



# CHAMBER CURRENTS

Official Quarterly Publication of the Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce • 34 S. Main St. • Crossville, TN 38555 • 931-484-8444 • Fax 931-484-7511 • July 2008 • Volume 26 • Number 3

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



This is an exciting time to be the Chair of the Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce, and it gives me great pleasure to represent such a dedicated and community driven organization. There can be no doubt

that as the Chinese proverb once said "may you live in interesting times" we are in fact in those times. I have seen more change and upheaval in our community in the past 5 years than I have in the past 15. As I look ahead my feeling is that we are facing some of the most significant challenges in recent memory. The list of challenges is long. I also believe that we as a community working together we can master these challenges.

If you are new to the area, I encourage you to take a moment to peruse our website [www.crossville-chamber.com](http://www.crossville-chamber.com). It contains important information on our Chamber and our community. If you are one of our longstanding members, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude for your steadfast support and unparalleled commitment to the Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce. You are quite simply the best and without your support we could not exist! I anticipate that the board will be very busy over the next twelve months while we concentrate on making a difference in our community. In addition to ensuring that our members receive the greatest value for their membership, we will also give board members opportunities to try new things and to implement innovative ideas. Again, this is an exciting time for the Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce and if you are not yet a member, then I strongly suggest that you get on board because we are starting to move and believe me, we have only just begun.

## New Chamber Board of Directors



**DON SADLER**, Director of the Tennessee Technology Center was born and reared in Livingston, TN. A United States Army Veteran, Sadler earned his BA, MA and Ed.S degrees in Industrial Education and School Administration from the Tennessee Technological University. Among his work experience are eight years of teaching Industrial Arts Education at the Jr. High level and working for six years in the Alaskan oilfields. Sadler is a member of the Crossville Noon Rotary Club and enjoys spending time with his daughter, Hannah, playing racquetball and bluegrass music.

**KEN STEPHENS**, Executive Vice-President at Cumberland Medical Center (CMC) has been employed with CMC since 1983. He received his BS in Business Administration and his MS in Administration and Supervision at the Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville. Stephens is also a member of the Tennessee Hospital Association, American College of Healthcare Executives and Rural Health Association. He is a Past Tennessee Chapter President, Past National Board of Director, and Past National Executive Committee Member of the Healthcare Financial Association.



**CINDY TURNER**, City President of Regions Bank has worked in the banking industry for 35 years. A Cumberland County native, Turner's area of responsibility covers Cumberland, Roane, Rhea and Morgan Counties. She is a board member and serves on the Executive Committee for the United Fund of Cumberland County.

**JERRY WOOD, JR.** is the President/Owner of Action Heating and Cooling. Born and raised in Cumberland County, Wood is a graduate of Cumberland County High School and a graduate of the Tennessee Technology Center. He is also a United States Army Veteran. His wife, Rebecca, is employed with the Cumberland County Board of Education, his son Chase is currently enrolled at Harding University and daughter Julia is a student at CCHS.



## CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

*Pepe Perron, Vice Chair*

### 24/7 VISITOR INFORMATION KIOSK

Travelers to downtown Crossville have probably noticed a new addition to Main Street. The brand new 24/7 Visitor Information Kiosk was put in place in June and will soon house brochures, a map, and other information.

A Visitor Information Kiosk is a priority for Crossville and Cumberland County as it ideally allows visitors access to community information 365 days a year 24/7. The primary objective of a visitor center is to do exactly what its name implies: provide information to visitors. The gazebo is sheltered and weather proof and features enclosed racks containing brochures and locator maps. The Visitor Information Kiosk provides valuable tourist information when the staffed Chamber office is closed.

The grant from USDA Rural Development required matching funds. The Gazebo/Kiosk project would not be possible without the assistance of Progressive Savings Bank. Organizations and individuals contributing were: BEK builders, Davis Concrete, DEPA, Inc and the Cumberland County Master Gardeners.



### 2008 TENNESSEE SAMPLER

On April 14-18, Cumberland County Mayor Brock Hill and Convention and Visitors Bureau Vice-Chair Pepe Perron attended the 2008 Tennessee Sampler in Chicago, Illinois.



*Brock Hill, Cumberland County Mayor;  
Susan Whitaker, Commissioner of  
Tourism, Tennessee Department of  
Tourism; and Pepe Perron, Vice-Chair,  
Convention and Visitors Bureau*

The Tennessee Sampler is an annual event sponsored and coordinated by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development. The event is composed of designated committees of Tennessee tourism partners who share the goal of promoting tourism in Tennessee.

The event showcased areas of Tennessee from the Mississippi River to the Great Smoky Mountains. Other than music, history and scenic beauty, the Tennessee Sampler gave each participant a chance to advertise their unique community with numerous travel writers and public relations professionals.

The event ended with a recep-

tion and trade show where representatives are able to network and exchange brochures and other information with local sports and media employees while encouraging them to visit Tennessee.



*Brock Hill, Cumberland County Mayor;  
Ramay Winchester, Director, Retire  
Tennessee; and Pepe Perron, Vice-Chair,  
Convention and Visitors Bureau*

**CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU — Pepe Perron, Chair****THE CHAMBER JOINS TRIPORIA**

The Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce recently became a member on Triporia.com. Triporia.com is an online video sharing community that gives travelers the ability to research world wide destinations through video clips filmed by people who live there and by travelers who have visited the destination. The purpose of this site is to give everyone a medium to show the world what they love about where they live or where they have traveled.

**TRIPORIA.COM**

SEE IT TODAY, LIVE IT TOMORROW



It is also a stage that allows businesses to create their own video to promote themselves to millions of people by just a click of the mouse.

The site keeps statistics on the number of views for each video and also offers a link directly to the video for users to share. During the first three days of membership, the Chamber of Commerce videos received over 100 views. If you would like to visit the site, go to [www.triporia.com](http://www.triporia.com).

**CHAMBER LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE**

The Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce recently launched a redesigned website to better serve the community as well as chamber members. The newly designed website helps the Chamber of Commerce maintain their high standards in today's technologically advanced, faced-paced world.

The new chamber website still includes information that chamber members as well as the community expect to find while online, however, it now includes additional information such as a new, more convenient layout and design scheme, an updated membership search engine, on-

line membership applications plus many more additional links and features.

The website also includes "My Hometown Video" footage with live testimonials from Crossville and Cumberland County educational leaders, retirees, industry manager, tourism representatives, small business owners and the County Historian. The videos allow for those interested in relocating to Crossville and Cumberland County to see why our residents enjoy living, working and playing in Crossville and Cumberland County.

You can access the new website by

visiting [www.crossville-chamber.com](http://www.crossville-chamber.com). You can also access tourism information from the website by visiting [www.golf-capitaltenn.com](http://www.golf-capitaltenn.com). For those interested in Economic Development, you can visit [www.crossvilleedb.com](http://www.crossvilleedb.com). These three websites are all part of the new chamber site, however, each web address allows individuals to bypass all other information for a more convenient way to search for a specific category.

The Chamber of Commerce staff has worked closely with MMA Creative for the new design. Improvements and updates are still being made.

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY REPRESENTED ON UCTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

As the 2007-2008 fiscal year ends, the Upper Cumberland Tourism Association with the help from the Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce, has selected two representatives from Cumberland County to serve on their Board for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

Pepe Perron, Vice-Chair, Convention and Visitors Bureau and Rob Ramsey, Stonehaus Winery Manager, will be added to the Upper Cumberland Tourism Association Board. Outgoing board members from Cumberland County include Glenn McDonald and Pam Winningham.

The Upper Cumberland Tourism Association is an organization composed of two board members from each Upper Cumberland County and one Director, Kacee-Pennycuff-Harris, that promote the Upper Cumberland region as a great place for tourist to visit or for relocating. The Upper Cumberland Tourism Association Board of Directors meet once a month to discuss tourism, current projects and future plans in the Upper Cumberland region.

The Crossville-Cumberland County Convention and Visitors Bureau as well

as the Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce are members of the Upper Cumberland Tourism Association and thus the Chamber responds to numerous leads generated each month of those interested in our area.

Cumberland County continues to rank #1 in the Upper Cumberland for tourism dollars and representation on the Upper Cumberland Tourism Association Board will help continue to promote Crossville and Cumberland County as an ideal tourist destination.

**RETIREE-RELOCATION COMMITTEE — Miles Clark, Committee Chair****NEWSWEEK SHOWCASE  
ONLINE  
FEATURES CROSSVILLE**

A recent Newsweek Showcase Online article titled, "Tennessee — Mountains, Music and More", featured Crossville as an ideal retirement destination.

The article highlighted cities of Tennessee that appeal to potential retirees. Crossville was one of a few select cities chosen based on climate, taxes, affordable housing, mountains and lakes. You can view the whole article by visiting [www.NewsweekShowcase.com](http://www.NewsweekShowcase.com).

**Newsweek** Showcase.com

**RETIREMENT LIFESTYLE  
MAGAZINE  
HIGHLIGHTS CROSSVILLE**

A recent article titled "Loveable, Affordable Small Town Living" in the April-May edition of Retirement Lifestyle Magazine listed Crossville-Cumberland County as an affordable, lovable, small town for retirement.

The article mentioned Crossville's mild climate, premier golf courses, Fairfield Glade Resort and the Cumberland County Playhouse.

**AGRI-TOURISM COMMITTEE — Charles Daugherty, Committee Chair****SALUTE TO AGRI-TOURISM—WILDWOOD STABLES**

Wildwood Stables, on the outskirts of Fairfield Glade Resort and the Crab Orchard community, is a beautiful place where families can come and experience the wonders of nature and spend time together.

John Cannon and his fiancée, Michelle Salazar, opened the riding stables in November 2006 after leasing the 300-acre tract of land from the Fairfield Glade Community Club. The stables offer long and short guided trail rides ranging from 40 minutes to one and 1/2 hours. "Our trails are rated as some of the best in the southeast," Cannon said.

Riders will experience the beauty of native foliage and a double waterfall on the trail. For those who don't feel comfortable riding horses, or are unable because of physical limitations, Wildwood offers hayrides that include a bonfire, dinner and s'mores. Pony rides are also available for smaller children, as riders must be at least eight years old.

One of the focal points of the property is a large sycamore tree, which Cannon said local folklore



**WILDWOOD  
STABLES**  
Come Horse Around With Us!



says was planted by settlers more than 200 years ago. The patio and gazebo are also on what was the site of a Victorian home, as well.

Educational opportunities are also a passion. Wildwood offers a Horse 101 program, taught by a volunteer that introduces children and adults to horses. "Children need renaissance experiences in their education, they need exposure to a wide-range of activities that will trigger their interests," Cannon said.

Wildwood is a member of the Tennessee Agritourism Association and Cannon hopes the recent organization of an agritourism committee at the Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce will continue to promote the agritourism opportunities available on the Cumberland Plateau across the state. Wildwood Stables is at 7705 Chestnut Hill Rd. and is open from 8 am, to 4:00 p.m. daily, closing only for Easter and Christmas day. Call 484-3733 for more information or to schedule your family or group outing.

**AGRI-TOURISM COMMITTEE — Charles Daugherty, Committee Chair****SALUTE TO AGRI-TOURISM—ARCY ACRES**

Offering a Christmas tree farm, a new nursery and garden center and Cumberland County's only dealer for Jackson and Perkins roses, Arcy Acres is sure to have something for everyone.

"We're growing faster and bigger than we ever expected," said Art Landrigan, who started the Christmas tree farm with his wife, Cyndi, in 2002. When the couple bought the farm on Blaylock Rd. in 1996, they envisioned a Christmas tree operation with a small nursery operation for the production and growth of small, exotic evergreens for use in Christmas decorating and landscaping. With the closure of area garden centers, that vision has grown.

The 74-acre farm includes 22 acres that are cleared for the nursery and Christmas tree business, along with the couple's home. The remainder is a certified oak forest. About 10 acres are in production of trees at this time, with about 1/2 to 1 acre added each year. The couple will plant anywhere from 400 to 1,200 new trees each year.

Always wishing to satisfy customer demand and leave no family disappointed for the holidays, the Landrigan's work with other tree farms across the state to supply fresh, pre-cut trees to their customers. The two are officers in the Tennessee Christmas Tree Growers Association, so they have contacts they can call on to offer varieties they do not grow at Arcy Acres, and to supply larger trees they do not yet have available.

"We have a lot of people with cathedral ceilings, and we provide trees to Fairfield Glade recreation center and the Cumberland Moun-



tain State Park, all of which require larger trees," Art said.

Quality is a top concern for the couple. When they bring in pre-cut trees from other farms, those are trees that have been hand-selected as premium quality Christmas trees. They make sure the trees are stored in water, and send them home with a fresh cut. If a tree is not kept in water, the cut can sap over, preventing any water absorption and causing the tree to dry out, lose needles and possibly pose a safety hazard for the home.

Choosing a Christmas tree is a wonderful opportunity for families to spend time together and to carry on family traditions and also a prime example of agritourism at work in the local community.

Education is important to the Landrigan's. They want customers to know how to properly care for their plants, shrubs, flowers or trees. Written and verbal planting and care instructions are included with every purchase.

The farm is also a research center for Tennessee State University, the University of Tennessee and the state Christmas Tree Growers Association.

In addition to the nursery and tree farm, Arcy Acres also offers Christmas merchandise, hand-made wreaths and centerpieces using evergreen materials and other merchandise in the retail shop. They offer a safe and easy to use tree stand, as well.

For more information about us, call 931-788-0455, e-mail @ [arcy-acres@citlink.net](mailto:arcy-acres@citlink.net), visit the Web site at [www.arcyacres.com](http://www.arcyacres.com), or visit the farm at 4439 Blaylock Rd.

**AGRI-TOURISM COMMITTEE — Charles Daugherty, Committee Chair****DOWN ON THE FARM WITH WALT HITCH**

Walt Hitch, Director, UT Plateau Research and Education Center, has recently been featured on 3CTV as an on-site interview guest. The segment titled, “Down on the Farm with Walt Hitch”, is one of 3 shows that have been filmed on-site at the UT Research and Education Center in Crossville.

The purpose of the show is to educate the community on what the UT Plateau Research and Education Center does throughout the year. Walt Hitch, Director, states, “Every other month when the students come to film, we can have a different topic. We work with the seasons and there is always something going on.”

In addition to previous interviews titled “Down on the Farm with Walt Hitch” discussing Cattle and “Down

on the Farm with Walt Hitch” discussing tomatoes, the theme for June was “Down on the Farm with Walt Hitch-Roses”. Because of the weather, roses are in full bloom at the research center. The interview included how to fertilize roses, how much water and maintenance they require and various types of roses that the UT Plateau Research and Education Center have.

Walt Hitch stated, “The students and staff at the Gateway Education Center always do a great job and we are happy to educate the community through the local television stations.”

You can see the “Down on the Farm” segments as well as other local interviews on Spirit Broadband channel 15 or Charter Communications channel 12.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT OF UT INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY**

The University of Tennessee’s Institute of Agriculture impacts Cumberland County more than you may think.

According to a recent summary done by Charles Daugherty, Agri-Tourism Committee Chair, the direct impact from the University of Tennessee’s Institute for Agriculture to Cumberland County is more than \$3,000,000.00 annually. Mr. Daugherty stated that Cumberland County has 3 facilities currently funded in part by the University. These locations include the 4-H Camp on POW Camp Road, the UT Plateau Re-

search and Education Center and the UT Extension office at the Community Complex.

Mr. Daugherty’s summary concludes that with over 44 full time employees and 22 part time employees that over \$3,000,000.00 comes from outside of Cumberland County for these facilities on an annual basis.

All 3 UT based facilities benefit Crossville and Cumberland County through their educational resources. The economic impact of agricultural research in Cumberland County continues to thrive.

**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DIVISION***Dorine Hatler, Vice Chair***NEW RIBBON CUTTINGS**

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93 Hwy. 70 East, Suite 101  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 707-9820



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820 Hwy. 70 East, Suite 102  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 484-2020



# Annual Membership Meeting Set

## *Sometimes The Chamber's Business Is More Than Business*



Sam Venable

Chambers of Commerce aren't all business all the time. Take, for example, the Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce. Its annual membership meeting is set for August 1st at Forte's at Tansi. The meeting will feature business, of course, but will also include awards, introductions, recognitions, presentations and speakers.

### Introduction of Special Guest

Presentation of Plaques - Chamber Chair Janice Hamby will present plaques to outgoing board members including: Randy Graham, Mike Metts, Charlotte Medley, Charles Daugherty and Bill Startup.



**Middle Tennessee  
Natural Gas Utility District**

Presentation of Leadership Cumberland - Jane Powers, Chair of the Community Development Division, will present members of the Leadership Cumberland Class of 2008. Members and their sponsors include: Margo Brown, Art Circle Public Library; Aaron Dale Elmore, Farm Bureau Insurance; Patrick Shane Erickson, Cumberland County Bank; Danny Gibbs, Roane State Community College; Melissa Grant, Third Tennessee Realty & Associates; Daniel L. Hassler, II, Progressive Savings Bank; Pam Hofmann, Third Tennessee Realty & Associates; Pat Kerley, Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development; Tommy Lee, Fairfield Glade Community Club; Brian K. McLaughlin, Vol First Telecommunications Services; Kristin Morris, Kids On The Rise; Donna Parker, Crossville Housing Authority; Jason Sitton, Mortgage Investors Group; Tammy Thacker, Third Tennessee Realty & Associates. The Leadership Cumberland 2008 Coordinator is Terri Curran.

Other Events - Chamber Chair Janice Hamby will recognize the Chamber's board for the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year: David Gibson, Jerry Harris, Dorine Hatler, Tonya Hinch, Roy Howard, James Perry, Steve Rains, Don Sadler, Bill Schmich, Ken Stephens, Ben Sweeney, Cindy Turner, Jerry Wood and Officers: Pepe Perron, Janet Kluender, Ted Meadows and Jane Powers.

Also to be recognized - Chamber staff

Entertainment - Sam Venable has progressed from a University of Tennessee graduate, cub reporter chasing ambulances, outdoor editor for the Knoxville News-Sentinel, author, to comedian. It is said that "whether audiences are local folks or 'furriners' from out of town, they'll love the homespun humor of Sam Venable - author, columnist, storyteller, and proud son of Southern Appalachia."



### **SCHEDULE**

- 12:00 noon, lunch
- 12:30 p.m., meeting
- Acknowledgements and introductions, awards and featured speaker.

For Your convenience the lounge will be open after the meeting.

### **TICKETS**

Tickets are \$10 each and include the meal, and are available at the Chamber. Reservations must be made in advance by calling 484-8444.



**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DIVISION — Dorine Hatler, Vice Chair**



**SIMPLY DIVINE**

823 Peavine Road, Suite 201  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 484-7802



**HAMPTON INN**

64 Hospitality Drive  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 707-7170



**FOOD CITY — FAIRFIELD GLADE**

141 Towne Centre Drive • Crossville, TN 38571 • 707-9837



**WAL-MART**

168 Obed Plaza 101 • Crossville, TN 38555 • 484-9745



**HAPPY SAK EXXON — LAKE TANSI**

2255 Dunbar Road • Crossville, TN 38572 • 788-0459

**NEW GROUND BREAKING**



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**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DIVISION — Dorine Hatler, Vice Chair**

**CHAMBER WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS**



**ADVANCED HEALTH SOLUTIONS**  
175 Snead Drive  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 456-1580



**AMEDISYS HOME HEALTH SERVICES**  
236 Miller Ave., Suite 102  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 456-8899



**AMERISPEC OF THE CUMBERLANDS**  
100 Woodmere Mall  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 484-7212



**RUTHIE SINARD LINDELL  
AVON REP. INDEPENDENT SALES**  
55 Hood Drive  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 707-9699



**BETTER BODY BUREAU, INC.**  
93 Hwy. 70 East, Suite 101  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 707-9820



**BODY LOGIC OF TENNESSEE, INC**  
54 Redwing Circle  
Crossville, TN 38572 • 788-1112



**CROSSVILLE RACEWAY USA**  
5434 Hwy. 70 North  
Crossville, TN 38571 • 456-5000



**DOWNTOWN CROSSVILLE, INC.**  
P. O. Box 3784  
Crossville, TN 38557 • 787-1324



**DREAMWORKS CONSTR. & DESIGN**  
5162 Peavine Road  
Crossville, TN 38571 • 931-510-6776



**HAMPTON INN**  
64 Hospitality Drive  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 707-7170



**HOMESTEAD TIMBER FRAMES**  
154 Main Street  
Crab Orchard, TN 37723 • 484-7059



**MINNIE'S USED FURNITURE**  
142 West Avenue  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 707-0401



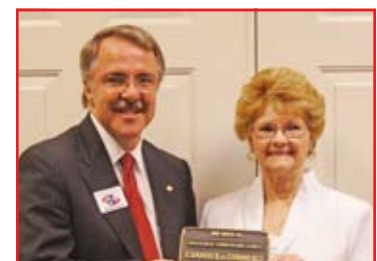
**NEIGHBORS TOGETHER**  
14144 Hwy. 70 West  
Sparta, TN 38583 • 277-5088



**RURAL HEALTH CLINIC OF THE CUMBERLANDS**  
9400 Sparta Hwy.  
Crossville, TN 38572 • 277-5992



**SCARLETT CATERING**  
1896 East 1st. Street  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 931-510-6119



**SIMPLY DIVINE**  
823 Peavine Road, Suite 201  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 484-7802

## CHAMBER WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS — continued



**SIMPLY SKIN BY TIFFANY**  
91 Hwy. 70 E., Ste. 102  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 931-248-4803



**SMITH'S FRESH HARVEST**  
92 East First Street  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 484-8288



**SOUTHERN TRADITIONS**  
2922 N. Main Street, #102  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 787-1911



**SPA VIENNA**  
2922 North Main Street #106  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 456-2922



**STEVE'S HOME TILE, LLC**  
1173 Genesis Road  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 707-1797



**U.S.I.G. CONSTRUCTION, INC.**  
3710 Peavine Road  
Crossville, TN 38571 • 456-1884



**WILDWOOD CATERING**  
5429 Peavine Road  
Crossville, TN 38571 • 707-0736



**WOODMEN OF THE WORLD**  
1289 Genesis Road, Ste# 3  
Crossville, TN 38557 • 484-2272

## NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS - Photos unavailable

**CROSSVILLE AERO LLC**  
Mark Burris  
2409 Sparta Hwy.  
Crossville, TN 38572 • 931-267-4735

**HAPPY SAK EXXON**  
Sharon York  
2255 Dunbar Road  
Crossville, TN 38572 • 788-0459

**PARAMOUNT TITLE SERVICES LLC**  
Lisa L. Cox  
45 Peavine Plaza, Suite 103  
Crossville, TN 38571 • 456-8080

**FAIRFIELD GLADE TRAVEL**  
Linda Yates  
458 Lakeview Drive  
Crossville, TN 38558 • 707-7339

**MAKE IT PERSONAL! EMBROIDERY & GIFT SHOP**  
Judy B. Smith  
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Crossville, TN 38555 • 484-2020

**TONY'S AUTO SALES & SALVAGE**  
Vanessa Myers  
1057 Old Mail Road  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 484-8722

**FOOD LION, LLC**  
Patricia Redheffer  
75 Genesis Square  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 456-0622

**PEAK FITNESS, INC.**  
Michael Paul  
3268 N. Main Street  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 484-9988

**ZURICH HOMES**  
Isaac Zuercher  
29 Taylor Ave., Suite 209  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 787-1800

**PERKS**  
Tracey Scarbrough  
3160 Miller Avenue  
Crossville, TN 38555 • 707-2828

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

### Jane Powers, Vice-Chair

## LEADERSHIP CLASS WITNESSES STATE GOVERNMENT IN ACTION

While at the Capitol Building, the 2008 Leadership Cumberland class acquired a greater understanding of the inner workings of State Government and witnessed State Government in action by attending the afternoon House Chamber session. The final Leadership session was held on June 25. Participants completing the Leadership program will be awarded a plaque at the Annual Membership Meeting scheduled for August 1.



#### Front Row – Left to Right:

Donna Parker, Jane Powers, Tennessee State Governor Phil Bredesen, Representative Eric H. Swafford, Melissa Grant and Pam Hofmann

#### Second Row – Left to Right:

Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce Chair Janice Hamby, Pat Kerley, Danny Gibbs, Sue McNeill and Tammy Thacker

#### Third Row – Left to Right:

Aaron Dale Elmore, Patrick Erickson, Brian K. McLaughlin, Daniel Hassler II, and Margo Brown

#### Back Row:

Jason L. Sitton (Leadership participants not pictured – Kristin Morris and Tommy Lee)

## LEADERSHIP CLASS OF 2008 BUSINESS NETWORKING SESSION

The Leadership Cumberland Class of 2008 and the Fairfield Glade Community Club hosted a business networking session May 14 to benefit the United Fund of Cumberland County. The Leadership Class was able to report that they raised \$7,000.00 for the United Fund to assist over 33 agencies.



Left to Right: Janice Hamby Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce Board Chair; Tommy Lee Leadership Cumberland & Fairfield Glade Director of Operations; and Harvey Hoffman Fairfield Glade Community Center General Manager

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

On April 4, 2008, representatives from Cleveland-Bradley County, Tennessee visited Crossville and Cumberland County for a day as part of the Community Connections Program in conjunction with the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. The Community Connections Program was initiated to educate Tennessee community leaders on the programs regarding government, lifestyle and unique programs of Tennessee communities.

Representing Crossville-Cumberland County were Cumberland County Mayor Brock Hill; Chamber Board Chair Janice Hamby; Chamber President Beth Alexander; CVB Chair, Pepe Perron; County Commissioner Harry Sabine; County Commissioner Carmin Lynch and Chamber Board Member James Perry.

Crossville Mayor J.H. Graham III met with the community leaders as well.

As part of the criteria for Community

Connections, representatives from Crossville traveled to Cleveland-Bradley County during the last week of April for a similar visit.

Crossville-Cumberland County representatives included Crossville City Mayor J.H. Graham, III, Cumberland County Mayor Brock Hill, City of Crossville representative Sally Oglesby and Chamber representatives James Perry, Jane Powers and Jeanny Davenport and Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development representative Karen Brown.

The Chamber of Commerce would like to thank Uplands Retirement Village for use of the van during the Crossville-Cumberland County tour and UCHRA for use of the van during the Cleveland-Bradley County tour.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

### Randy Graham, Vice-Chair



## TENNESSEE COUNTIES HOST FIRST ROUND OF ORANGE CARPET TOURS

### *Site Selection Consultants Visit Cumberland, Morgan, and Roane Counties*

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Two rural Tennessee regions hosted veteran site selectors last week for the first round of the state's inaugural Orange Carpet Tour program. The tours, patterned after the traditional economic development "red carpet tours" employed by many urban chambers of commerce, were announced at the Governor's Conference on Economic and Community Development last September.

Representatives from Plante, Moran, a nationally-known business consulting firm, visited Morgan, Cumberland and Roane Counties on June 10 and 11 and Clay, Pickett and Fentress Counties in East Tennessee June 12 and 13 for the first two of five planned Orange Carpet Tours this summer.

"Orange Carpet Tours present a unique opportunity for each participating region to receive valuable feedback from experts in site selection and corporate real estate," Governor

Phil Bredesen said. "The benefit to communities is that they get to make their best pitch to industry professionals who might not otherwise be familiar with the regions and their

highest interest to relocating companies.

"The regions should be applauded for their willingness to step up and go through this process," said Matt Kisber, commissioner,

Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. "These Orange Carpet Tours offer a tremendous opportunity, but they require hard work and regional cooperation. The consultants' recommendations are an invaluable tool communities can use to make themselves more competitive."

The Tennessee

Department of Economic and Community Development will work with local leaders at the conclusion of the tours to assist them in implementing strategic recommendations based on the feedback.

"The Orange Carpet Tours is a fantastic learning experience and Cumberland County is eager to apply the feedback we received to our strategic plan," said Beth Alexander,



potential as business locations."

The project involves a two-day, intensive site selection visit in which the communities organize a comprehensive tour and presentation for the consultants. Consultants evaluate the communities' strengths and weaknesses and provide community leaders with direct feedback, including detailed information on potential improvement, especially in areas of

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD — Randy Graham, Vice-Chair

President & CEO, Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce. "It helps to know our neighboring counties are going through this process along with us. That regional cooperation is critical to our success."

"I appreciate the Governor Bredesen's commitment to make this program possible," Pickett County Executive Stephen Billbrey said. "The Orange Carpet Tours are stepping stones for rural communities like Pickett County to make themselves more

marketable to industry and we're grateful for this opportunity."

The tours are part of Governor Bredesen's Rural Opportunity Initiative, a three-prong approach to increase economic development efforts in the state's more rural areas. In addition to the tours, it includes an enhanced series of tax incentives for companies investing in rural Tennessee and the Rural Opportunity Fund, a new source of capital available to rural Tennessee businesses.

Three remaining regions will host Orange Carpet Tours in August. The county clusters are Lauderdale, Haywood and Tipton Counties; Lewis, Wayne and Lawrence Counties and Coffee, Franklin and Lincoln Counties. Specific tour dates will be announced in the coming weeks.

For more information on Orange Carpet Tours, the Rural Opportunity Initiative or the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, please visit [www.tnecd.gov](http://www.tnecd.gov).

## PLATEAU PARTNERSHIP BUSINESS PARK

Cumberland County, Morgan and Roane Counties have partnered in a collective relationship to purchase, develop and market the Plateau Partnership Business Park properties. The Partnership team has performed (and continues to perform) extensive technical due diligence on these sites in order to attract a single project or several projects in order to provide quality jobs for the region. Manufacturing, distribution and office operations are welcome on this site. In addition the public would expect to derive from the project via primary and ancillary job creation and investment.

Cumberland, Morgan and Roane Counties have the opportunity to pursue a program of vigorous economic growth for the rural Cumberland Plateau/Mountain region. The three counties and the surrounding region possess a number of assets which can provide the foundation of an economic development initiative and economic vitality to the region. The key to success is to ensure that all these resources are utilized in a timely and well-coordinated fashion to realize the maximum benefits to the community.



Somerset Hardwood Flooring recently purchased the former MasterBrand Cabinets plant in Crossville. The facility has been renamed Crossville Hardwoods and is currently operating as a hardwood lumber concentration yard. At this time, 19 people are employed at the Crossville location, but according to George Crawford, vice president of Somerset Hardwood, plans are in the works to add secondary hardwood manufacturing in the next 12 to 18 months.

In April, 2008, Gary Human, Business Specialist with the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development and Beth Alexander, Chamber President & CEO, delivered an incentive packet to Somerset prior to their purchasing the building. The Incentive packet included 18 reasons Somerset Hardwood Flooring, Inc. should locate in Tennessee.

## FICOSA INTERNATIONAL PURCHASES DELBAR PRODUCTS



Standing from left to right: James Perry, Existing Industry Committee Chair; Randy Graham, Economic Development Board, Vice-Chair; Brock Hill, Cumberland County Mayor; Bruce A. Boyce, EVP Operations — Delbar Products, Inc.; and Beth Alexander, Chamber of Commerce President & CEO. Seated: J.H. Graham III, Mayor, City of Crossville; Javier Tarrago, General Manager — FICOSA North America; and Janice Hamby, Chamber Chair.



FICOSA International has a legacy of more than 50 years of innovation. Its origins go back to the year 1949, when "Pujol y Tarrago" was founded in Barcelona. This Company was the starting-point of the conglomerate that exists today, which is formed by the Engineering centers, productions plants, Ficosas's own companies, associated companies and subsidiaries distributed all over the world. This evolution has been possible thanks to the support and joint efforts of all the company's customers and collaborators.

At present, FICOSA International shows levels of technology, quality and efficiency that confirm its status as one of the international leaders in the Sector.

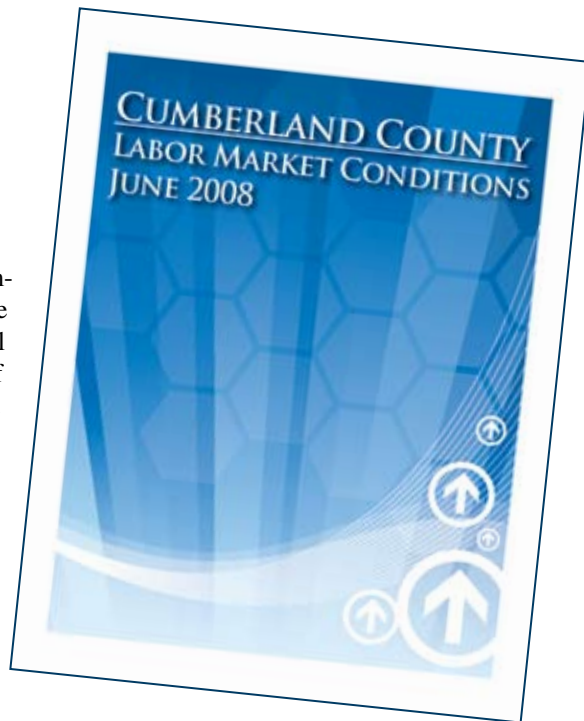
"We are honored to have this international presence with the three former Delbar Product facilities in Crossville Cumberland County, Tennessee," said Randy Graham, Vice-Chair of the Economic Development Division.

**EXISTING INDUSTRY — James Perry, Committee-Chair**

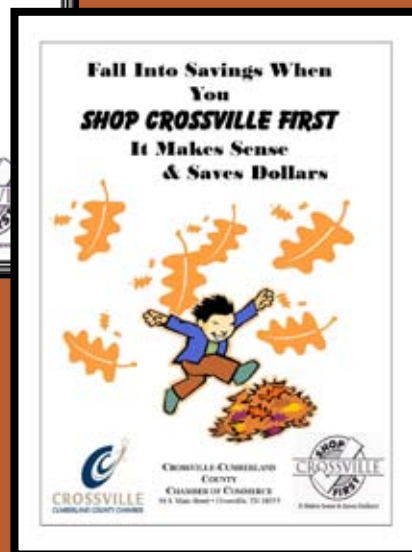
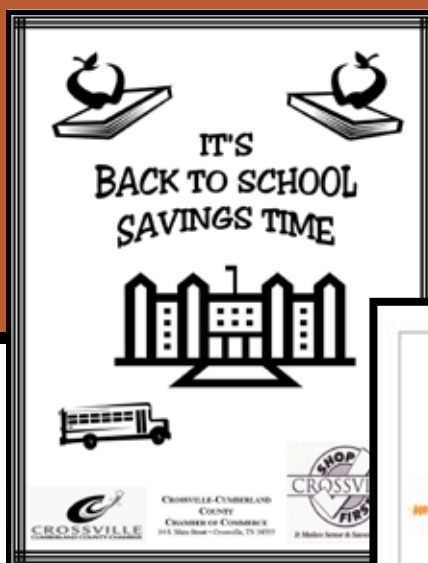
# CUMBERLAND COUNTY LABOR MARKET CONDITIONS REPORT

The Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce recently completed a Labor Market Conditions Report. The purpose of the report is to provide a labor market profile of Cumberland County. The report is primarily statistical and developed by analyzing information obtained in questionnaires from ten of the county's manufacturing related firms. Additional information for the report was secured from the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, the U. S. Department of Labor, and the U. S. Census Bureau.

The Report examines the trends in the labor market in Cumberland County and offers a review of labor market data. The annual report provides information that can assist the Chamber's pro business thrust. It is an effort to provide decision makers with a clearer understanding of the county's labor market challenges and opportunities.



## RETAIL TRADE DIVISION Charlotte Medley, Vice Chair



## BUSINESS BAROMETER for Crossville and Cumberland County

POPULATION CENSUS	1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Cumberland County	34,736	46,802	48,058	48,604	49,391	50,084	51,346	52,344
City of Crossville	10,433 special census June 2006							

BUILDING PERMITS	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
City of Crossville - New Homes	108	60	89	152	105	179	147	35 (June)
Lake Tansi - New Homes	86	62	62	65	77	68	85	29 (June)
Fairfield Glade - New Homes	110	109	118	105	193	250	129	47 (June)

OTHER INDICATORS	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Electric Meters	26,907	27,506	28,240	28,905	29,577	30,540	31,341	31,495 (June)
Employment	19,480	20,840	21,140	20,620	20,470	21,320	21,730	21,050 (May)
Unemployment	1,340	1,310	1,430	1,264	1,380	1,230	1,280	1,670 (May)
Unemployment Rate	6.4%	5.9%	6.3%	4.9%	6.3%	5.4%	5.6%	7.3% (May)

LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX	AUGUST 2007	SEPTEMBER 2007	OCTOBER 2007	NOVEMBER 2007	DECEMBER 2007
County/City Name	Net Collections	Net Collections	Net Collections	Net Collections	Net Collections
Cumberland County	\$ 226,607.00	\$ 239,662.05	\$ 241,679.73	\$ 242,680.20	\$ 189,465.00
Crossville	\$ 1,151,673.53	\$ 1,202,470.52	\$ 1,242,135.44	\$ 1,130,340.69	\$ 1,146,993.50
Pleasant Hill	\$ 4,331.13	\$ 4,239.73	\$ 5,266.89	\$ 4,494.67	\$ 4,993.70
Crab Orchard	\$ 17,788.12	\$ 28,918.62	\$ 22,063.03	\$ 17,182.45	\$ 19,114.30

LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX	JANUARY 2008	FEBRUARY 2008	MARCH 2008	APRIL 2008	MAY 2008
County/City Name	Net Collections	Net Collections	Net Collections	Net Collections	Net Collections
Cumberland County	\$ 205,971.62	\$ 157,614.23	\$ 158,308.61	\$ 200,799.06	\$ 238,879.61
Crossville	\$ 1,384,109.42	\$ 992,316.16	\$ 974,479.72	\$ 1,117,653.31	\$ 1,126,870.14
Pleasant Hill	\$ 3,513.13	\$ 3,625.09	\$ 3,315.68	\$ 3,260.07	\$ 2,617.13
Crab Orchard	\$ 13,453.53	\$ 8,571.01	\$ 8,391.58	\$ 9,965.38	\$ 16,964.13

**Board of Directors:**  
Charles Daugherty  
Randy Graham  
Janice Hamby  
Jerry Harris  
Dorine Hatler

Tonya Hinch  
Roy Howard  
Charlotte Medley  
Mike Metts  
Pepe Perron  
James Perry  
Jane Powers

Steve Rains  
William C. Schmich, Jr.  
Bill Startup  
Ben Sweeney  
**Ex Officio:**  
David Gibson  
Ted Meadows

**Chamber Staff:**  
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Jeanny Davenport  
Gail Langen  
Terri Curran  
Leadership Coordinator  
Linda Daugherty  
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CUMBERLAND COUNTY CHAMBER

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