



WEAKLEY COUNTY CHAMBER NEWS



P.O. Box 67 ~ Dresden, TN ~ 38225 ~ (731) 364-3787 ~ FAX (731) 364-2099 ~ www.weakleycountychamber.com ~ April 2011

DRESDEN - GLEASON - GREENFIELD - MARTIN - SHARON

Proudly serving our community since 1959

State Government Day on the Hill For Leadership W. C. Classes

On March 9, members of the 2011 First State Youth Leadership Class and Leadership Weakley County Class visited the State Capitol in Nashville for State Government Day. The day began with a tour of the Capitol. The classes then met with Carroll County's Dale Kelly, Senior Advisor for Legislation for Governor Bill Haslam, Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey, and Senator Roy Herron. Afterwards they attended subcommittee meetings. Representative Andy Holt addressed the class during lunch at the TML Building. After lunch, the group enjoyed listening to Lobbyist Jay West, Executive Director of the County Officials Association of Tennessee, and Speaker Beth Harwell, Tennessee's first woman Speaker of the House.



Highlight of the day was a photo opportunity with Governor Haslam and Representative Andy Holt. Pictured above with the 2011 First State Youth Leadership Class and the Leadership Weakley County Class is Governor Bill Haslam, Representative Andy Holt, Weakley County CTE Director Marvin Flatt, and Class Director / Weakley County Chamber Executive Director Barbara Virgin.

2011 President's Banquet & Leadership Graduation

Tuesday, April 26, 2011, 6:00
Boling University Center Ballroom
UT Martin, Martin, TN
Individual - \$25 • Table of 8 - \$175

Reservations & payments by April 15 to:
Weakley County Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 67
Dresden, TN 38225

Reservations confirmed upon receipt of payment.

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

President - Todd Hampton
Past President -
Randy Huffstetler, Jr.
President Elect - Jake Bynum

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Barbara Virgin
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34rd Annual Stephen Wright Memorial Industrial Appreciation Golf Tournament & Dinner



***Persimmon Hills
Golf Course
Thursday
May 19, 2011***

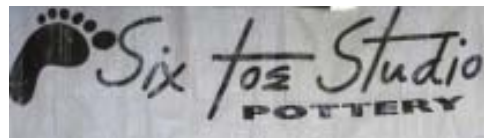
First State Youth LEADERSHIP OF WEAKLEY COUNTY



Economic Development Day



Welcome New Member



The community joined together with the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce to welcome the opening of Six Toe Studio in Martin. Owner / operator Clint Riley and his wife Charity welcomed Martin Mayor Randy Brundige, Weakley County Chamber Executive Director Barbara Virgin, representatives from Reelfoot Bank, Westan Insurance, Fuller Partners Real Estate Inc., Rountree Business Equipment, Thunderbolt Broadcasting, Snappy Tomato, City of Martin officials, Chamber members, friends, and family.

Six Toe Studio specializes in wheel thrown / altered pottery. Each piece is one of a kind. To see the "variety of functional as well as sculptural pieces" available, visit their location at 204 Main Street, Martin, TN, or visit www.sixtoestudio.com. Call Clint at (901) 573-3743 for studio hours.



The Weakley County Chamber of Commerce

will be closed

April 22

in observance of

Good Friday and Easter



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Proudly sponsors this page and welcomes all new businesses and individuals to
Weakley County!



Welcome New Members



Bonnie's Boutique



Bonnie's Boutique and the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce hosted a Grand Opening / Ribbon Cutting event to celebrate their opening. Joining owner/operator Bonnie Mathis and her staff were Weakley County Mayor Houston Patrick, Past Chamber President Randy Huffstetler, Jr., Chamber Executive Director Barbara Virgin, City of Greenfield Aldermen, Greenfield city officials, Chamber members, customers, friends, and family.

Stop by Bonnie's Boutique to check her wide selection of prom, wedding, and special occasion dresses, accessories, and giftware. Tuxedo rentals are also available. Bonnie's Boutique is located at 405 N. Front Street, Greenfield, TN. Store hours are Monday thru Saturday 10 am to 5 pm. For more information please call (731) 235-4400.

***Ribbon
Cutting***

Q Shack
12533 Hwy 45 N.
Martin, TN 38237
(731) 587-6794

April 29, 2011
11:00 am

How Your Business is Promoted From the Chamber Office

It's not unusual for the Chamber to get many calls each day where people ask things like which restaurants have lunch specials, where are rooms for meetings or parties, what businesses sell certain items, or who provides a particular service.

First and foremost the Chamber will refer a Chamber member. We provide locations, phone numbers, and other information if we know it. If we do not have a member that provides what the caller is looking for we will refer them to a nonmember.

In addition to these referrals, the office answers multiple e-mails, mails several newcomer packets, and has many, many walk-in visitors each year. Even people that have lived in Weakley County for years will take flyers and brochures from the information center if they see something that interests them. We get many people traveling through looking for a place to eat, shop, stay, or something fun to do. So if you have never brought flyers into the office, or if it has been some time since you have updated them, bring some in today!

Your business is promoted through the membership directory on our website at www.weakleycountychamber.com. This directory is accessible to anyone and can also be printed in a Word or PDF format.

Of course we can only provide some of this information if you provide it to us first. Help us promote your business, organization, or event by keeping us up-to-date and informed!

Pacesetter
March 2010

Community Service: Let's Do Our Part

"The question of success is not will it?...Or even will there be...Or even will it ever?...the question is...will you?" -- Doug Firebaugh

Wikipedia defines community service in the following way: "Community service refers to service that a person performs for the benefit of his or her local community. People become involved in community service for a range of reasons - for some, serving community is an altruistic act, for others it is a punishment."

Community is more than just a place to live and work. Community service is more than just the contribution of our taxes to city or county coffers or our opinions, positive or negative, to our neighbors. It is about giving of our time and talents to make the place we call home a place that is constantly growing and thriving.

Building a sense of community is not a difficult thing to do. City / county planners can produce ideas to make Weakley County a place that is welcoming to new families and businesses. The Chamber can promote the cities and county to outside organizations, businesses, and tourist to encourage visitors and new residents to visit and participate in our way of life. But what about those of us who already know about and live in Weakley County? What is our responsibility to the cities and county?

Everyone has limits on the amount of time we have in a day. We have busy lives, and sometimes it seems there aren't enough hours in a day to finish what must be completed. There are businesses to run and families to support. In fact, some of us may often be unsure what day it is without consulting our planner to see where we're supposed to be and what report is due or what meeting needs to be attended. At the end of the day, we are often tired and can't imagine going out for yet another meeting or event, but many of us do.

When was the last time you attended an event sponsored by Dresden, Gleason, Greenfield, Martin, Sharon, or Weakley County, attended a forum, attended a function hosted by the Chamber, participated in a community cleanup project, coached a youth sports team, volunteered to help children or adults learn to read, or help collect food for needy families throughout the county? Of course, these are just examples of what needs to be done and there may be a thousand others.

The point is this: there are some people who do these things. When attending events or participating in activities, you see the same people over and over again. There is criticism that the cities, county, or the Chamber doesn't do enough to promote Weakley County. The response is this: when was the last time you took an hour to see what you could do to make a difference?

If everyone did, our sense of community would not be the responsibility of a few but the result of many. Community service is not a punishment, it is a responsibility.

Pacesetter
August 2008

Calendar of Events

April 7
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Erik Markin
Small Business Specialist
Chamber Office

April 9
5:30 pm - Auction
6:00 - Dinner

The Carl Perkins Center
"Taste of Weakley & Obion Counties"
Gala Auction
Volunteer Distribution Co., Inc.,
Dresden, TN

April 13-16

Fiddle Stick Festival
Greenfield, TN

April 14-16
7:30 pm



UTM Rodeo
Ned McWhorter
Agricultural Complex, Martin, TN
Ticket Office - (731) 881-7207



April 16
(April 17 - Rain Date)



Easter Egg Hunt
Martin Recreation Complex
Martin, TN



April 26
6:00 pm

President's Banquet &
Leadership Graduation
UTM Boling University Center

April 29
11:00 am



Ribbon Cutting
Q Shack
12533 Hwy 45 N., Martin, TN



April 30

"Touch A Truck"
Martin Recreation Complex
Martin, TN
(731) 587-6784

April 30 to May 7



Tennessee Iris Festival
Dresden, TN
www.tennesseeirisfestival.com



May 5
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Erik Markin
Small Business Specialist
Chamber Office

May 19



Industrial Appreciation
Golf Tournament
Persimmon Hills Golf Course





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