

MORRISTIMES

Over a Century of Service

November Edition

A Message from the President -- Marshall Ramsey

Some Important Thoughts on the Christmas Parade

With December quickly approaching, I want to talk about one of the community's favorite upcoming events, The Christmas Parade sponsored again this year by our friends at Morristown Pediatric Dentistry!

I want to take this opportunity to highlight a few VERY IMPORTANT rules that will be followed this year. **Each entrant may only have one vehicle or one vehicle pulling a float.** This rule is necessary due to the growth of the parade and the space available in the lineup area. We know you want to show off your company's 9 new vehicles, but look at the parade through the eyes of a child...do they care?

The parade can be a marketing opportunity for a creative company, but is in no way meant to be a stream of UN-DECORATED company vehicles. You will notice that last ALL CAPS word in the last sentence, UNDECO-RATED. This year, if you are undecorated, you will be asked by parade volunteers and law enforcement to leave the lineup area and you will not be able to participate in the parade. Again, this is the season for joy, happiness, music, decorations and celebrations. We know this may hurt some feelings, but the number of undecorated vehicles just driving down the street in no way entertains the target audience, our youth. Most of our past participants go above and beyond decorating, but you will notice on the application, this is a requirement and will be enforced.

The parade is a 6 month planning undertaking and we want this to be a great community event. Another unfortunate note, after viewing the footage from last year and hearing from drivers and floats, spectators were pushing

almost to the middle of main street downtown so, this year, you will see a number of metal barriers keeping individuals safe and out of the parade route. We are asking all spectators to respect the barriers, parade marshals and law enforcement when asked to "step back" out of the street.

Based on insurance requirements, there is no throwing of candy, but participants are totally free to hand out as much as they like walking along the route, close to the sidewalks.

Every year we begin the parade process with more rules as sadly, individuals continue to think of ways around them. It makes those of us at the Chamber who are responsible for putting on a safe and entertaining parade sometimes wonder if it's time to change to a static parade where entrants create the float, sit still, then the public walks the route to see the decorations.

We all want our parade to be a great community event; a safe community event and we have high expectations of those participating.



The Chamber Celebrates a Successful Concert Series



The 2024 First Friday Concert Series concluded on Friday, November 1st.

We celebrated eight FREE community concerts this season, and this certainly would not have been possible without our series sponsors. Not only were they sponsors, but they are also our partners and our friends. We have enjoyed getting to know each of them and their teams on a personal

level spending eight Friday evenings together with our community and our families. It has truly been a blessing and a time to fellowship. We are already looking forward to our 2025 season!

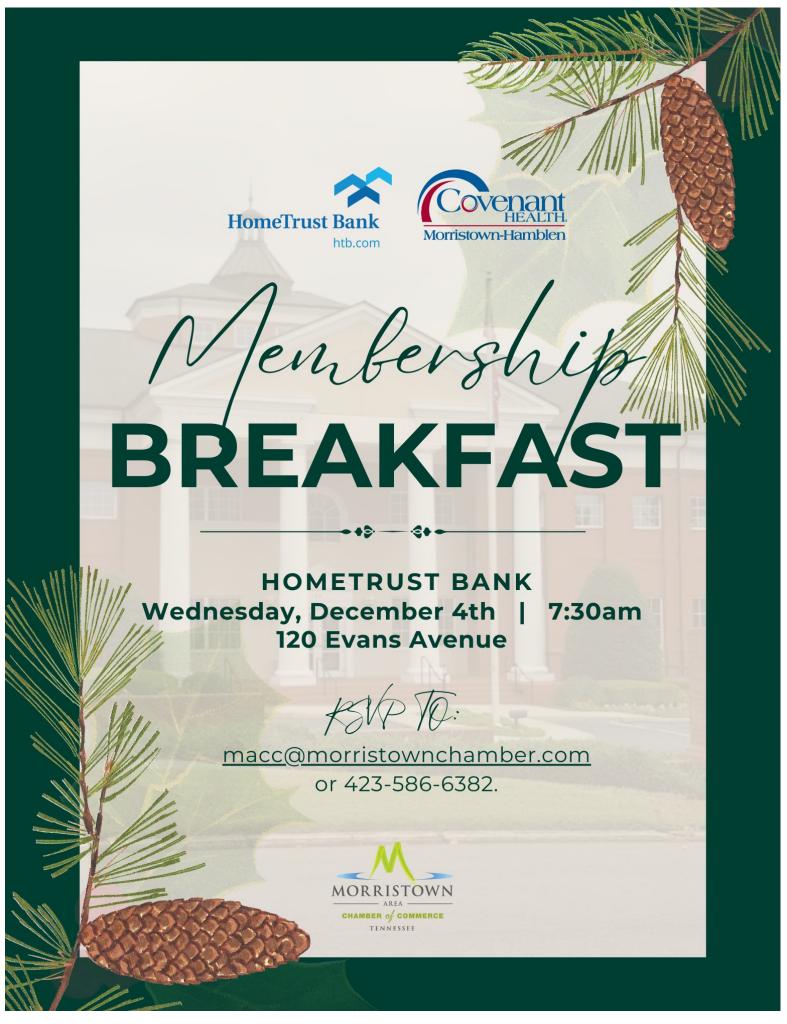
If you see any of these sponsors, please thank them for their efforts in enhancing the quality of life here in Morristown.

Sincerely,

Natasha Morrison, Director of Downtown Development







In Downtown Morristown



Chamber Recognizes Local Industry



2024 Board Chairman Jim Price expresses the Chamber's appreciation to area industry at the Industrial Appreciation Breakfast

This year's Annual Industrial Appreciation Breakfast was hosted on October 24 in the R. Jack Fishman Library at Walters State Community College. Nearly 150 industry representatives, community, Chamber and elected leaders, as well as event sponsors attended the event to celebrate the many contributions of the local manufacturing and industrial-related companies. While we may only gather once a year to thank them, those in attendance as well as many other community leaders understand the vital role our industrial base plays in Morristown and Hamblen County, each and every day. Those who expressed their appreciation included Chamber Board Chair Jim Price, Morristown Mayor Gary Chesney and Hamblen County Mayor Chris Cutshaw. James Craine, Vice Chair of the Industrial Development Board, also conveyed his gratitude for the industrial presence in our community and highlighted many of the contributions this sector makes to the vitality of our area's economy. He announced that reported capital investment

in land, buildings and equipment by existing industry operations totaled over \$185 million in the last year, creating some 325 new jobs. He also recognized those companies celebrating a significant anniversary. Companies recognized during the program were:

Besturnings, Inc. Colortech, Inc. **Cummins**

Hide-A-Way Doors

Iconex

Kawasaki Tennessee, Inc.

MAHLE Engine Components MooreCo Inc.

OTICS USA, Inc.

Petoskey Plastics Precision Flooring Products, Inc.

R & S Logistics

Sonoco Flexible Packaging

Clayton Supply Company

Cornhole Solutions

HBF Foods

Howmet Aerospace International Paper

Koch Foods

Mason Machinings, Inc.

Original Footwear

Performance Foodservice – East Tennessee

Pioneer Plastics Precision Boilers

Rich Products Corporation Universal Environmental

Special thanks to the following sponsors who made this year's event possible:

Major Sponsor: Andrew Johnson Bank; Burke Ailey Construction Co., Inc., C & C Millwright Maintenance Co., Citizens National Bank, Express Employment Professionals, First Horizon Bank, Hale Construction, Inc., HC*EXCELL, HealthStar Physicians, Home Trust Bank, Luttrell Staffin Group, MBI Companies Inc., Morristown Utilities, Murrell Burglar Alarms, ORNL Federal Credit Union, Strate Insurance Group, Inc., Walters State Community College and WorkNow!, Inc.

Corporate Sponsors: Cherokee Millwright, Citizen Tribune, Commercial Bank, Craine Thompson & Jones, PC, First Peoples Bank, Joseph Construction Company, Quality Waste, Shafer Insurance, TVA and Wimberly, Lawson, Wright, Daves & Jones PLLC.



Plans Underway for January Future Ready Expo

The Chamber, HC*Excell and the Hamblen County Department of Education are again partnering to plan the up-

coming Future Ready Expo. This year's theme – Unlock Your Future – provides 8th grade students the "keys" to

unlock their future through the exploration of various career and job opportunities in Morristown and the Lakeway Area. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at the Walters State Great Smoky Mountains Expo Center.

The event planning committee is currently seeking business exhibi-



tors. Participation is FREE of charge. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide infor-



mation that could guide students as they begin their high school path of instruction. If you and your business are interested in being an exhibitor at this year's FRE event, please go to https://www.futurereadyexpo.com to sign up. Deadline is December 13th. For questions, feel free to contact Jodi Barnard at the Chamber office at 423/586-6382.

Downtown Christmas Ornament on Sale Now



This year's Downtown Christmas Ornament is now available for purchase at the Chamber. Cost is \$25 each or \$20 each if you purchase 5 or more. The ornament features Morristown's First Fire Truck next to the City Christmas Tree at the Farmers Market and is packaged in a beautiful red gift box. Supply is limited.

The Chamber also has a supply of last year's ornament available for purchase for \$15 each.



Please Join Us! Friday, December 6, 8:00 a.m. TCAT Morristown

Meet the Mayor

Chris Cutshaw was recently appointed Hamblen County Mayor by the County Commission upon the retirement of former Mayor Bill Brittain. He will serve in this capacity until the general election on 2026. Prior to his appointment, Mayor Cutshaw was Chairman of the Hamblen County Commission, serving as Commissioner from the 9th District.

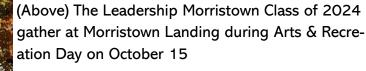
Please plan to come out and welcome Mayor Cutshaw and hear about what's going on with various projects in Hamblen County.



L eadership Morristown Sessions Winding Down

Leadership Morristown will soon conclude their 2024 program. Recent sessions included Arts and Recreation on October 15 and Local Economy on October 24. Other October sessions were Healthcare and Senior Services on October 3 and Public Education on October 29. The group is participating in an optional tour of Lakeway Christian Academy on November 6 and their final session on Public Infrastructure will be held on November 13.







(Left) Leadership Morristown class members enjoy the beautiful weather and have a class photo taken on the grounds of Wallace Distribution prior to touring the facility on October 24.

Welcome New Members!

Tennessee Jacks

130 Terrace Lane Phone: 423-616-0911

Email: dean@tennesseejacks.com

www.tennesseejacks.com

Dean Hitt, Owner Restaurant

Studio 7 Coffee Shop

210 N Fairmont Ave Phone: 865-307-2318

Email: 1official.studio7@gmail.com

<u>Facebook Page</u>

Dee Andino, Owner

Coffee Shop Milkshake Bar

Selfie Studio, Events Venue

Seth Voelker, Re/MAX Between the

Lakes

720 S Hwy 92, Ste B Dandridge, TN 37725 Phone: 865-397-8990

Email: seth voelker@msn.com

Real Estate Agent

Valley Ridge Golf Course

1180 Valley Home Rd Phone: 423-586-9953

Valley Ridge Golf Course - Reviews & Course

Info | GolfNow

Chad Smelcer, Manager

Golf Course

All About Blinds

207 Springbrook Dr Johnson City, TN 37601 Phone: 423-610-0903

Email: rob@allaboutblinds423.com

www.allaboutblindsjohnsoncity.com

Robert Campbell, President

Residential and Commercial Window

Coverings Blinds, Shades

4 Paws Animal Hospital LLC

210 E Economy Rd Phone: 423-621-2202

www.4pawsanimalhospital.org

Kim Dunn, Owner
Sydney Nux, Owner
Hannah DeBusk, DVM
Megan Huling, DVM
Full-Service Veterinarian Clinic

The Vale

243 W Main Street
Phone: 865-230-4278
Email: thevaleofmorristown@gmail.com
www.thevaletn.com

Andre Thomas, CEO/Owner Megan Mooreland, Event Director Rachel Thomas, Secretary

Events Venue Wedding Venue

Summertown Metals

4590 Enka Hwy

Phone: 931-629-1953

Email: alan.stoll@summertownmetals.

com

www.summertownmetals.com

Alan Stoll, Owner Construction Barndominiums, Ag Barns, Garages Sheet Metal Manufacturing

Elevate Hair and Company

117 E Main Street, Ste 100 Phone: 423-616-0001

Email: elevatehairandco@gmail.com

www.elevatehairandco.com

Rebecca Evylnn, Owner Jason Evylnn, Owner Beauty Salon

Haircuts, Color, Styling Skincare, Massages









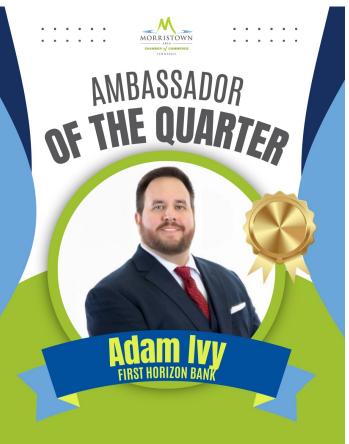




Aundrea Salyer, MBA KOSBE Executive Director

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







Featured Gold Star Members



The Chamber boasts over 100 member businesses designated as Gold Star Members. Each month we are proud to feature, on a rotating basis, these special investors.







www.cbtn.com

www.iatricmfg.com



www.musfiber.com



BUILDING SINCE 1894 www.christmanco.com





www.kimsmyagent.com

www.mcfarlandpharmacy.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 Lauren Seaver, 423.586.6382 or membership@morristownchamber.com

Mark Your Calendars!

Thursday, November 7 th Ribbon Cutting – Local Comfort Heating & Cooling 4900 S Davy Crockett Pkwy	11:00am
Friday, November 8 th Ribbon Cutting – Elevate Hair and Company 117 E Main St, Ste 100	9:00am
Monday, November 11 th Chamber Office Closed – Veteran's Day	All Day
Wednesday, November 13 th Membership Breakfast – Morristown Utilities 433 W First North St	7:30am
Monday, November 18 th Ribbon Cutting – Next Level DME 208 Montvue Avenue	10:00am
Friday, November 22nd Ribbon Cutting—4 Paws Animal Hospital LLC 210 E Economy Rd	11:00am
Thursday & Friday, November 28 th & 29 th Chamber Office Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday	All Day
Saturday, November 30 th Small Business Saturday Celebration Downtown Morristown	All Day
Wednesday, December 4 th Membership Breakfast – HomeTrust & Covenant Health 120 Evans Ave	7:30am

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

www.morristownchamber.com

