



# Paris/Henry County CHAMBER NEWS

JUNE 2011

2508 East Wood Street • Paris, Tennessee 38242 • [www.paristnchamber.com](http://www.paristnchamber.com)

## June Chamber Coffee Host E. W. Grove School

E.W. Grove School, Henry County's freshmen academy, will be the June Chamber Coffee Host in its newest building on Grove Hill. The school's latest addition replaces the classrooms, agricultural shop, and gymnasium in Weston Hall. According to County Historian, David Webb, the historic campus was the home of E.W. Grove-Henry County High School, the first privately-endowed public high school in Tennessee.

The school's namesake, Edwin Wiley Grove, moved to Paris in 1874 and became a drug store clerk. He produced "Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic" in 1878 and established the Grove Pharmacy in 1880. A preventative and treatment for malaria, the chill tonic was a household name for decades and its sales were compared to Coca-Cola. The British Army made the tonic standard issue for every soldier going to mosquito-infested lands.

In 1996, E.W. Grove School became the nation's first institution for high school freshmen with its own campus. The former junior high wings were enclosed and a new library and administrative space were added. E.W. Grove School and Henry County High School continue to receive financial support from Grove's endowment that was set up more than a century ago.

Today, E. W. Grove School is home to approximately 350 students each year and over 40 educators, support staff, and other employees. Grove is one of six schools in the Henry County School System. Besides the ninth grade school, the district is comprised of three elementary schools, one middle school, and a high school which serves approximately 1,200 students in grades ten through twelve. Our ninth grade school is a unique configuration which allows students, at a critical time in their lives, to develop academically, socially, and physically without the potential problems of peer pressure from higher grades.

The administration and staff at each elementary school strive to stay on the cutting edge of professional development and innovative instructional delivery methods. Due to the size of one of our elementary schools, Lakewood, it has been transformed into a school within a school. Lakewood Elementary serves students in grades K through 5 while Lakewood Middle serves students in grades 6 through 8. This concept allows teachers and staff to serve a smaller group of

students. It also allows teachers the ability to focus on age appropriate instruction and curriculum. Our high school offers state of the art technological, academic, vocational, and extra-curricular opportunities, second to none.

According to Sam Miles, Director of Schools, the Henry County School System works continuously to improve. "We provide support to our teachers in the classrooms as they strive to improve student learning outcomes. Our goal is to produce high school graduates who can compete globally in an ever-shrinking world. We understand that while we are judged on test scores, we must also teach our students to be critical thinkers and decision makers."

The system is aggressively attacking the achievement gap which exists between minority and non-minority students. While

closing the gap, schools are raising standards for all students. In addition, educators are working together to create a reading culture in the community. The ability to read is the key which can open the door to success for all students.

The Henry County School System is led by an involved school board that provides leadership and support for various programs and initiatives. They believe in our students and staff. There is a sense of common goals and cooperation within our system. Everyone is moving in the same direction.

We welcome you to E. W. Grove School. Many of you attended this school and continue to support its academic and extra-curricular activities. Come and see the great things our students and educators are accomplishing for the future.



## June Calendar of Opportunity

June 20	Executive Committee	Chamber Office	3:30 pm
June 22	Seminars for Non-Profit Chamber Members	Chamber Office	8:00 am - 12:00 pm
June 23	Board of Directors	Chamber Office	8:00 am
June 28	Chamber Coffee	E. W. Grove School (215 Grove Blvd.)	8:00 am - 9:00 am



## Paris / Henry County Chamber of Commerce

2508 E. Wood Street  
Paris, TN. 38242

731-642-3431

Tourism: 800-345-1103

Fax: 731-642-3454

Email: [pariscoc@paristnchamber.com](mailto:pariscoc@paristnchamber.com)

Website: [www.paristnchamber.com](http://www.paristnchamber.com)

Office Hours: 8 AM - 4:30 PM

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Wayne "Butch" Powers

President-Elect : Brian Foster

VP Economic Development: Bryan Irby

VP Community Development:

Sam Mahan

VP Tourism: Rosie Johnson

Treasurer: Clint Davis

Past President: Carlton Gerrell

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lisa Casteel, Jennifer Hayden, Andrea Lamb, Gary McEntire, Jeff Mahan, Traci Middleton, Scott Morrison , Jamie Orr, Stacia Puckett, John Penn Ridgeway, Jeff Seaton

### EX-OFFICIO

Carl Holder, Sam Tharpe, Kenny Paschall, Brent Greer, Joe Qualls, Machele Operia

Executive Director: Jennifer Wheatley

Henry County Alliance CEO:  
Larry Crawford

Administrative  
Assistant: Galia Greer

Chamber Services  
Coordinator: Susie Umstead

*The mission of the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce is to improve the economy and quality of life in our community.*

## From The President

WAYNE "BUTCH" POWERS



The kids are out of school and the weather has warmed up. When I go out in my backyard the mosquitoes carry me away. There is a constant stream of vehicles with boats being towed out Hwy 79 toward the lake. It must be June and the official start of summer. And what comes with summer? Vacations!

Last June I took my family to Panama City Beach for vacation. I love the beach. Give me a cooler, a good book, and an umbrella and I can stay there all day. I could easily become a beach bum. Last year I managed to strike up a few random conversations with some fellow beach bums. Most often the conversations start with "So, where are you from?" I tell them that I'm from a small town in the Western part of Tennessee called Paris. On two occasions my fellow beach bum said "Sure, I know where Paris is." Well, what do you know; maybe they aren't a bum after all!

Both of these people have spent vacation time in Henry County. Why did they come? They came to spend time on Kentucky Lake. They actually scheduled time off for their family to take a vacation in Henry County so they could boat and fish on Kentucky Lake. As odd as this may seem to some area residents, this is not an uncommon event. People come to our area on a regular basis to spend their hard earned vacation money in Henry County. Just drive by some of our hotels early in the morning and notice all the cars go out to PLSP and see how busy the inn is, or cruise around the lake area resorts and see how many out of town vehicles there are. Henry County is a destination point for a lot of people. Granted we are no Gatlinburg or Panama City Beach, however, we get our fair share of visitors.

At the chamber we often hear people say we need jobs created. Most people are looking for the next big factory to appear. As much as I would like that to happen, the likelihood of a large factory locating in Henry County is slim. So, where can jobs come from? Tourism is one answer. The chamber spends lots of time promoting tourism. The reason we do this is because of what I mentioned above. People who visit and vacation in our area spend money. They buy gas, go out to eat, stay at the resorts and hotels, and shop in our stores. Tourism helps drive our tax revenue and creates jobs.

Many people take the lake for granted. The truth is we are lucky to have such a fabulous resource. If you aren't traveling to some far off exotic destination this summer, why not try spending a little more time out at the lake. If you notice an out of town vacationer, welcome them and say thanks for visiting.

## From The Executive Director

JENNIFER WHEATLEY



There is so much going on right now! Here are some highlights:

Tennessee River Trails is a coalition of counties along the Tennessee River who have been working together for almost ten years. The loop which circles us is being designated as both a national scenic byway and a trail in the Discover Tennessee Trails and Byways program. **Mayor Brent Greer** has provided a great deal of leadership and vision for this project.

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development's Three Star program encourages communities to exchange a visit each year. Dyersburg's group recently came to tour our community. **Tony Lawrence's** staff provided a tour of the KPAC and Paris Elementary. Tommy Crane told us about Holly Forks shooting range and **Tom Gee** brought everyone up to date on the HCMC project with Bethel.

**Dawn Gale** led President **Bob Kentworthy** and the Friends of Paris Landing State Park on a tour of Camp Hazelwood. The work done to Jolly Hall and the greenhouse is tremendous. Dawn has worked hard to secure grants to turn the former Girl Scout camp into an educationally based outdoor recreation facility.

Grove School recently had a career day. Over 20 local businesses spent a day at the school talking with students about potential careers. Joe Mahan and I had the privilege of working Principal **Sam Tharpe**, Vice Principal **Michele Webb** and counselors **Lynne Green** and **David Kibbler** on this fun project. Henry County Schools were represented by **Susan Burton**.

Check out the photos of the recent Leadership Henry County graduates in the newsletter. **Galia Greer** does a great job with this program. Get your application in early for next year's class.

President Butch Powers has a strong vision of a fun, revamped MEMBERSHIP banquet. There will be lots of details to follow!

We are always open to your input and suggestions, but this year there will be a Chamber membership survey available online to gain even more insight. We will email you the web address and have a link on our website, [www.paristnchamber.com](http://www.paristnchamber.com). We value your thoughts! Call, 642.3431, or send me an email any time, [jenniferwheatley@paristnchamber.com](mailto:jenniferwheatley@paristnchamber.com).

# CHAMBER HAPPENINGS



**Leadership Henry County** 2010-2011 class graduated May 26th.

The graduates were Jenna Goggins, Johnna Wade, Debbie Simmons, Tonya Wirgau, Delaina Green, Larry Simmons, Christy Williams, Jeremy Lindsey, Randy Gean, Steve Wright, and Emory Bradley.



County Mayor Brent Greer speaks to a group of business leaders from Dyersburg during their Three-Star Community Connection visit.



Jim Adams was the keynote speaker at the **Leadership Henry County** graduation.



Chamber President Butch Powers introduces Jim Arthurs of **ICI** at the May Chamber Coffee.

## WE VALUE YOUR INPUT!

GO TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS TO COMPLETE A MEMBERSHIP SURVEY.

[HTTP://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/S/SS5J658](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ss5j658)

# Perk Up Paris!

## **E.W. GROVE SCHOOL**

215 Grove Blvd.  
Paris, Tennessee  
Tuesday, June 28, 2011  
8:00 am - 9:00 am



***"A Premium Blend"***

*Clip and post after reading the Chamber News.*

# Welcome New Members!

**REDNECK ISLAND, LLC  
FLOATING FUN PARK  
WEST OF PLEASANT VIEW  
RESORT  
731-363-0299**



**2508 E. Wood Street  
Paris, TN 38242-0008  
[www.paristnchamber.com](http://www.paristnchamber.com)**

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# **UPCOMING SEMINARS**

The Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce has the following membership development seminars scheduled:

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## **NON-PROFIT MANAGEMENT**

**Wednesday, June 22 • Chamber Office • 8:00 am – Noon**

*Target Audience:*

Churches, Non-profits and Organizations

*Topics:*

Time Management

Creating Effective Business Partnerships

How to Deal with Difficult People

Space is limited. Call Susie at 642.3431

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## **FRANCHISING**

**Wednesday August 17 • Chamber Office • 10:00 am – Noon**

*Target Audience:*

Anyone interested in franchising opportunities

Presented by FranNet through the

Tennessee Small Business Development Center

*Topic:*

Evaluating Franchise Opportunities and

Understanding the Risks and Benefits

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**SPACE IS LIMITED. CALL SUSIE AT 642.3431**

**save  
the  
date**



# **KY LAKE WATER FUN RUN**

## **SATURDAY, JULY 16**

### **PARIS LANDING STATE PARK**

**BEST HAND WINS • TOP PRIZE \$1,000**

**(731) 642-3431**

#### **— RULES —**

1. Time of Event: 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. All participants are to be in the bay area of Paris Landing State Park by 4:00 p.m. for the check-in.
2. Grand Prize will be \$1000. Second place will receive \$500. Third place will receive \$100. Luck of the Draw will receive \$100. Numerous other door prizes will be given away.
3. Each participant is required to visit five of the sponsors and have his/her card sheet marked by the sponsor. Sponsored stops include **Mansard Island, Paris Landing State Park Marina, Buchanan Resort, Cypress Bay, Leatherwood, The Breakers, Pleasantview Resort, and Fat Daddy's**. An extra stamp is available from the Party Boat (if you can find it.)
4. Each participant is required to show their entry badge so that the sponsor will know you are a registered participant. Your badge will be stamped at the final stop to verify your arrival by 4 p.m.
5. Legal poker rules will apply. This will be a 5 Card Showdown. In case of tie, the second 5 cards will be played to declare a winner.
6. To determine a winner, we will start with a Royal Flush first, then going to 4 Aces, 4 Kings, and so forth.

**\$20.00 Pre-registration / \$25.00 Day of Event**