

This newsletter is sponsored by:

- Forcht Bank
- Hillcrest Health & Rehabilitation Center
- Hotwire Productions.net
- Jackson Energy Cooperative
- McKnight Properties

Thank You!

Next Chamber Luncheon
Thursday, May 18th

12:00 noon

London Community Center

\$13.00 per person

SPONSORED BY:



2023 Business of the Year Recipients

Each year at the Chamber's Annual Banquet, we recognize three outstanding businesses for their contributions to our business community. Awards are given in three categories - Large Business, Small Business and Non-Profit. Here are this year's recipients:

LARGE BUSINESS



WB Transport LLC

SMALL BUSINESS



Hotwire Productions.net

NON-PROFIT



Parkinson's In Motion



Another Annual Banquet is in the Books!

The Chamber held it's Annual Banquet on Tuesday, April 18th at the London Community Center. The Community Center was beautifully decorated by Uptown Florist and the delicious meal was provided by Local Honey. And, thanks to some very generous Chamber members, there was a great selection of items to bid on during the silent auction.

In addition to the Business of the Year awards (see page 1), the 2022-23 Teachers of the Year were also recognized. They are:

- Kimberly Harville — Cold Hill Elementary School
- Tyler Kirby — South Laurel Middle School
- Brittanie Smith — South Laurel High School

In celebration of their accomplishment, each teacher was presented a \$1000 check from **Laurel County Farm Bureau**.

The Chamber recognized outgoing President Michael Sliter for his six years of service and he passed the gavel to our new Board President Ward Stokes. Sharon Bengé was also recognized as the Ribbon Cutting Queen for the many, many ribbon cuttings that she has attended.

The entertainment for the evening was provided by Comedian Collin Moulton, compliments of our entertainment sponsor **WB Transport LLC**. Collin had attendees laughing the night away!

The evening would not have been possible without our sponsors and we would like to extend our appreciation to them for their unwavering support of the Chamber.

Thank you!

2023 ANNUAL BANQUET SPONSORS



Annual Banquet Photos





PECKHAM

Peckham is a nonprofit vocational rehabilitation organization that offers a unique opportunity for individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment. Peckham provides paid job training, skills development, and employment opportunities to people with physical, cognitive, behavioral, and socio-economic challenges, empowering them to showcase their abilities and realize their full potential.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

With over 46 years of experience, Peckham has successfully trained and employed thousands of individuals through five different business lines in Michigan, as well as operations in Phoenix, Arizona, and London, Kentucky. Peckham's commitment to excellence has been recognized with numerous awards, including national recognition for providing exceptional vocational rehabilitation, fostering inclusive cultures, and building quality workplaces for employees.

For the eighth consecutive year, Peckham has been Certified™ by Great Place to Work® based entirely on feedback from current employees. In 2022, 83% of employees rated Peckham as a great place to work, which is an impressive 24 points higher than the average U.S. company.

Peckham's fiscal year runs from October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022, and during this period, the organization has made a significant impact in the lives of many individuals. A total of 5,863 team members were served by Peckham during this period, earning a total of \$69.2 million in wages. Additionally, 486 team members experienced upward mobility within Peckham, while 757 members achieved upward mobility within the community. Peckham's focus on client satisfaction is evident, with a remarkable score of 4.45 out of 5 on the satisfaction scale.

These numbers demonstrate Peckham's commitment to providing meaningful employment opportunities and empowering team members to achieve their full potential. In summary, Peckham is an outstanding organization that has made a significant impact in the lives of many individuals by providing them with the opportunity to experience meaningful employment growth. The organization's dedication to creating an inclusive workplace culture and fostering employee satisfaction is a testament to Peckham's commitment to excellence.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Reagan Kilburn of South Laurel High School for being selected as the 2023 recipient of our \$1,000 Work Ethic Seal Scholarship! Thank you to Community Trust Bank for sponsoring this scholarship opportunity.



REGIONAL CIVICS BEE

Congratulations to the London - Laurel County Chamber of Commerce Regional Civics Bee winners: Jade Smith (first place), Emma Adams (second place), and Caleb Hammons (third place). We are proud to partner with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation to promote #CivicsEducation in our community. Thank you to Laurel County Farm Bureau and Hotwire Productions for sponsoring this event!



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2022
Nation's Report
Card: Civics &
U.S. History

NOW AVAILABLE



The latest Civics and U.S. history results for the nation's 8th-graders from [National Assessment of Educational Progress \(NAEP\)](#) is a wake-up call! The headline: 79% of 8th graders are NOT proficient in civics. Civics scores are now back down to 1998 levels when they first started doing this assessment.

A strong economy is built on the foundation of informed citizens. That's why the Chamber has partnered with [U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation](#) to host the regional civics bee and help prioritize Civics Education in our community.

Here are some take-aways from the report:

- Higher performing students saw no significant change since 2018.
- Lower performing students saw a drop in test scores from 2018.
- **79% of 8th graders are NOT proficient in civics.**
- 31% of 8th grade students are below "basic" knowledge, compared to 27% in 2018.
- Only 1 in 5 8th grade students are on grade level.
- We have made no progress as a nation since the assessment was first administered in 1998.

See the results of the NAEP civics assessment at <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/highlights/civics/2022/>.

NOW HIRING!

RN's starting at \$31 per hour*

LPN's starting at \$23 per hour*

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HILLCREST
HEALTH & REHABILITATION CENTER
1245 American Greeting Card Road
Corbin, KY 40701

Chamber Ambassadors enjoyed a beautiful day at the Keeneland Spring Meet on April 13th. While several Ambassadors were unable to attend, we appreciate their hard work throughout the year. Thank you **JACO Limousine & Transportation** for providing transportation!



The Chamber is pleased to welcome our newest members:



- Capitol Bicycles
- Disabled American Veterans Chapter 158
- East 80 Trade School
- London Vendors Market LLC
- Otter Creek Labs, LLC
- Trinity Corp. DBA Burger King of London

Renewing Chamber Members

- Alzheimer’s Association
- Backpack Program of Laurel County
 - Buff City Soap
 - Community Trust Bank
 - Cornerstone Christian School
- Cumberlands Workforce Development Area
 - Day Bros Auto & RV Sales LLC
- Dr. Jeremy W. Allen Family Dentistry
 - Edward Jones – Mike Fiechter
 - Evening Shade
- Front Line Public Safety Equipment
 - Hearthside Food Solutions
 - Home Helpers Home Care
- Hometown Medicare Market & More
 - Huffman & Huffman, P.S.C.
 - Kemper Home Furnishings
- London-Laurel Co. Economic Development Authority
 - Martin’s Peterbilt
 - Motto Mortgage Authority
 - Mr. Gatti’s Pizza
 - Plaza Drug of London LLC
- Smith Heating & Cooling
 - Smokey Bear’s BBQ
 - Storm Security, LTD
 - Summit Sales
 - VNA Health at Home



**7AM - 7PM BANKING
MONDAY THRU SATURDAY**

Can your bank do that?



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April Luncheon Photos



Alyssa Emmett

Special Thanks to our
April Luncheon Sponsor:



New Members



Triple Threat Martial Arts
Eddie Birchfield, Jamie & Kyla Sarsany



Bret McIntosh, Realtor



Dr. James Davis
with the Center for
Innovation was our
guest speaker.



Ryan Quarles, Agriculture
Commissioner and
Candidate for Governor
spoke to the luncheon
attendees.

The Chamber would like to thank the following businesses
that donated prizes at our April luncheon. . .

- ◆ EKU—Corbin/Manchester
- ◆ Forcht Broadcasting
- ◆ Heads Up Digital TV
- ◆ Hotwire Productions.net
- ◆ Jackson Energy
- ◆ Old Town Grill
- ◆ Peckham Inc.
- ◆ Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co.
- ◆ The Job Shop Staffing Services



*Congratulations to our
2022-23 Teachers of the Year!*

*London-Laurel County
Chamber of Commerce*

Teacher



of the Year
Award

Kimberly Harville
Cold Hill Elementary School

Tyler Kirby
South Laurel Middle School

Brittanie Smith
South Laurel High School

Special Thanks to



**LAUREL COUNTY
FARM BUREAU**

For sponsoring our Teacher of the Year Awards

Are you hiring?

The Chamber wants to help!

Send us your job openings and job fair announcements.

We will post these on the Chamber's website as another service of your London-Laurel County Chamber of Commerce and our effort to help grow our Workforce Community.



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Annual Banquet - Silent Auction Donors

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Donna Gregorich
Edward Jones—Jonathon Hibbard
Fairfield Inn & Suites
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Robinson Stave, LLC
Ryser's Flooring
Saint Joseph London
Serial Grillers & Killer Sweets
Soelberg Industries
Somerset Community College
Starr's Liquor
The Job Shop Staffing Services
The Sentinel-Echo
Uptown Florist
Webbed Sphere
WYMT-TV



Thanks to these businesses and their generous donations, our Silent Auction was a big Success!

Your Chamber Membership can Save you Money

As a member of the Chamber, you have access to several discount programs that you may not be aware of. Keeping reading and find out how we can help you save!



Members will receive a total of 10% discount off their estimated annual premium on Workers' Compensation Insurance through ClearPath Mutual.



The Kentucky Chamber has teamed up with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield to offer groups with 2 to 50 employees an opportunity to participate in a larger, self-funded pool that gives you financial protection backed by Anthem's stop loss coverage. This health care solution is called the Chamber-Advantage plan.

Office DEPOT.

This program is set up for our local Chamber by the Kentucky State Chamber and its contractual agreement with Office Depot. This offer brings exclusive savings to Chamber members with special pricing on hundreds of office depot products that you use every day! The product list is available to members upon request.

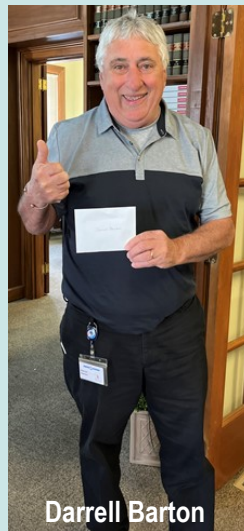


As a benefit of your Chamber membership, you can grow your business with Constant Contact's industry-leading online marketing tools: newsletters and announcements; offers and promotions; events and registration; and feedback and surveys. Best of all, you'll enjoy exclusive savings of up to 25%, with plans starting as low as \$20 per month.

And the winners are . . .

The Chamber held it's annual NCAA Bracket contest during the March Chamber luncheon. The winner was Samuel Jody with Peckham Inc. Second place went to Brent Jackson with Jackson Energy and coming in third was Darrell Barton with Pepsi. The winners were awarded \$150, \$100 and \$50 in Chamber Bucks respectively.

Congratulations!



Your Chamber Board of Directors



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