



# Morristimes

May 2022 E-Newsletter

Over a Century of Service!

## Small Business of the Year!

**1907 Brewing Company** took the top honor at the Chamber's 20th Annual Small Business Awards of Excellence luncheon on April 26. Approximately 140 people were on hand at All Saints Episcopal School to celebrate the 28 small businesses who were nominated and completed the application process this year.



The Horizon Award, presented to a business less than 5 years old, went to Blue Ridge Title Company. The Finance/Insurance/Real Estate Award was presented to Crye\*Leike Lakeway Real Estate; the Service Based Small Business Award went to ServPro of Hamblen County; the Hospitality/Leisure Based Business Award winner was Snowbird Mountain Coffee; Non-Profit Business of the Year was Clinch Powell RC & D; and Porter's Tire Store was Retail Business of the Year.

Tim Coley with First Horizon, Presenting Sponsor for the event, acknowledged the value of small businesses and congratulated all those nominated for what they contribute to the community in the way of jobs created and economic vitality. Dr. Tony Miksa, President of Walters State Community College (recently named the #1 community college in Tennessee) and Chairman of the Chamber's Board of Directors served as emcee.

Attendees at the luncheon were able to view video presentations from each of the nominated businesses. The videos were produced by Daniel Munson with the Citizen Tribune. The event was sponsored by HomeTrust Bank, Murrell Burglar Alarms, Walters State Community College and Wimberly Lawson Wright Daves & Jones. Quality Plumbing Heating & Cooling was the Theme Sponsor. The awards were sponsored by Citizens National Bank, Express Employment Professionals, First Bank & Trust, First Peoples Bank, Morristown Utilities, Purkey Carter Compton Swann & Carter and The Tennessee Credit Union.

More pictures of the winners are on page 6.



# *From the President's Desk*

--Marshall Ramsey

## **Some Thoughts on the Labor Shortage**

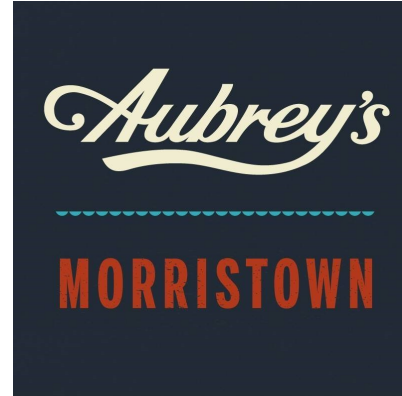
What is the real labor story in our community and the world today? For the past 30 years, I've been told at every turn that when the boomers retire, I can have any job I want. I'll explain here my thoughts on why this happened a little sooner than everyone expected and how the world of business and industry may shift to accommodate the new world we are living in. 90% of people leaving the labor force are over 55 years old with many months in our country seeing in excess of 3,000,000 no longer willing to work. I think there are multiple compounding reasons for this and COVID definitely accelerated many early retiree's timeline. Pre COVID, we were seeing record stock market growth along with the still soaring home prices allowing many retirees to cash out a little earlier than they previously thought. Think about where we were 6 months ago versus housing today and you can see interest rates rising and younger people who don't view a "starter" home as a \$250,000 purchase which could leave our housing market upside down fast, but that is another article on its own. During the pandemic, we saw older people nervous about health issues potentially created by returning to work. You are 5 years away from a comfortable retirement, why risk it? An important number that is often not shared but is with the Bureau of Labor and Statistics is the Unretirement Number. This usually hovers around 3% but during the pandemic, dropped to 2% This doesn't seem like many but when we have 90% of people leaving the workforce over 55 years old, you can see how quickly that 1% adds to the total available employee base.

What are some of the other factors that could be factoring in to a labor shortage? In the Southeast in general, it has always been an attractive place to do business due to the fact that overall labor factors were very positive especially in productivity and cost. I think it is a shock to the business infrastructure that the labor pool now has the power and they have been somewhat slow to adapt. It is easy to see the signs around town and the wages have obviously increased, but the old saying is true, money isn't everything. Most people under 55 do require money, but the cost of living is on the lower end of the country here so things like work flexibility, time off, benefits and soft benefits are as of much value of money. Money is easy as a business knows what the bottom line is and how much they can give. Flexibility requires a much deeper examination of how a business is run, production is timed and staffing schedules are created. It is complicated but it is required if you want the best and brightest employees. I'm not sure people here have heard but in most of Europe, 30 days off per year is a standard minimum and many have been working a 4 day work week for the last 100 years. These companies have found that a happy and rested employee is a productive employee.

I have no grand illusion that we will see this type of change in our country, but it is time we start listening and learning to those lessons. As we move forward as a community, we will see business combat this quite simply by eliminating labor and increasing capital in automation. That is a hard point to argue as I've yet to see a robot show up late or fail a drug test. The beauty of that system is that replacing 5 employees with a robot will see the need for one very skilled technician to program and repair those pieces of automation. Skills along with training should improve for the best and brightest employees willing to apply themselves to their trade. The rest of us will still rely on blaming foreign countries instead of becoming lifetime learners and improving our skills and abilities to adapt to the changing world of business, industry and labor.



# Mark your calendar!



## Wednesday, May 18

### 5:00—7:00 p.m.

## Intro to Natural Health

Presented by  
**Charity  
Suttles**



**This introductory class explains our natural and safe solutions for many health challenges so we can help you feel better naturally without the use of drugs or surgery. Come learn what the root causes of illness can be and how to address them naturally.**

Charity has been passionate about natural health and entrepreneurship for more than 15 years. After her eldest child was born, Charity started her first business, a medical billing company, to spend more time with her son. As time passed, she found herself choosing natural options for her children with great success. Overcoming health challenges naturally led her to start formal training to become a holistic health practitioner. In 2021, Charity combined her passion for holistic health and entrepreneurship by launching Holistic Wellness Center to fulfill her dream of having a place for the community to experience all that natural health has to offer. Her team now offers an array of natural healing modalities to help others take their health to a whole new level!

Charity is the mother of 10 children (yes, she's birthed every one!) and enjoys nature, the piano, and reading.



**Monday  
May 16  
12:00—1:00 p.m.**

**Lunch—\$15  
Catered by**



**Reservations  
REQUIRED!!  
RSVP to**

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

# Membership Breakfast

*Sponsored By*



**DATE: Wednesday, May 11, 2022**

**TIME: 7:30 a.m.**

**LOCATION: 2106 East Andrew Johnson**



Please RSVP to:

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

or call 423-586-6382



**We're Looking for  
a Few Good Golfers  
(or for golfers looking  
for a good time!)**



**Morristown Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Tournament**

Presented by



- Monday, June 6, 2022; The Country Club, Inc.
- \$100 per player/\$400 per team; discounts for Hole Sponsors and Gold Star Members
- Lunch included—11:00 a.m. Shotgun Start—12:00 noon
- Prizes—Beverages—Snacks

Flights Sponsored by

**Crye\*Leike Lakeway Realty      Quality Plumbing Heating & Cooling  
TVA      College Park Pharmacy/Howard's Pharmacy**

**Lunch Provided by *Freddy's*  
STEAKBURGERS®**

**\$150 Hole Sponsorships Still Available**

To sponsor a hole or register your team, please contact Debra Williams at  
423 586-6382 or e-mail [manager@morristownchamber.com](mailto:manager@morristownchamber.com)

Team Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # & E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Individuals are welcome; We will put you together with a team!

# More SBA of Excellence Winners

Horizon Award

Blue Ridge Title Company

Presented by Purkey Carter Compton Swann & Carter



Finance/Insurance/Real Estate Award

Crye\*Leike Lakeway Real Estate

Presented by Express Employment Professionals



Service Award

ServPro of Hamblen Co.

Presented by First Bank & Trust



Hospitality/Leisure Award

Snowbird Mountain Coffee Co.

Presented by First Peoples Bank



Non-Profit Award

Clinch Mountain RC & D

Presented by Morristown Utilities



Retail Award

Porter's Tire Store

Presented by The Tennessee Credit Union



# *Congratulations to all of our Other Small Business Awards of Excellence Nominees*

Buff City Soaps

Cate Insurance

Curvy Corner

East Tennessee Nissan

Family Fun Zone

Girls, Inc. of Hamblen County

HC\*Excell

HOLA Lakeway

Isaiah 1:17 House

Kelley Marie Chic Boutique

Lakeway CASA

Lakeway Area Habitat for Humanity

Hope Thrift Store

Mobility Plus Morristown

Morristown Hamblen Lions Club

Morristown Iron & Metals

Murrell Burglar Alarms

ReVIDA Recovery Center

Rusty Wallace Toyota

Stepping Out, Inc.

The General Store

Treasures on Main St.

## Your Input is Needed!

The Lakeway Area Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization is working with Lakeway Transit in trying to get more ridership. They have asked for the Chamber's assistance in getting a couple of surveys out to the business community.

The first survey is Public Transportation for Businesses. This is mainly for commercial and industrial businesses. They are looking at the possibility of using Job Access- Reverse Commute (JARC) funding to provide transportation services to the industrial parks and/or commercial businesses. The link to the survey is [Public Transportation Survey for Businesses \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com/publictransportation/survey)

The second survey is for anyone, which is Lakeway Transit Public Transportation Public Survey. This survey is to give them a better feel regarding expanding existing services, routes, times, etc. The survey can be found at [Lakeway Transit Public Transportation -- Public Survey \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com/publictransportation/survey)

Please complete these survey's yourself and feel free to forward them to other industries and/or businesses that you have contact with. This will also be placed on the City's webpage and social media.

  
*Women*  
IN BUSINESS

*Meeting Reminder  
Friday, May 6; 8:00 a.m.  
TCAT Morristown*



**Discussion Leader:** Kim Dudash, Dudash Executive Coaching

**Topic:** Crucial Conversations

**About:** Kim has dedicated her career to collaborating with individuals to cultivate the inherent qualities of successful, inspiring leaders and to guide them on the path to becoming inspired, passionate, and more effective in their careers and in day-to-day life. Kim's true passion is working with her clients to challenge and support them as they reach to achieve their highest levels of performance, while also encouraging them to bring out the best in themselves and those they influence every day. She accomplishes this by helping leaders discover how they show up in the world and are experienced by others and helping them close the gap between perception and reality about their leadership style. She works with her clients to develop a plan to increase their leadership effectiveness; helping them to begin living their life on purpose.

# Welcome New Members!

## **1409 Events**

423 Villa Way

Morristown, TN 37814

Phone: 423-258-5824

[1490events@gmail.com](mailto:1490events@gmail.com)

Amanda Wilson, Owner

*Event Planning & Management*

*Event Shopping & Retail*

## **Knight Insurance Solutions**

512 W. Fifth North Street

Morristown, TN 37814

Phone: 423-754-0276

Teresa Knight, Insurance Agent

*Medicare Advantage*

*Medicare Supplements*

*RX Plans*

*Insurance—Dental & Vision*

*Insurance Sales & Service*

## **K. O. Barber Academy**

1952 W. Morris Blvd.

Morristown, TN 37814

Phone: 423-888-8552

<http://kobarberacademy.com/>

Robert Johnson, Owner

Miranda Ramsey, Administration

*Barber Academy/School*

*Barber Services*

*Haircutting*

## **Lavender & Co. Beauty Studios**

424 N. High Street

Morristown, TN 37814

Phone: 865-556-3358

[www.vagaro.com/lavenderandcobeauty](http://www.vagaro.com/lavenderandcobeauty)

Tori Thacker, Owner/Cosmetologist

*Spa*

*Full Service Salon*

*Skin Care Services*

*Hair Loss, replacement systems &*

*Extensions*

## **Shelter Insurance—Shane Hodge**

3763 W. Andrew Johnson Hwy. Ste. A

Morristown, TN 37814

Phone: 423-581-6799

[www.shelterinsurance.com/SHodge](http://www.shelterinsurance.com/SHodge)

Shane Hodge, Agent/Owner

*Insurance Sales & Service*

## **Southern Freight Services, Inc.**

4495 Enka Hwy.

Morristown, TN 37813

Phone: 423-581-2967

Fax: 423-586-1018

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

Mike LeDoux, President/COO

*Truckload Freight Carrier*

## **Western & Southern Life**

717 West Main Street, Ste. 200

Morristown, TN 37814

Phone: 423-586-6011

Fax: 423-586-6050

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

Joel Temberlin, Agency Manager

Susan Ringley, Staff Manager

Amanda Dailey, Registered Rep.

Logan Plaster, Registered Rep.

*Insurance Sales & Service*

*Financial Planning*

*Investments and Brokerage*

## **Workout Anytime Morristown LLC**

2340 Sandstone Drive

Morristown, TN 37814

Phone: 423-353-1003

[www.workoutanytime.com/morristown](http://www.workoutanytime.com/morristown)

EJ Williams, Owner

Jacob Lindsay, General Manager

Jessica Keen, Marketing Director

*Fitness/Nutrition/Wellness*

*24/7 Access*

*Tanning & Retail Tanning Products*

*Personal Training*

## **YOUR NAME COULD BE LISTED**

**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:

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

or call 423-586-6382.



*When you are Looking for a product or service*

*Don't forget to use our on line*

*Membership Directory at*

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

*To support the businesses who support our community through their Chamber investment.*



Congratulations!  
May  
Ambassadors of the Month



Tonya Hall  
College Park Pharmacy

Congratulations!  
1st Qtr.  
Ambassador of the Quarter!



Gregg Harrell  
Harrell Business Consulting



## Featured Gold Star Members



*The Chamber boasts over 85 member businesses designated as Gold Star Members. Each month we are proud to feature, on a rotating basis, six of these special investors.*



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



[www.dia-arch.com](http://www.dia-arch.com)



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



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



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



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



[www.haleconstructioninc.com](http://www.haleconstructioninc.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!

Friday, May 6

**Women in Business — Critical Conversations**

TCAT Multi-Purpose Room  
821 W. Louise Ave.

Monday, May 9

**Ribbon Cutting — Spacewalk of Morristown**

Chamber Board Room  
825 W. First North St.

9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, May 10

**Grand Opening & 70th Anniversary Celebration — Porter's Tire Store**

1468 N. Davy Crockett Parkway

12 Noon

Wednesday, May 11

**Membership Breakfast — College Park Pharmacy**

2106 East Andrew Johnson Hwy.

7:30 a.m.

Monday, May 16

**Lunch & Learn — Holistic Wellness Center**

Chamber Board Room, 825 W. First North St.

12 Noon

Friday, May 27

**New Member Orientation**

Chamber Board Room, 825 W. First North St.

8:30 a.m.

We encourage you to reach out to us here at the Chamber if you need assistance 423-586-6382.

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



Times Available for Counseling Sessions  
at the Morristown Area Chamber of Commerce  
For appointment times call (423) 392-8825

**Aundrea Salyer, MBA**  
KOSBE Executive Director