



WEAKLEY COUNTY CHAMBER NEWS



P.O. Box 67 ~ Dresden, TN ~ 38225 ~ (731) 364-3787 ~ FAX (731) 364-2099 ~ www.weakleycountychamber.com ~ February 2010

DRESDEN - GLEASON - GREENFIELD - MARTIN - SHARON

Proudly serving our community since 1959

LEADERSHIP
WEAKLEY COUNTY



The twentieth class participating in Leadership Weakley County had their first class session on January 24, 2010. Leadership Orientation / Team Building Day was held at UT Martin Student Life Center.

Attending this years class are: Front row (l-r) Jill Dinning, J.J.'s Quick Shop / Martin U-Haul; Charlotte Carlton, First State Bank Sharon; Karen Crouse, Greenfield Banking Company; Kim Kirby, Martin Parks and Rec; and Betty Jones, Greenfield Banking Company. Back row (l-r) Brian Moore, City of Martin Parks and Rec; Chris Mallon, A to Z Animal Supplies; Chad Snider, Westan Insurance; Blake White, Reelfoot Bank; and Robert Mancusi, UT Martin.

**Important
DATE!**

February 12
7:00 am

Legislative Breakfast
UT Martin
Boling University Center

RSVP by February 5, 2010

587-2992

Email: lfuqua@utm.edu

2010 President's Banquet & Leadership Graduation

Mark you calendar and plan to attend the 2010 President's Banquet. It will be Tuesday, April 27, at 6:00 pm at UT Martin Boling University Center Room 206. Starting February 1, reservations can be made at 364-3787 or at wccassistant@crunet.com. Deadline for reservations will be April 15.

Confirmation will be upon receipt of payment.

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

President -
Randy Huffstetler, Jr.
Past Pres.- Mike Wilson
President Elect -
Todd Hampton

Board of Directors

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Jerry Brigrance
Faron Collins
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Dusty Frazier
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Jack Dunning
Danny Forrester
Bob Gardner
Eddie Joe McKelvy
Junior Moore
Houston Patrick

Staff

Barbara Virgin
Executive Director

Marguriet Frazier
Administrative Assistant

Thanks

The Chamber would like to thank the following business for their donation to the 2009 Chamber Christmas Reception:

Subway of Greenfield

Your contribution helped make this reception another huge success.

Congratulations



Congratulations
Barbara Virgin,
Weakley County
Chamber
Executive Director,
for being selected
to the 2010
WestStar Program.

Save the Date!

33rd Annual
Stephen Wright Memorial
Industrial Appreciation
Golf Tournament
and Dinner

May 20, 2010



Leadership Days



Financial Day



Quality of Life Day

WESTAN INSURANCE

Westan Insurance Group and the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce hosted a Grand Opening / Ribbon Cutting event to celebrate the opening of Westan's new office. Present were area Chamber members, city and county officials, agents from several area Westan Insurance agencies, and

representatives from Obion County. To find out how Westan Insurance can help you, visit their location at 298 Broadway in Martin, TN, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. You can also call (731) 587-9993 or email thamm@westaninsurance.com. Insurance agents Chad Snider, Teresa Powers Hamm, or Nancy Durham will gladly assist you.



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



Welcome New Members



Kimberly's
MARKET



The Weakley County Chamber of Commerce welcomed Kimberly's Market as a new Chamber member. Attending the Grand Opening / Ribbon Cutting ceremony were E.W. James patriarch David James, E.W. James CEO Lee Ann James, E.W. James President and COO Ken Pink, Director of Advertising Steve Hilton, Kimberly's Market Manager Linda Call and Assistant Manager Justin Suddath, Weakley County Mayor Houston Patrick, Gleason Mayor Jack Dunning, Weakley County Chamber of Commerce President Randy Huffstetler, county and city elected officials, Chamber members, representatives from local E.W. James stores, along with several vendors and customers.

Kimberly's Market is located at 545 East Union Street in Gleason, TN, near the Hwy. 22 intersection. Store hours are Monday through Saturday 6 a.m. till 7 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. till 6 p.m. The new store offers grocery items including produce and meat, deli, and fuel. Gasoline can be purchased 24 hours a day by customers using their credit cards to pay at the pump. For more information about what Kimberly's has to offer, call (731) 648-9427.

Resolve to Safeguard Your Money and Identity

Scam artists and shoddy companies have the same New Year's resolution year after year - to take your money and give you little or nothing in return.

The Better Business Bureau recommends you adopt the following resolutions to hang on to your money and identity in 2010:

- * I won't fall for job offers that promise easy money with no experience and little effort. These include mystery shopper and other work-at-home jobs - even ones posted on job Web sites like Monster.com.
- * I won't wire money back to someone who sent it to me in the first place. Even though the bank lets me withdraw the funds, a check I receive because I won a lottery I never entered will ultimately bounce and I'll be on the hook for any money I wire to Canada or Jamaica (or anywhere else).
- * I'll never respond to unsolicited e-mails or phone calls that ask for my personal and financial information. I don't care if they claim to be from my bank, the IRS, the Social Security Administration, or any other company or government agency. I won't open attachments to these e-mails, either.
- * I'll get everything in writing. I won't accept oral promises or blank spaces in contracts. And if I don't thoroughly understand an agreement, I'll have it reviewed by someone I trust who does.
- * The faster the salesman talks, the slower I'll go. I won't succumb to high pressure, hard sell, "one day only" offers.
- * I won't let my trash become an identity thief's gold mine. I'll check my statements as soon as they arrive and notify the financial institution of any unauthorized charges immediately. Then I'll shred them and any other documents that include personal information.
- * I won't sign up for a free trial of a product until I've read the fine print. I'll be sure I know how much time I have and what I have to do to cancel before I start incurring monthly charges.
- * I'll ask myself why a company in some other state or country that I found on the Internet will lend me money when a local lender won't. Even if I'm desperate, I won't fall for this common scam that requires me to pay a fee before I get my loan (which I'll never get). If I'm having trouble paying my bills, I'll talk to my lender or a nonprofit credit counselor before I do business with a foreclosure rescue or debt relief company.
- * I won't deal with someone who knocks on my door and offers to repave my driveway with materials left over from my neighbor's job. The same applies to roof repairs and other home improvements. I'll pass this advice on to my senior citizen relatives and friends who are targeted in these kinds of scams.
- * Most important, I'll check out any company or unsolicited offer with the BBB. It's free, it's easy, and it may save me a lot of grief.

If I need to find a reputable company, I'll ask the BBB for a list of BBB Accredited Businesses that can do the job.

By Randy Hutchinson, President and CEO
Better Business Bureau of the Mid-South
rhutchinson@bbbmidsouth.org

Important Contact Information

If you suspect you have been a victim of identity theft or fraud, here are some important telephone numbers for you to contact:

The Federal Trade Commission
202-FTC-HELP (202-382-4357)
www.ftc.org

Credit Reporting Companies
Equifax - 800-525-6285
Experian - 888-397-3742
Trans Union - 800-680-7289
www.freecreditreport.com

Information provided by:
First State Financial Services

ID THEFTBLOCK PROTECTS YOUR IDENTITY

Having your identity stolen has never been easier. With a few pieces of information, a criminal can turn your life upside down. For a nominal fee, Deluxe ID TheftBlock can monitor your accounts and helps you protect your good name. Visit www.first-state.net for more information. ID TheftBlock:

- ✓ Monitors your credit records
- ✓ Provides assistance if you suspect identity theft
- ✓ Reimburses certain expenses related to identity theft

Fast Facts About Identity Theft

- * Solved cases usually take 2 years to clear the victim's name
- * Unsolved cases generally take 4+ years to clear the victim's name
- * Largest targeted age group is 18-49
- * Tennessee is ranked 30th in the nation for number of ID Theft victims
- * Fastest growing white collar crime in U.S.

Calendar of Events

February 12

*Legislative Breakfast
UTM Boling University Center
Martin, TN*

April 24

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

April 24 to May 1



*Tennessee Iris Festival
Dresden, TN
www.tennesseeirisfestival.com*



April 27
6:00 pm

*President's Banquet &
Leadership Graduation
UTM Boling University Center*

May 20



*Industrial Appreciation
Golf Tournament
Persimmon Hills Golf Course*



May 21



*Weakley East Relay for Life
Northwest TN Motorsports
Gleason, TN
www.relayforlife.org/weakleyeast*

June 4

*Weakley Southwest Relay for Life
Greenfield School Football Field
Greenfield, TN*



June 11

*Weakley West Relay for Life
UTM Football Stadium Parking Lot
Martin, TN
www.relayforlife.org/westweakley*

2010 Census Timeline: Key Dates

February - March 2010

Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.
Please fill out and return.

April 1, 2010

Census Day

May - July 2010

Census takers visit households that **did not** return a questionnaire by mail.

December 2010

By law, Census Bureau delivers population counts to the president of apportionment.

March 2011

By law, Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.



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