



Paris-Henry County

OCTOBER 2013

CHAMBER NEWS

2508 East Wood Street • Paris, Tennessee 38242 • www.paristnchamber.com

OCTOBER CHAMBER COFFEE HOST

October 22, 2013

The Board of Public Utilities provides electric, water, and wastewater services to citizens of the Paris/Henry County community. The BPU was formed in 1938 when electric and water facilities were purchased from KY-TN Power and Light. The wastewater system began to be formed in 1954 when the city of Paris sold bonds to begin the installation of sewer lines.

The BPU is owned by the city of Paris and is governed by a five-person board appointed by the city mayor. Current board members include Chairman David Flowers, Vice Chairman Bill Culley, Ralph Anderson, John Van Dyck, and Pete Lackey.

A total of seventy-five employees serve 21,000 electric customers, 5,000 water customers, and 4,400 wastewater customers. As we serve this community, our goals are to 1) provide reliable services, 2) operate efficiently, 3) be easy to do business with, 4) be good community citizens, and 5) maintain good employees and a good work environment.

BPU is a non-profit organization. Our rates are set to cover cost. TVA serves as the regulatory agent for the electric department while the city of Paris regulates rates and ordinances related to the water and wastewater department. Annual revenue in the electric department totals \$45 million, 85% of which pays our power bill with

TVA. Annual revenue for water and wastewater totals \$1.8 million each.

Project Round-Up is one way BPU is able to be involved in the community. Monthly bills are rounded up to the nearest dollar. The rounded up portion is put in a fund and distributed quarterly by the Round-Up board.

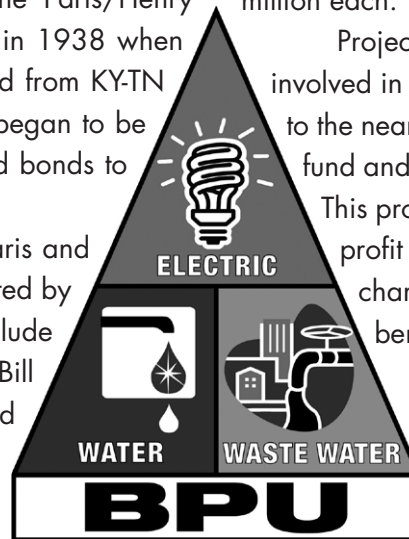
This program generates \$80-90,000 per year. Non-profit groups such as volunteer fire departments, charity organizations, and youth athletics are beneficiaries of this program.

Technology has had a large impact on BPU operations in recent years. All electric and water meters are now being read by automated systems. Fiber optic communication to all substations is in

place. A "smart" pay center will soon be available to take payments after hours. The pay center will play a key role in a future "pay as you go" program.

Future challenges to the utility include rehabilitation and replacement of aging infrastructure. An electric substation, the water treatment plant, all water and wastewater lines, and the electric warehouse are all being considered for improvements, upgrades, or replacement.

BPU is part of the downtown Paris community and is proud to be hosting the October Chamber Coffee at our office at 117 E. Washington Street. Please join us!!



October Calendar of Opportunity

Oct 11	Leadership HC Team Building Session	Chamber Office to UT Martin	7:30 AM
Oct 22	Chamber Coffee, Board of Public Utilities	117 East Washington, Downtown Paris	8:00 AM
Oct 24	Board of Directors	Chamber Office	8:00 AM
Oct 28	Business After Hours	Henry County Fairgrounds	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Oct 29	Small Business Expo	Henry County Fairgrounds	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM



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: Andrea Lamb, Commercial Bank

President-elect &

VP of Organizational Development:

Chip Anderson, Bone and Joint Specialist

Treasurer: Gary McEntire,

Paris Landing State Park

VP Tourism Development: Tony Lawrence,

Paris Parks and Recreation

Vice President of Membership

Development and Training:

Jennifer Hayden, Hamilton-Ryker

VP Community Development:

Jamie Orr, Edward Jones

Past President:

Dr. L. Jeff Seaton

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michele Atkins, Emory Bradley, Kevin Buie, Lisa Casteel, Randy Geiger, Gayle Griffith, Mandy Hamlin, Jeremy Lindsey, Gary McEntire, Robert Newcomb, Jamie Orr, Stacia Puckett, Darrin Thompson, Terry Wimberley

EX-OFFICIO

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

Chamber Executive Director:

Jennifer Wheatley

Membership Services Coordinator:

Carolyn Kaminski

Henry County Alliance CEO:

David Hamilton

Henry County Alliance 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.

**Find Us On Facebook
Paris, TN Henry County
Chamber of Commerce**

From The President

ANDREA LAMB



Fall is getting closer! Even if the leaves are not changing much, you can see it in all the Patriot red shirts everyone wears on Fridays around town. Our Chamber staff is part of the enthusiasm, a really great idea from Henry County Alliance CEO David Hamilton, who was also very helpful with some spruce up around the office. He and Sheriff Monte Belew arranged for some temporary staffing to do some much needed painting.

Our Leadership Henry County class has been chosen! It includes Melanie Antonino, FirstBank; Tony Brown, BPU; Kevin Buie, K and B Supplies for Success; Greg Carter, Henry County Sheriff's Office and County Commissioner; Chuck Elizondo, Paris Police Chief; Josh Greer, Henry County Schools; David Hamilton, Henry County Alliance CEO; Willie Huffman, Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology; Rob Markum, Paris Landing State Park; Leatha McCroskey, Thunderbolt Broadcasting; Roger Veazey, Henry County Medical Center; Justin Rawls, Commercial Bank; Dustin Smith, Commercial Bank; and Jeremy Stone, Cowart, Reese and Sargent. Congratulations to all of you! I began my relationship with the Chamber through Leadership Henry County and know you will have a great experience. Chairman Emory Bradley, Farm Bureau, and Vice President of Membership Development and Training Jennifer Hayden, Hamilton-Ryker, will see to that!

Thank you to everyone who sponsors our coffees. We recently enjoyed a monthly meeting at the Chamber office with Thunderbolt Broadcasting as our sponsor and had a really good crowd. We are looking forward to meeting this month at the BPU.

There is always something going on at the Chamber!

From The Executive Director

JENNIFER WHEATLEY



The BPU's John Etheridge sat down recently with the Chamber's Executive Committee – Andrea Lamb, Chip Anderson, Gary McEntire, Dr. Jeff Seaton, Jennifer Hayden and Tony Lawrence (Jamie Orr had babysitting duties!) – David Hamilton and me to discuss the Chamber, what it is and what it could be. We honestly looked at what we do, if we should do it, and what else we might be doing. It was one of those discussions you need to have every now and then, and David Hamilton coming on board as the CEO of the Henry County Alliance made it an appropriate time.

We tightened up how we will blast out emails because lots of our members complained about too many. We changed how we will allocate some of our financial and human resources. We evaluated programming honestly, based on function and cost, but most importantly to me, I saw the tremendous ongoing dedication of the people who give their time to your Chamber. John Etheridge is a former president. Andrea cares so much about us being a viable, relevant organization. Every person at the table was there with no personal agenda, just a desire to accomplish good for the community. I am always proud to work for you. I was especially proud that night.

The "Spirited" Small Business Expo is October 29th, a Tuesday, 8 am to 3 pm, with Business After Hours the night before from 5 pm to 7 pm, sponsored by Meo Mio's and Pepsi Mid-America. Call the office and reserve a booth. The expo will have a food decorating show this year, sponsored by Jeremy Lindsey at Lakeway IGA, and a fashion show, featuring local clothiers. More to be announced there, but Mary Beth Puckett, My Favorite Things, and Rena Barker, Regions, are working hard on it! The Small Business Expo committee also includes Kevin Buie, K and B Supplies for Success, Lance Pierce, WMUF, Tory Daughtrity, HCCM, Jamie Orr, Edward Jones, Scott Morrison, FirstBank, and Jennifer Hayden, Hamilton-Ryker.

Leadership Henry County kicks off this month and the class is filling up to be great! Make participating in Leadership one of your Chamber goals! We learn about the community, figure out our strengths and weaknesses and gain lots of new friends and business allies! Call the Chamber soon and make the most of your membership.

October Happenings



Chamber Treasurer Gary McEntire, Paris Landing State Park, and Dr. Jeff Seaton, former president, chatted at the Chamber coffee sponsored by Thunderbolt Broadcasting.



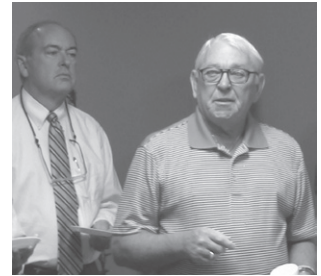
Loria Plunk, Arrowhead Home Sales, discussed upcoming Jaycees events at the Chamber coffee.



Leatha McCroskey, left, and Jennifer Dial represented Thunderbolt Broadcasting, sponsors of the September Chamber coffee.



Tory Daugherty, Henry County Medical Center, discussed upcoming events of the Women's Healthcare Advisory Council.



Bruce Reed, Commercial Bank, and Chamber board member Gayle Griffith, City of Paris Commissioner, attended the September 2013 Chamber coffee.

A SPIRITED SMALL BUSINESS EXPO

OCT. 29TH 8AM-3PM

WITH SPECIAL EVENTS INCLUDING

& A FOOD DECORATING SEMINAR
& A FASHION SHOW

HENRY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

PERK UP PARIS!

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

117 East Washington
Paris, TN 38242
Tuesday, October 22, 2013
8:00 am - 9:00 am



"A Premium Blend"

Clip and post after reading the Chamber News.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

HENRY COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS

OCT 28
5-7PM

SPONSORED BY:
PEPSI & MEO MIO'S



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED