



WEAKLEY COUNTY CHAMBER NEWS



P. O. Box 67 ~ Dresden, TN ~ 38225 ~ (731) 364-3787 ~ FAX (731) 364-2099 ~ www.weakleycountychamber.com ~ Aug - Sept 2017

DRESDEN - GLEASON - GREENFIELD - MARTIN - SHARON

Proudly serving our community since 1959

2017-18 Board of Directors



The 2017-2018 Weakley County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors held their first meeting of the fiscal year in August. This year's Directors are:

Seated (l-r) - Chamber Executive Director Barbara Virgin; Alice Ann Yeargin, Greenfield, Greenfield Banking Company; Emily Stokes, Greenfield, Greenfield Banking Company; Gleason Mayor Diana Poole; Greenfield Mayor Cindy McAdams; Amy Lewellen, Dresden, BancorpSouth; Jackie Johnson, UT Martin; and Tiffany Bowning, Dresden, ClaireBrooke Consignment.

Standing (l-r) - Chamber President Hal Bynum, Sharon, Crop Production Services; Ty Smithson, Greenfield, Greenfield Banking Company; Weakley County Mayor Jake Bynum; Jeffery Hames, Gleason, Woodmen Life; Ronnie Price, President/CEO Weakley County Economic Development Board; Scott Taylor, Martin, Scott Taylor State Farm Insurance; Sharon Mayor Monroe Ary; Christi Clark, Gleason, Bank of Gleason; Mark Hagler, Gleason, Bank of Gleason; Past President Ricky Finney, Dresden, Finney's Floor & Home Center; and Brad Branscum, Dresden, First Community Bank of the Heartland.

2017-2018 Directors not present: Ron Arnold, Gleason; Martin Mayor Randy Brundige; Faron Collins, WCMES; Misti Edwards, Sharon, Simmons Bank; Randy Frazier, Superintendent of Weakley County Board of Education; John Hatler, Martin, Cary Insurance Services, LLC; Maria Lackey, Sharon, Sharon Furniture & Appliance; Tyler Mitchell, Greenfield, Greenfield Monument Works; Junior Moore, Junior Moore Farms; Dee Pritchett, Martin, Fuller Partners Real Estate, Inc.; Bryant Rhodes, Weakley County Farm Bureau; Steven Scott, Sharon, Persimmon Hills Golf Course; Allen Strawbridge, WTPUD; Dresden Mayor Jeff Washburn; and Lana Westbrook, Martin, Savant Learning Systems, Inc.

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

President - Hal Bynum
Past Pres. - Ricky Finney
Pres. Elect -

Board of Directors

Ron Arnold
Brad Branscum
Tiffany Browning
Christi Clark
Misti Edwards
Mark Hagler
Jeffery Hames
John Hatler
Maria Lackey
Amy Lewellen
Tyler Mitchell
Dee Pritchett
Steven Scott
Ty Smithson
Emily Stokes
Scott Taylor
Lana Westbrook
Alice Ann Yeargin

Ex-Officio

Monroe Ary
Randy Brundige
Jake Bynum
Faron Collins
Randy Frazier
Jackie Johnson
Cindy McAdams
Junior Moore
Dianna Poole
Ronnie Price
Bryant Rhodes
Allen Strawbridge
Jeff Washburn

Staff

Barbara Virgin
Executive Director

Marguriet Frazier
Administrative Assistant

LEADERSHIP

WEAKLEY COUNTY

**Nominations for the
2018 Leadership Weakley County Class
are now being accepted.**

**Anyone wanting to join the class
or nominate a future leader,
please contact the Chamber at
(731) 364-3787 or email
wccc@weakleycountychamber.com.
Application deadline is Nov. 10, 2017.**

Welcome New Members

Manpower of the Mid-South

Keisha Roberts
206 E. Reelfoot Ave, Suite 27
Union City, TN 38261
(731) 571-2402

E-mail: keisha.roberts@manpower.com
Web addr: www.manpowermidsouth.com
Staffing agency

MobileNation

Donavan Mayfield
209 N. Lindell St.
Martin, TN 38237
(731) 281-6550

E-mail: dmayfield@mobilenation.com
Web addr: www.mymobilenation.com
Wireless communication

J & B Motors of Greenfield, LLC

Jonathan James
2306 N. Meridian St.
Greenfield, TN 38230
(731) 678-0300

E-mail: jonathanjames82@icloud.com
Auto sales

Monograms & More

Anita Bell
413 S. Lindell St.
Martin, TN 38237
(731) 587-5665

E-mail: monograms.more@yahoo.com
Screen printing & embroidery;
trophies & engraving; gift shop

Women's Health Center of Martin

Kelly Codega
300 Peach St.
Martin, TN 38237
(731) 587-2525

E-mail: Kelly.Codega@bmg.md
Health care

MSHN Enterprises

Brittany Chandler
8584 Lordes Circle
Germantown, TN 38239
(901) 410-9010

E-mail: dchandler@mshnllc.com
Web addr: www.mshnllc.com
Supportive living



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wendellalexander@frontiernet.net

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Welcome New Member MobileNation



The Weakley County Chamber of Commerce welcomed new Chamber member MobileNation to Weakley County with a Ribbon Cutting. Joining Manager Donovan Mayfield and Area Retail Manager Katey Swann were Chamber President Hal Bynum; Chamber Executive Director Barbara Virgin; Heather Waggoner, Field Representative for Congressman David Kustoff; Chamber members; MBA members; and customers.

MobileNation is located at 209 N. Lindell St, Martin, TN. For more information on how they can help with your wireless communication, stop by their location, call (731) 281-6550, email dmayfield@mobilenation.com, or go to their web site at www.mymobilenation.com



Store hours

Monday-Friday 10:00 am to 6:30 pm
Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.



Grand Re-Opening



A Ribbon Cutting was held at Wendy's to celebrate their Grand Re-Opening. Joining owners John and Susan D'Adamio, Wendy, and staff were Chamber President Hal Bynum; Martin Mayor Randy Brundige; Greenfield Mayor Cindy McAdams; Jennifer Weems, West TN Region Field Director for Senator Bob Corker; Heather Waggoner, Field Representative for Congressman David Kustoff; Chamber Executive Director Barbara Virgin; plus representatives from Thunderbolt Broadcasting; BancorpSouth; UT Martin; Twin Oaks Technology, LLC; First Community Bank of the Heartland; and Crop Production Services.

Wendy's "delivers quality fresh food with real ingredients that provide the best tasting fast food." To *Satisfy Your Cravings*, stop by their location at 308 University St, Martin. For more information call (731) 587-2110. Business hours are 10:00 am to 12:00 am seven days a week.

Ground Breaking



The Mobile PC Guys

A Ground Breaking ceremony was held to celebrate The Mobile PC Guys new facility located at 1 Technology Drive, Greenfield, TN, in the Industrial Park. Joining owners John and Christina McMahan, their family, and staff were Weakley County Mayor Jake Bynum; Representative Andy Holt; Greenfield Mayor Cindy McAdams; Jennifer Weems, West TN Region Field Director for Senator Bob Corker; Heather Waggoner, Field Representative for Congressman David Kustoff; Tyler Hayes, USDA, Rural Development; Ronnie Price, WCEDB; Chamber Executive Director Barbara Virgin; City of Greenfield elected officials and staff; Greenfield Industrial Development Board; Chamber members; family; and friends.

The new 5,000 square foot state of the art facility will house The Mobile PC Guys' computer and phone lab, billing and administrative offices, conference room, staff offices, cyber security lab, and Co-Location Data Center. The Mobile PC Guys retail store is located at 215 Hawks Rd., Suite 10B, Martin, TN. For more information call (731)588-4200, go to www.themobilepcguys.com, or like them on FaceBook.

Weakley County young professionals

o connect o grow o serve

The Weakley County Young Professionals program began as a class project of the Weakley County Leadership Class of 2016. The class acknowledged there is a need for young professionals in Weakley County to have an outlet for networking, professional development, personal growth, and community service. Currently, the program conducts quarterly luncheons that discuss topics relevant to young professionals to assist them in advancing their careers.

The Weakley County Young Professionals (WCYP) is a service organization of the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce. Membership requirements, terms, and benefits are:

- (a) Membership shall be open to all persons aged 21-50 residing or working in Weakley County, Tennessee.
- (b) Membership shall be renewed annually with dues at the time of registration.
- (c) New members joining WCYP during the second half of a calendar year shall pay a prorated membership fee of 50% the full annual membership rate, due at the time of registration.
- (d) Members shall receive a membership card, access to all WCYP events, and other benefits as may from time to time be provided.
- (e) Members of the Leadership Weakley County Class of 2016 shall comprise the initial group of members (charter members) for WCYP. The Charter Members are subject to all terms and conditions listed herein.

The next membership drive will be conducted in January, 2018, after programming has been planned for the following year. If you would like more information, contact Jackie Johnson at wcyoungprofessionals@gmail.com.



**Weakley County Young Professionals
Charter Members**

**WCYP Jackie Johnson and
Melissa Halsell, Young Talent
Attraction & Community
Livability Economic Development
Program Manager with TVA,
at 2016 TAEL Conference
Young Professionals Panel**



**Attendees at the August
Weakley County Young Professionals Luncheon**

3rd Annual Minerals Day

October 6, 2017

The City of Gleason invites everyone to the Third Annual Minerals Day celebration in Gleason, TN. Last year was a phenomenal event as an estimated 800 people attended the party. This year promises to be the best yet now that Minerals Day has become a true community event. The Gleason Downtown Revitalization Committee (GDRC) is taking the reins for this year's extravaganza and realizes the importance of clay minerals in our cities, towns, and state.

Several local "mineral" producers have agreed to sponsor this year's event. Old Hickory Clay Company, Gleason Clay Company, and Imerys Ceramics / Kentucky-Tennessee Clay Company are already on board to help educate the community about the magic of West Tennessee Ball Clay. Many other supporting local service industries are interested in helping us make the day possible, and we expect a huge turnout. Many government and industrial officials have attended in the past and we anticipate more this year.

A few changes are in store for this year's event, but, as usual, the invitation is extended to all people interested in learning how ball clay makes the world go round. Old Hickory Clay Company has graciously agreed to let the public tour a mine, weather permitting. **Minerals Day will be held Friday, October 6, 2017, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Mike Snider Park, 506 North Cedar Street, Gleason, TN.** Many pieces of equipment such as excavators, dozers, articulated truck, and the world famous "Gleason Shredder" will be on site. The GDRC and local businesses will be providing hotdogs, chips, snow cones, popcorn, cotton candy, and cold drinks for refreshments.

Again, everyone is welcome, but due to large turnout last year, we ask that school groups, and any group of 20 or more, RSVP no later than noon October 2nd to ensure everyone gets fed. School groups will need to provide bus transportation for the mine tour. Small capacity busses will run on a tight schedule for the general public.

If you have any questions, or to RSVP, please contact the Gleason Downtown Revitalization Committee at P. O. Box 125, Gleason, TN 38229, e-mail gleasondrc@gmail.com, or text/call GDRC President Charles Anderson at (731) 695-5753.

The sign on the edge of Gleason's city limits reads "Welcome to Gleason: Ball Clay Mining Center of the Nation." Weakley County's deposit of the finest quality ball clay, which is used for china, porcelain, pottery, and other purposes, is shipped all over the world.

The first clay was dug in 1926, from testing on the W. R. Crawford farm, two miles west of Gleason. A tenant on the farm discovered the deposit by accident while building a fence. A spring on the side of a bluff contained traces of clay and the owner had the mineral examined. Some of the richest veins of clay in the area were discovered in a 20-acre plot. The Bell Clay Company started operations immediately with 25 men working pond scoops and horses to remove the overburden of dirt and debris. Holes were dug with hand augers, dynamite placed within exploded and workers dug the clay out with picks and shovels. Afterwards, the clay was loaded on wagons or trucks and hauled to the railroad to be shipped all over the world. Today, over 90 years later, multiple clay companies have continued to expand this industry throughout the area.

Source:
www.GleasonOnline.com/minerals_day.html



*2016 Minerals Day
Imerys Clay Company*



Calendar of Events

Aug. 30 to Sept. 3

*44th Annual Tater Town Special
Gleason, TN*

Sept. 2 - 10

*TN Soybean Festival
Martin, TN
www.tnsoybeanfestival.org*

*Sept. 19
5:30 pm*

Chamber Board Meeting

Sept. 30 - Oct. 7

*Sharon Corn & Music Festival
Sharon, TN*

*Oct. 6
10:00 am to 2:00 pm*

*3rd Annual Minerals Day
Gleason, TN*

Oct. 9 - 14

*Fire Prevention Festival
Greenfield, TN*

*Oct. 17
5:30 pm*

Chamber Board Meeting

Nov. 11

*Veteran's Day Parade
Martin, TN*

*Nov. 21
5:30 pm*

Chamber Board Meeting

*Dec. 7
5-7 pm*

*Chamber Christmas Reception
Sponsored by: Sharon Chamber Members
Dresden Elks Lodge*

Dec. 15

*Santa's Village
West TN Ag Pavilion, UT Martin
Martin, TN*

**Save
The
Dates**

December 7, 2017, 5 to 7 pm - Chamber Christmas Reception
Dresden Elks Lodge, Dresden, TN
Sponsored by: Sharon Chamber Members

April 17, 2018, 6:00 pm - Chamber Awards Banquet
UT Martin Boling University Center, Martin, TN

May 17, 2018 - Stephen Wright Memorial Industrial Appreciation
Golf Tournament and Dinner
Persimmon Hills Golf Course, Sharon, TN

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