

This newsletter is
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Thank You!

Next Chamber Luncheon

Thursday, August 17

12:00 noon

London Community Center

\$13.00 per person

SPONSORED BY:



Friday, October 6th

London Country Club

***** Now Enlisting Sponsors *****

Cost of Sponsorship is \$600 and includes:

- ◆ A four-member team
- ◆ Company name or logo on all golf materials—emails, social media, newsletter, and website.
- ◆ Hole sponsorship with signage at the tournament
- ◆ Opportunity to man your hole during the event

**Goody Bag items and Door Prizes
are also needed . . .
Support your Chamber with a
generous donation!**



Spotlight on . . .

August Luncheon Speakers—Ashli Watts & Kevin Smith



ASHLI WATTS was named the President and CEO for the Kentucky Chamber, the state's largest business association, in November 2019. Ashli joined the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce in November of 2012, and during her tenure as Senior Vice President of Public Affairs at the Chamber, she has led efforts in passing significant pieces of legislation such as felony expungement, right to work legislation, workers' compensation reform, unemployment insurance reform and tax reform. As part of the Chamber's leadership team, the Kentucky Chamber was named National State Chamber of the

Year in 2017. Prior to joining the Chamber, she worked at the Kentucky Bar Association and the Legislative Research Commission.

Ashli graduated from Campbellsville University with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and History in 2004 and holds a Master's Degree in Public Policy and Administration from the University of Louisville. Ashli is a 2016 graduate of Leadership Kentucky, currently serves on the boards for Campbellsville University, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, University of Kentucky College of Public Health, University of Louisville President's Advisory Council, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association of State Chambers, and the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE), where she was also named a 40 under 40 in 2020. Ashli also serves on the Kerner Commission, Agritech Council, and the Commonwealth Education Continuum, appointed by Gov. Andy Beshear. She currently resides in Frankfort with her husband Ryan and two children, Emma and Carter.



KEVIN SMITH is the Vice President of Kentucky Bourbon Affairs for Beam Suntory. Active in Kentucky's signature bourbon industry since 1989, Kevin has worked for several of the top distilleries in the state helping to build and grow the industry to what it has become today. His primary role during most of his career has been in manufacturing and bourbon production. In the past 8 years Kevin has worked to help shape policy and legislation reform to modernize bourbon regulations and tax codes. In 2019 Kevin was part of the Beam Suntory team that helped

establish the James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits at the University of Kentucky, the bourbon industry's main research and talent development pipeline.

Kevin is currently serving on several boards including the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce as current board chair, CHI Saint Joseph Health Board of Directors, the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) (past chair), the Japan American Society of Kentucky Board (JASK) (past chair), and the Kentucky Distillers Association (past chair).

Previously as Vice President / Master Distiller for Maker's Mark Distillery and under the direction of Bill Samuels, Kevin helped Bill create Maker's 46, the company's first innovation since the original product was created by the Samuels family in 1953. In addition to manufacturing, Kevin has also promoted and represented the bourbon industry around the world conducting seminars, tastings, and media interviews for small and large audiences. In 2010, during his time as the Master Distiller at Maker's Mark, Kevin debuted as a judge on the Food Network's Iron Chef America where the secret ingredient was... Bourbon.

Kevin earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana University and is a graduate of Leadership Kentucky class of 2003 and Leadership Louisville 2017. He is married with two children and one grandchild, and resides in Bardstown, Kentucky, the bourbon capital of the world.

CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

August
2023



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Members of our London - Laurel County Chamber of Commerce attended the **Kentucky Chamber of Commerce's 3rd Annual Women's Summit**. We were encouraged, inspired, and motivated for our area women in business as well as lifting up our local businesses. Seeing Laurel Countian Elizabeth McCoy receive the '23 Woman In Leadership Award was truly a highlight!

Takeaways:

- There's always room at the table, replace the mentality of "are you going to take my seat" with gratitude and honoring those that initially opened the doorway for opportunity.
- Cheering on is key, you may not be able to make every meeting or pour fully into someone as a mentor - but little moments matter. A coffee here and there or quick visit means a lot, do what your schedule allows.
- You are responsible for the energy you bring into the room.
- Business solves problems - economy, jobs, opportunities, and culture.



7AM - 7PM BANKING
MONDAY THRU SATURDAY


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Working for you



The London-Laurel County Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Laurel County School System has taught a **Work Ethic Seal Program** for all Laurel County High School students for the past seven years. With great success we have had many students graduate from the program and earn scholarships. Once again the Chamber of Commerce, being the voice of the business community, is answering the call for more students to be work ready upon entering the workforce.



The **Work Ethic Seal Program** curriculum is provided through Junior Achievement of the Bluegrass and is taught in Civics classes. This curriculum is written for volunteers in the community to teach students during regular class times, along with a teacher present in the room. Several local business leaders have taught various classes through Junior Achievement and all have said it was easy to follow and they enjoyed their time with the students.

Will you please take the time to consider teaching our local high school students some valuable life lessons and to instruct our future leaders? If we want to continue to have a thriving business community we must teach our future leaders to lead!

We will have a **training class** for the Work Ethic Seal Volunteers on **August 15th from 11 am to 1 pm**, lunch included, at the G.C. Garland Building. Please call the Chamber office at 606-864-4789 or email info@londonlaurelchamber.com to register for the training. Also, please let us know if you have any dietary needs for lunch.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library UPDATE

Total Enrollment - 1258 Currently Active - 1103 Graduated - 155

Would you or your business like to support the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library project?

The London-Laurel County Chamber of Commerce Foundation is currently seeking individuals and businesses who would financially support this very worthy cause. Instilling a love of reading at a young age can make a huge difference in the lives of these children as well as in our community as a whole.

If you are interested, please contact us at 606-864-4789 or email us at info@londonlaurelchamber.com



WORLD CLASS SPONSORS



Upcoming Events

Women in Business Power Hour

Tuesday, September 12th 8:30 am London Children's Museum
Topic: Safe & Secure: Enhancing Wellbeing in the Workplace



Ribbon Cutting at Bluegrass International

Friday, September 15th at 10 am
Located at 202 Faith Assembly Church Road



2 FOR \$200

Be Center Stage at our next Chamber Luncheon!

How would you like to be able to promote your business/
organization in front of 100 potential customers?

Each month at our Chamber luncheon, we provide two members an opportunity to take the stage for 2 minutes and talk about their business or something they would like to promote. The cost is \$200, and includes a display table in the foyer.

Please call us at 606-864-4789 to schedule your time in the spotlight!





Women in Business

Women's Power Hour

The kick-off to our first Women's Power Hour was just as enjoyable as it was enlightening with Mary Lou Casada of **Talk & Pray for Life & Business**. A big thank you to **First National Bank of Manchester** for hosting our meeting. Our morning "pick-me-up" was a cold brew from local coffee shop **Love Is Real Wellness** and our takeaway for the day was to discover your life's guiding principal. What you do with your life is valuable and your purpose is what makes others better when their lives intersect with yours.



Corporate Sponsor of Women in Business



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July Luncheon

Thank you to our Luncheon Sponsor:



New Members



Accelecom
Michael Cathers



Thoroughbred
Stephen Flinchum & Steven Knuckles



Thanks to a sponsorship by **Forcht Bank**, we were pleased to have Coach Philip Heywood as our featured speaker.



These businesses took advantage of our new **2 for \$200 Spotlight** promotion: Alzheimer's Association of Greater KY and Southern Indiana and Minuteman Press

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

- American Scrub Company
- Donna Gregorich
- Edward Jones—Jonathon Hibbard
- Forcht Bank
- Hotwire Productions.net
- Kinetic by Windstream
- Somerset Community College

- Jackson Energy
- London Rotary Club
- Old Town Grill
- Monticello Banking Co.
- The Job Shop
- Transamerica



The Ambassador Patrol Strikes Again!

The Chamber Ambassadors continued their “patrol” this month and surprised six of our members with gifts and goodies. Each business was also given a Free Lunch certificate for this month’s membership luncheon. It’s always fun to visit members and learn more about their business.

Be on the lookout. . . next month they might be visiting you!



London Auto Truck Center
15 Dog Patch Trading Post



Serial Grillers & Killer Sweets
316 Dog Patch Center



First Care Clinics
1649 KY 192 W



Eagle Finance
1774 Hwy 192



Southeastern Farm Supply
807 S. Dixie Street



Truist
840 Whitley Street

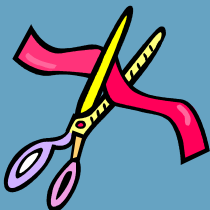
The Chamber is pleased to welcome our newest member:



- London-Laurel County Rescue Squad

Renewing Chamber Members

- Alexander and Associates, LLC
dba Laurel River Stoneworks
- Alliance Home Mortgage Corp.
 - Benqueil's Jewelry Inc.
 - Class 101 Eastern Kentucky
- Donevon Storm Insurance Agency-Kentucky Farm Bureau
 - East Kentucky Drywall Inc.
 - ECO-Tech USA, LLC
 - H&R Block Income Tax
 - Independent Opportunities
 - Irvine Contracting, LLC
- Laurel County Cooperative Extension Service
 - Laurel Gardens Inc.
 - Local Honey
 - Michael Smith Consulting
- Phillips Diversified Manufacturing, Inc.
 - Professionals in Eye Care
 - Safelite Auto Glass Corp.
 - Sallie Davidson Realtors
 - Somerset Community College
 - Truist
 - Wildcat Harley-Davidson
- WJTE 98.5 The Light of London
 - WYGE Christian Radio



***Opening a new business, a second location
or moving to a new location?***

**Contact the Chamber office to schedule
a ribbon cutting and let us help you celebrate!**

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. Keep reading and find out how we can help you save!



◆ Worker's Compensation Insurance Discount

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



◆ Health Insurance Benefits/Discounts

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 ◆ Office Depot Discount Program

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.



◆ Constant Contact Discount Program

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.

Join us at the Kentucky State Fair!



August 17th—27th

Pride of the Counties Exhibit held in South Wing B

Volunteers are still needed to man the booth. If you would like to help us out, contact the Chamber office for dates and times that volunteers are needed.

Coming in September ... 21st—24th



Your Chamber Board of Directors



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