



December Chamber Coffee Host

Commercial Bank & Trust Company

Commercial Bank and Trust Company has been active in Henry County for 135 years helping families finance everything from cars and education to homes and farms. It is hard to even imagine what Henry County would have been without Commercial Bank and Trust Company. The very presence of its downtown building brings excitement and nostalgia to the vibrant downtown area.

The bank opened for business on May 15, 1877, with assets of \$22,330.24 at the close of business the first day. There were three employees who were paid a combined total of \$175 a month. The bank now has assets of \$625 million with 174 employees. 99 of those are employed in Henry County. The bank has grown from one location to ten. Their outstanding customer service has been rewarded by winning the READERS' CHOICE for Favorite Full Service Bank award seven times. Commercial Bank and Trust Company was the first recipient of the Henry County Chamber of Commerce's Business of the Year award in 2011.

Commercial Bank & Trust Company began hosting Noon on the Square in 1981. This is a much anticipated event where the bank provides music from local bands every Friday in September from noon until 1:00. This has grown into one of the highlights of the community every year which brings a crowd of over 250 each week to the court square.

Commercial Bank and Trust Company is the only bank in Henry County with a Trust Department. The Trust Department with its five employees provides a much needed service to our local citizens as well as our legal community. The bank also has an investment department with three employees. The bank is meeting the traditional banking needs of the community with branches, ATMs and drive up windows as well as by new innovation ways such as online banking and mobile banking. The in house call center staffed by knowledgeable banking professionals was opened in November of 2010 providing immediate assistance to customers.

Commercial Bank & Trust Company has possibly sponsored something for most families in Henry County. Whether it was a child's ball team, band trip, beauty pageant, Partner in Education, Plus Endowment, school play, Relay for Life, the Food Bank, the Arts Council, a soccer team, boy scouts, girl scouts, boxing, or fishing rodeo Commercial Bank was there to lend financial support and, many times, physical presence. Many employees have coached teams and led parent organizations. There is virtually no end to the ways Commercial Bank has provided for the needs of Henry County's children.

The employees of Commercial Bank and Trust Company also play an active role in many facets of our community. They serve as officers and members of The Rotary Club, The Jaycees, The Lion's Club, Kiwanis Club and several others. They are active in churches throughout our town and hold positions on committees involved in municipalities, tourism and a wide variety of organizations that strive to make Henry County an ideal location to live and work.



December Calendar of Opportunity

December 4	Ribbon Cutting	Grande Pearl	4:00 pm
December 5	Leadership Henry County	Chamber Office	8:00 am
December 5	Advent Walk	Downtown Paris	6:30 pm
December 8	Over the River Walk/Run	Paris Landing State Park	11:00 am
December 12	Executive Committee	Chamber Office	8:00 am
December 15	Gingerbread House Judging	Downtown Paris	
December 15	Holly Jolly Christmas Parade	Downtown Paris	5:30 pm
December 18	Chamber Coffee	Commercial Bank	8:00 am
December 19	Board of Directors	Chamber Office	8:00 am

Chamber office will be closed December 24 - 25, 2012 & January 1, 2013



Paris / Henry County Chamber of Commerce

2508 E. Wood Street
Paris, TN. 38242
731-642-3431

Tourism: 800-345-1103

Fax: 731-642-3454

Email: pariscoc@paristnchamber.com

Website: www.paristnchamber.com

Office Hours: 8 AM - 4:30 PM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Jeff Seaton

President-Elect : Andrea Lamb

VP Community Development:

Stacia Puckett

VP Tourism: Tony Lawrence

Treasurer: Chip Anderson

Past President:

Wayne "Butch" Powers

Vice President of Membership

Development and Training:

Jennifer Hayden

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michele Atkins, Emory Bradley, Kevin Buie, Lisa Casteel, Mandy Hamlin, Jeremy Lindsey, Gary McEntire, Robert Newcomb, Jamie Orr, Darrin Thompson, Terry Wimberley

EX-OFFICIO

Carl Holder, Sam Tharpe, Brent Greer, Joe Qualls, Mike Varner, Mike Waddey

Executive Director: Jennifer Wheatley

Henry County Alliance CEO:
Larry Crawford

Administrative
Assistant: Galia Greer

*The mission of the
Paris-Henry County
Chamber of Commerce
is to improve the economy
and quality of life in our
community.*

From The President

JEFF SEATON



Hello Chamber Members,

Well one holiday down, one big one left for the year and then we will be celebrating another New Year. It seems like this year has gone by so quickly. Isn't it odd how when we were kids we would do anything to give some years away so we could be older, now we would give anything to get those years back? December is always a big month packed full with Christmas events, parties, family gatherings, football games, basketball games and lots of other opportunities for fun. While you're enjoying all of these things don't forget that December is a big month at the chamber as well. We are having ribbon cuttings, coffees, Christmas parades, and a lot of other things this month. Just check out the chamber calendar to see all of the upcoming chamber events and plan to join us.

One of the things I always try to do in December is to reminisce about what has happened in the last year and think about what I need to do differently in the coming year. When I look back on this year one of the highlights for me is my induction as Chamber of Commerce president. I want to thank the chamber again for that honor and want to say that I am very proud of the things the chamber has accomplished this year and I am looking forward to hearing from you to learn ways we can improve for the upcoming year.

I want to end this newsletter with a quote that should mean so much to each of us. Michael LeBoeuf wrote, "Waste your money and you're only out of money, but waste your time and you've lost a part of your life." Let's all take time this holiday season to appreciate the things that are really important to us in our lives. From me personally and from the Chamber of Commerce I want to wish each of you a very happy holiday season and best wishes for all of us in the upcoming year.

From The Executive Director

JENNIFER WHEATLEY



I like to think about Christmas as a soft, glittery time when people are so immersed in their families and a sense of reverence for a gift given to the world that we are all in a better mood and a little more kind to one another. But I know better.

Nothing just happens. That sermon that leaves you feeling inspired is delivered because Carlton Gerrell, Jenna Goggins and Rob Martin study and write their drafts again and again. Your children get to visit with Santa in a shiny new house because Larry Ray, Rick Conger and Gaines Hedges get up at five a.m. and make sure everything is ready. Retail is hard work. Talk to the folks at Wal-Mart who have to open on holidays. Some jobs do not involve time off. Thank a firefighter, a police officer or a nurse.

Henry County is blessed with a retail and restaurant community that brings in our neighboring counties to do business here. Let's support them too and be patient when there is a line. Countless hours go into the planning and implementation of holiday events downtown. Enjoy the Advent Walk this year. Take your children to see a concert.

One huge community asset that certainly did not happen without a great deal of work and effort was *Paris!* magazine. Many of us were very sad to learn that owner and founder Susan Jones would no longer be sharing our own good news with us every few weeks. We were all pleasantly surprised when a contributor stepped up and took on the responsibility. Writing the "Around Our Town" column for all the years Susan has been publishing has been my honor. Fully in line with the uplifting purpose of the publication, Susan made me a better writer with her creative editing and gentle encouragement.

That same spirit can go a long way as we deal with people who are demanding, lists that do not seem to get done and expectations that exceed reality, so be generous with encouragement, patient with people and focused on the real blessings of love and family.

You have chosen to spend some of your time and resources on an organization designed solely for the betterment of this community. We are grateful.

SMALL BUSINESS BASICS CLASSES PLANNED

The Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the USDA, will offer "Small Business Basics," six classes designed to serve as a guide to small business development and entrepreneurship. The classes will be open to anyone interested in small business and entrepreneurship, including startups and existing businesses.

The sessions will include:

- A. What I Wish I Had Known/Writing A Business Plan
- B. Your New Best Friends, an Accountant and an Attorney
- C. So How Do You Get the Money?
- D. Human Resources
- E. Marketing
- F. Return of the Faculty/Graduation

Jennifer Hayden, Hamilton-Ryker, and Kevin Buie, K and B Supplies for Success, will serve as co-chairs and facilitators for the sessions.

Cost is \$50, which will be refunded with no absences. Classes will meet at the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, 2508 East Wood Street, Paris, Tennessee 38242, from 6 pm – 8:30 pm on Tuesday nights, January 22 – February 26, 2012. All materials will be provided.

SMALL BUSINESS BASICS APPLICATION

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Do you currently own a small business? _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

If not a current business owner, what kind of business would you like to have? _____

What would you like to learn from these sessions? _____

Return with \$50 (refundable with no absences at end of course) to: Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, 2508 East Wood Street, Paris TN 38242 • www.paristnchamber.com

Perk Up Paris!

COMMERCIAL BANK & TRUST COMPANY

Downtown Branch

Paris, TN 38242

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

8:00 am - 9:00 am



"A Premium Blend"

Clip and post after reading the Chamber News.

Do You Receive Chamber Emails?

We send out lots of member news and are preparing for a new weekly update. Make sure we have your current email address!

Email us at
pariscoc@paristnchamber.com
and check out
www.paristnchamber.com
and our Facebook page!



2508 E. Wood Street
Paris, TN 38242-0008

www.paristnchamber.com

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Paris, TN
Permit No. 25

Chamber Happenings



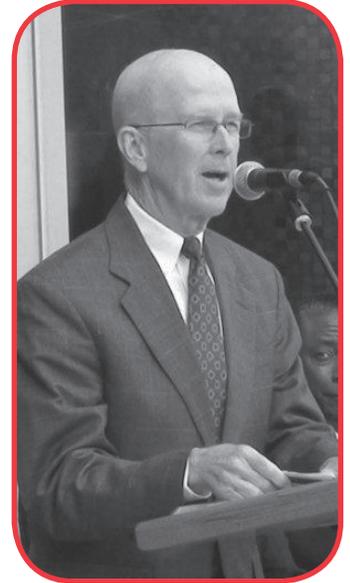
"Charles Hopkins Day" was proclaimed by County Commissioner David Webb.



Jennifer Morris, City of Paris, and Chamber President Jeff Seaton visit before the ribbon-cutting at the Bethel HCMC facility.



Paris Mayor Sam Tharpe welcomed everyone to the ribbon-cutting.



HCMC Administrator Tom Gee discussed usage of the facility.



Tommy Moody, Moody Real Estate, chatted with Home Sweet Home Bed and Breakfast owner Vickey Roberts at their recent coffee.



City Commissioner Gayle Griffith, Mayor Sam Tharpe, HCMC Administrator Tom Gee, County Commissioner James Travis, Henry County Alliance CEO Larry Crawford, HCMC Board Chairman Phil Wichlan, City Commissioner Pete Lackey, Bethel President Dr. Robert Prosser, Chamber President Dr. Jeff Seaton and Bethel Board Chair Nancy Bean, cut the ribbon.

2012 GINGERBREAD COMPETITION



Entry Forms and rules available at the Chamber of Commerce Office, Paris City Hall or Paris-Henry County Heritage Center

Entry Forms and rules also available at: www.paristnchamber.com or www.paristn.gov

Entry Deadline: Friday, December 14, 2012

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CATEGORIES

TRADITIONAL • LOCAL LANDMARK • YOUTH • FAMILY PROJECT

Over The River

8 Mile Run

Paris Landing State Park

Saturday, December 8, 2012



Part of 34th Annual Tennessee State Parks Running Tour
www.tn.gov/environment/parks/runningtour/

RACE TIMES & INFORMATION

8 mile race — begins at 11:00 AM

Start and Finish: at the Park Inn

Pre-Registration Deadline: November 30, 2012.
Race day registration is from 9:45 AM to 10:45 AM.
Long sleeve technical shirt guaranteed to all pre-registered runners only.

Entry Fee: \$20 payable to Over the River or \$6 without shirt.
No shirts race day.

Mail Registration To:
Over the River
1900 Liberty Rd.
Camden, TN 38320

Race Director:
Mike Bell, Jackson Roadrunners
731-441-1468
bellm@henryk12.net



Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Authorization No. 327158, @ .05 per copy, February, 2012