debi Smith, events director of the Leslie Town Centre.*

The Cookeville Pregnancy Clinic is the 3rd quarter winner of the Together We Care award that will assist with their annual fundraising banquet on Tuesday, September 27 at the Leslie Town Centre.

The Cookeville Pregnancy Clinic is a pregnancy-help medical clinic that offers positive alternatives to abortion by giving practical help to women with life choices. They are a 501 (C)3 non-profit organization that offers free pregnancy testing, pregnancy confirmation with limited OB ultrasound, options counseling and a wide variety of practical help for women in unplanned pregnancies.

The CPC began in 1988 as the Crisis Pregnancy Center. In 2006, the CPC expanded their services to include pregnancy confirmation by way of ultrasound, and changed their name to Cookeville Pregnancy Clinic. The CPC offers a Baby Bucks Education program that works

with women and families who are planning on carrying their babies to term. This program helps with parenting skills and provides a way to “earn” diapers, wipes, baby and maternity items. Women and families can stay with the program until their babies are 12 months old.

The CPC works in the area of prevention by having an active Abstinence Education Program available to local schools and church youth groups throughout the area. Post-abortion support is also available for people having difficulty overcoming a past abortion decision. All the services at the Cookeville Pregnancy Clinic are offered free of charge. The Cookeville Pregnancy Clinic averages over 2,500 client visits a year.

“The Cookeville Pregnancy Clinic is thrilled to be the recipient of the Leslie Town Centre’s Together We Care gift. Every year our banquet just seems to be getting better and better. We will have wonderful food, fellowship, music and some truly amazing client testimonies about how the CPC has impacted lives here in the Upper Cumberland region. The Town Centre’s beautiful atmosphere sets the stage for an always enjoyable evening,” Nancy Knowlton, executive director, said.

This year’s fundraising banquet is themed “Precious in His Sight” and will be Tuesday, September 27, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Leslie Town Centre. For more information about the banquet and Cookeville Pregnancy Clinic, visit [www.cookevillecpc.org](http://www.cookevillecpc.org) or call 931-526-5525.

“We are honored by the trust of every Leslie Town Centre patron and understand the importance of their very special events,” said Debi Smith, events director at the Leslie Town Centre. “We are thankful that patron organizations like Cookeville Pregnancy Clinic give us the opportunity to come alongside and help them with their missions.”

For more information about the Together We Care program or an event at the Leslie Town Centre, call Debi Smith 931-372-7200 or email [MyEvent@LeslieTownCentre.com](mailto:MyEvent@LeslieTownCentre.com).

### Jammin at Hippie Jacks Americana Music Festival May 27-29

Jammin at Hippie Jacks festival is happening May 27 through 29 at the Stoddart Farm in Crawford. Order your tickets by phone at 931-445-2072. The cost for the 3-day event with camping is \$55.00. Children 12 and under are free. Don't forget your chair and no dogs are allowed.

If you are interested in sponsoring this event or would like more information, please email [beth@myhippiejack.com](mailto:beth@myhippiejack.com) or call 931-445-2072.



## Member News

### Everyday Heroes Honored on Mondays at the Leslie Town Centre

Everyday every person has an opportunity to appreciate a service person in our community. Whether hugging a soldier or shaking the hand of an EMS worker, fireman or police officer, it is a pleasure to thank the people that lay down their lives daily to keep us safe and contribute to our quality of life.

Everyday we are thankful, and especially on Mondays at the Leslie Town Centre so that these service people can be

recognized in style and at a savings. Believing in our country and the people who serve us help us all to strengthen our community. We are proud to celebrate these people and appreciate their gifts, everyday.



### “Saturday’s at the Pharm” A Flea Market at Meadow’s Pharm

Each Saturday beginning June 11 throughout the month of July, Meadow’s Pharm will be hosting a Flea Market.

Registration and fee for the week-end must be finalized by 3 p.m. each Thursday before the event. Vendors may contact the venue via e-mail, phone call or sign-up sheet at the facility.

All spaces are first come, first serve. Each space will be \$25. Ten spaces each week will be available. Dimensions are as follows: two outside spaces, two 8x12 window spaces, and six 5x12 spaces.

Meadow’s Pharm will provide jewelry cases (5 large and 2 small), and clothes racks with hangers, if needed. Doors

open at 8 a.m. Please plan to be completely set up no later than 8:45 a.m. Vendors are responsible for all set up, break-down, and all transactions made during the event. Vendors may sign-up for two week-ends at a time, however, there will be NO REFUND if unable to attend both. Vendors will receive \$5 off their next Saturday if they refer a friend.

Meadows Pharm is very excited about this new adventure. Feel free to stop by and see the venue.

For more information, contact CJ Gerndt at Meadow’s Pharm at 931-528-TOGO (8646) or [meadowspharm@frontiernet.net](mailto:meadowspharm@frontiernet.net). They are located at 37 N. Cedar Avenue in Cookeville.

### CRMC’s CEO Mattingly Announces Retirement, Langer Appointed New CEO

After twelve dedicated years of service to Cookeville Regional Medical Center and the community, CEO Bernie Mattingly has advised the Board of his intent to retire effective May 1, 2011. The Board is grateful for the many dedicated years of service Mr. Mattingly has provided and all of the accomplishments that were achieved during his tenure.

Mr. Mattingly and the Board of Trustees anticipated that this day would come and began succession planning over a year ago. Menachem Langer, M.D. MBA was recruited as COO last summer and started working at CRMC in

October of 2010. Dr. Langer has served as interim CEO during Mr. Mattingly’s recent leave of absence. The Board has unanimously appointed Dr. Langer as the new CEO of Cookeville Regional Medical Center effective May 1.



*Dr. Menachem Langer*

#### What’s Happening with You?

Send us your news release, special accomplishment, interesting new product or contribution to the community for inclusion in our next available edition. This is an excellent way to tell the business community what’s happening with you. It’s FREE to Chamber members, however space is limited. Email [SMcQueen@cookevillechamber.com](mailto:SMcQueen@cookevillechamber.com) today!

## Upcoming Events

Below is a sampling of events. For a complete list, visit [www.cookevillechamber.com](http://www.cookevillechamber.com) and click on "Events."

### Art a la Carte Reception May 20

6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Art a la Carte, 121 W. Broad St. Smithville's Susan DeMay's functional stoneware exhibit will be on display at Art a la Carte. Collectors will not want to miss DeMay's first public showing of her new sculptural pieces. (931)520-8155.

### Business Before Hours May 24

7:00 - 9:00 a.m., Leslie Town Centre, 1 West First St. Help salute our existing industry with a special industry themed Business Before Hours sponsored by DACCO. (931)526-2211.

### Jammin' at Hippie Jack's May 27 - 29

Stoddart Farm, 624 Shiloh Rd., Livingston. Don't miss this great Americana music event! Get your advanced tickets now until May 25 by phone or online. (931)45-2072. [www.myhippiejack.com](http://www.myhippiejack.com)

### 13th Annual Granville Heritage Day May 28

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., On the banks of Cordell Hull Lake, Granville. A full day of fun, family friendly activities including a must-see bluegrass festival.

### DelMonaco Winery's Wine and Food Pairing Jun 4

DelMonaco Winery, 600 Lance Dr., Baxter. Tickets are \$40 per person. Seating is limited. (931)858-1177. [www.delmonacowinery.com](http://www.delmonacowinery.com)

### 2011 Bobby Nichols Golden Eagle Scramble Jun 10 - 12

Cookeville Golf Club, Ironwood Golf Course and White Plains Golf Course. A fundraising event for TTU Athletics. Information and registration available online. (931)372-3937. [www.ttusports.com](http://www.ttusports.com)

### 5th Annual Hog-Eye Fest Jun 11

Livingston Courthouse Square. Enjoy a beauty contest, music, crafts, cook-off, ice cream contest, 5-K run and a cruise-in! (931)823-2218.

### "The Funniest Man in America" James Gregory at CPAC Jun 17

7:30 p.m., Cookeville Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$27.50 per person. Call or stop by the box office for reservations. (931)528-1313. [www.cpactn.com](http://www.cpactn.com)

### Business After Hours Jun 23

5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Leslie Town Centre, 1 West First St. (931)526-2211. [www.cookevillechamber.com](http://www.cookevillechamber.com)

### Wine on the WestSide Jun 25

2:00 - 7:00 p.m., Cookeville's historic WestSide, 43 W. Broad St. Enjoy plenty of art, music, education, and wine from wineries and food producers all across Tennessee. (931)372-0570. [www.wineonthewestside.com](http://www.wineonthewestside.com)

### Cookeville Community Band Concert Jun 27

7:30 p.m., Dogwood Park Performance Pavilion, 30 E. Broad St. (931)528-1313.



The *Communique* is a bi-monthly electronic newsletter sent to Chamber Membership.

Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce  
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### 2011 Board of Directors

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