



# Morristimes

December E-Newsletter

Over a Century of Service!

*You're Invited*

**Christmas  
Open  
House**

*Friday, December 15, 2017  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Upstairs at the Chamber*



**TREE LIGHTING  
CEREMONY**  
*at City Center*

**Tuesday, December 5th**  
at 6PM

*Music, Storytelling, Refreshments*

## INTERESTED?

Would your business like to host a Membership Breakfast? Sponsor a Business After Hours? Would you like to serve on a committee? Plan a Chamber event? Opportunities abound with the Morristown Area Chamber of Commerce. Be on the lookout for our Business Plan and Marketing Opportunities Booklet coming in January!

# From the President's Desk

--Marshall Ramsey



The following article was prepared by the Tennessee State Chamber. I thought you would find it interesting.

## Tennessee to Place 'Warranty' on its Community and Technical College Training

If a Tennessee employer doesn't feel a recent community or technical college graduate's skills are up to snuff, the state will retrain them for free. That's the promise Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor Flora Tydings said the state is making after the fall graduating class of next year. Tydings unveiled the "warranty" for its technical programs Tuesday November 7 during Governor Bill Haslam's annual budget hearings.

"If, within a year, any graduate that is employed comes forth with an employer and says they don't have the skill set for which we have trained them, we will take them back and retrain them for free," Tydings said to Haslam during the hearing. Haslam responded: "I love the warranty idea, that's awesome. That's accountability at its finest." With the warranty program, Tydings said employers don't often find graduate's skills lacking after attending the state's technical programs.

"That's why I am standing behind our students," she said. "And if it does come up, we realize we have an issue with a program and we need to change what we are doing." The announcement by Tydings was one of many made during the budget hearing focused on higher education in the state. The annual exercise brings various state departments together to discuss wishlists and cuts.

During the hearing, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission also announced a tuition rate hike for the 2018-19 year between 0 and 3 percent. That's an amount officials said was driven by a desire to keep college prices more affordable

## Shop Local This Christmas



## Keep Your Sales Tax Dollars at Home



Visit us online: [www.morristownchamber.com](http://www.morristownchamber.com)

# *Membership Breakfast In December*

*Sponsored by*



**HomeTrust Bank**  
Since 1926

&



**Wednesday, December 6  
7:30 a.m.**

***Home Trust Bank***  
***120 Evans Avenue***

Please reply to  
[macc@morristownchamber.com](mailto:macc@morristownchamber.com)  
or call 423-586-6382



# Business After Hours

Sponsored By:

## Rebecca Jane's

DATE: Thursday, December 14th

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

PLACE: 231 East Morris Blvd.

For this event, we will be doing 15% off store merchandise and a free gift with \$40.00 purchase!

Please RSVP to:

[macc@morristownchamber.com](mailto:macc@morristownchamber.com)

Or call 423-586-6382



The Chamber is so thankful for our supportive membership base. We recognize that our organization and our community benefit from the investment made by 600+ businesses who see the value of a membership in the Morristown Area Chamber of Commerce. When you are seeking products or services, we encourage you to shop with those businesses who are members of the Chamber. During 2017 we have presented our members in specific business categories in random order, eventually featuring categories that will include all of our members. Please refer to this list as you shop. You may find our full membership listing at our website, [www.morristownchamber.com](http://www.morristownchamber.com)



### **Awards/Plaques/Trophies**

Custom Printing

★ East Tennessee Diamond

### **Boat Sales & Service/Marine Equipment**

★ Morristown Marine

Tom's Marine

White Pine Marine Sales & Service

### **Coffee Services**

★ A-Z Offices Resources (AZOR)

English Mountain Coffee Service

### **Document Shredding**

Goodwill Industries

Shred-A-Way

### **Event Venues**

All Saints Episcopal School

First Baptist Church

First Presbyterian Church

Morristown Hamblen Library

Nolichucky Vineyards

Rich Manor

★ Rose Center Council for the Arts

The Meeting Place Main Street Country Store

★ Walters State Community College



Indicates Gold Star Member

# Welcome New Members!

## **Distinct Finishes**

2851 W. Andrew Johnson Hwy.  
Morristown, TN 37814  
Phone: 423-353-1344  
Fax: 423-353-1344

[www.thedistinctfinishes.com](http://www.thedistinctfinishes.com)

Mr. Michael Hodges, Owner  
Mrs. Tina Hodges, Office Manager  
*Auto Collision - Repair and Refinish*  
*Auto Restoration and Customization*

## **Five Rivers Mountain Bike Club**

5063 W. Andrew Johnson Hwy.  
Morristown, TN 37814  
Phone: 918-530-7752  
Email: [fiveiversmbc@gmail.com](mailto:fiveiversmbc@gmail.com)  
Mr. Kyle Ragan, President  
*Non-profit bicycle organization*

## **Orbit Industries, Inc.**

150 Orbit Electric Drive  
Morristown, TN 37813  
Phone: 423-616-0070  
Fax: 423-616-6107  
[www.orbitelectric.com](http://www.orbitelectric.com)  
Mr. Marcus Bannerman  
Mr. Scott Voight, TN Dist. Ctr.  
Mgr.  
*Manufacturing & Industrial Related*

## **The Pest Authority**

Morristown, TN 37813  
Phone: 423-289-2046  
[www.facebook.com/The-Pest-Authority](http://www.facebook.com/The-Pest-Authority)  
Mr. Jason Dabbs, Owner  
*Pest Control*  
*Mosquito & Termite Control*  
*Inspection Reports for Real Estate*  
*Bed Bug Treatments*

## **Western & Southern Life**

717 West Main Street, Ste. 2  
Morristown, TN 37814  
Phone: 423-586-6011  
Fax: 423-586-6050  
[www.westernsouthernlife.com](http://www.westernsouthernlife.com)  
Ms. Susan Ringley, Sales Manager  
Mr. Tim Howerton, ARA  
*Insurance Sales & Service*  
*Financial Planning*  
*Investments and Brokerage*

## **WoodmenLife**

1241 Volunteer Pkwy., Suite 230  
Bristol, TN 37620  
Phone: 423-591-2929  
Fax: 423-597-2962  
[www.woodmen.org](http://www.woodmen.org)  
Mr. James G. Gilbert  
Recruiting Sales Manager  
*Financial Services*  
*Life-Health-Retirement*

## **YOUR NAME HERE**

If you know of someone who should be a member of the Morristown Area Chamber of Commerce please contact Pat Seaver, Director of Sales and Marketing at member-ship@morristownchamber.com or call 423-586-6382.



**Congratulations!**

**December**

**Ambassador of the Month**



**Debbie A'Hearn**

Smoky Mountain Home Health & Hospice

**Congratulations!**

**3rd Quarter**

**Ambassador of the Quarter!**



**Joshua Smith**



**Featured Gold Star Members**



*The Chamber boasts over 55 member businesses designated as Gold Star Members. Each month we are proud to feature, on a rotating basis, three of these special investors.*



[www.ornlfcu.com](http://www.ornlfcu.com)



[www.acmeprintinginc.com](http://www.acmeprintinginc.com)



[www.concretematerialsinc.com](http://www.concretematerialsinc.com)

*Welcome our newest Gold Star member*

[www.iconex.com](http://www.iconex.com)



*The Gold Star designation is for members who support the mission and program of work of the Chamber through increased financial investment. Gold Star members receive special recognitions and benefits throughout the year in return for this increased investment.*

*If your company would like more information on becoming a Gold Star member, please contact Pat Seaver, 423.586.6382 or [membership@morristownchamber.com](mailto:membership@morristownchamber.com)*

# Mark Your Calendars!

- Wednesday, December 6 7:30 a.m.  
**Membership Breakfast—HomeTrust Bank**  
120 Evans Ave. Main Branch
- Friday, December 8 8:30 a.m.  
**New Member Orientation**  
Chamber Board Room
- Wednesday, December 13 11:00 a.m.  
**Ribbon Cutting—Pho Corner**  
216 N. Fairmont St. (Crescent Center Shopping Center)
- Thursday, December 14 5:00 p.m.  
**Business After Hours—Rebecca Jane’s**  
231 E. Morris Blvd—Sherwood Commons
- Friday, December 15 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.  
**Chamber Christmas Open House**  
825 W. First North St. (upstairs)
- Monday & Tuesday, December 25-26  
**Chamber Office Closed for the Christmas Holiday**
- Monday, January 1  
**Chamber Office Closed for New Years Day**

For updated information on all Chamber activities, visit our website  
[www.morristownchamber.com](http://www.morristownchamber.com)

