



THE CHAMBER CONNECTION

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September 2026



Maegan Mansfield



Myrna Redfield



Bruce Wilcox



Sandra Wilson

Paducah Chamber's September PIP breakfast will feature an Overview of Activity at the Paducah Department of Energy Site

The Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce's Power in Partnership Breakfast on September 3 will feature a panel discussion with an overview of the activity at the Paducah Department of Energy Site. Panelists include Maegan Mansfield, BFW | Marcum Engineering; Myrna Redfield, Four Rivers Nuclear Partnership; Bruce Wilcox, Greater Paducah Economic Development; and Sandra Wilson, Paducah Area Chamber

of Commerce. Whitlow, Roberts, Houston and Straub is the sponsor.

The program will also feature the results of the 2026 Annual Membership and Total Resource Campaign and an introduction of Leadership Paducah Class #40.

Myrna Redfield will speak about the cleanup efforts at the Site. Maegan Mansfield and Sandra Wilson will speak about the Chamber's Reindustrialization Study and

Master Plan of the Site. Bruce Wilcox will discuss the new projects.

Representatives of the new companies are expected to attend.

The breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Paducah-McCracken County Convention Center. Pre-registration is required by Monday, Aug. 31 by 2 p.m. at paducahchamber.org or by calling 270-443-1746. Power Card holders do not have to pre-register. The cost is \$25.

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#40



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WKY Launch

Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce

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Welcome New Chamber Members: July 2026

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Health Clubs
Ms. Victoria Jackson
415 N 7th Street
Paducah, KY 42001
(530) 277-9707
victoria.lafont@gmail.com
www.7thstreetwellness.com

Kentucky Bankers Association

Banks
Mr. Timothy Schenk, President & CEO
600 West Main Street, Suite 400
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 582-2453
tschenk@kybanks.com
www.kybanks.com

Thank You for Renewing Your Chamber Membership in July!

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A-J & Sons Liquors/Wines
Alcrete, LLC
Arnold Realty Group
Bluegrass BMW
Boot Barn
Tab Brockman
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Charter Senior Living of Paducah
Citizens Deposit Bank
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Community Christian Academy
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Compass Counseling
Computer Services, Inc.
Dialog Telecommunications
Basil N. Drossos
ETAS
e-Tel
The Eye Center of Paducah
Forest Hills Village, Inc.
Harper Construction, LLC
Harrison Street Missionary Baptist Church
Hernandez Painting
Higdon Outdoors, LLC
Home Floor and Kitchens
HRE Advisors
Jackson Purchase Energy Cooperative
Jenkins Plumbing Inc.
JL Event Management
JMS Russel Metals Corporation
Kentucky Lake Moving & Storage
Lake Chem FCU
M & M Decorating, LLC
Maizie Martin, RE/MAX Realty Group
Marshall Yards Racing & Gaming
MC Homes - Mitchell Construction, LLC

McCracken Co. Community
Career Endowment
McCracken County Fiscal Court
McKinau Logistics, KY
Mid West Terminal
Midtown Market
Neighborhood at Paducah
North Wind Dynamics
Oaks Place Apartment Homes
Office Pride of West Kentucky
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Puckett's Fine Jewelry
Tom Rasche
RightFiber
River Discovery Center
Royal Oaks Chevrolet
Tara Wise Sawvel
Servpro of Paducah
Strike & Spare Cardinal Lanes
Summit Christian University
TDC Roofing and Construction
Trifecta Real Estate Services
True Line Roofing
Turner Land Title & Escrow Services, LLC
University Of Kentucky College
of Engineering
West KY Building & Construction Trades
West KY Camera Co.
West Tennessee Motor Coach, LLC
Wiser 360



Row 1: DeeAnn Bogaczyk, Blended Brews; Bailey Bradley, Siteworx Survey & Design, LLC; Alyssa Brookes, Paducah Cooperative Ministry; Lilly Brown, Epic Collective; Kat Byars, Barkley Regional Airport Authority; Shaketha Cleary, Baptist Health System; Miranda Cooper, Cornerstone Caregiving; Alex Crane, Marquette Transportation Company, LLC; Shannon Crockett, Mission Conversion Services Alliance (MCSA). **Row 2:** Katie Cronin, Ingram Barge Company; Lance Dyke, Marcum Engineering, LLC.; Kathie Farmer, Mercy Health; Keaton Faughn, Community Financial Services Bank; Nick Forsythe, **Hope** Unlimited Family Care Center; Amanda Harness, TempsPlus, Inc. - Employment Services; Kayla Hines, Jim Smith Contracting Company, LLC; John Hobbs, North Wind Dynamics; Amy Hobby, Easterseals West Kentucky. **Row 3:** Nathan Jaimet, Paducah Police Department; Kacey Key, Greater Paducah Economic Development; Deena Kuntz, Mission Conversion Services Alliance (MCSA); Justin Lang, Blythe CPAs & Advisors; Laura Madison, Baptist Health Paducah; Maizie Martin, Keller Williams Experience Realty; Blaine McDonald, Paducah Main Street; Angela Meyer, BFW/Marcum Engineering & Consulting; McKenzie Murphy, City of Paducah. **Row 4:** Kayla Myers, McCracken County Board of Education; Jordan Pace, Triangle Enterprises, Inc.; Tyler Powell, Beltline Electric; Kyle Riley, Paducah Power System; Clint Roberts, FNB Bank, Inc.; Trenton Rodgers, Four Rivers Nuclear Partnership; Brooke Rosin, Williams, Williams & Lentz; Garrett Rubsam, Mercy Health; Lexi Rudy, Rudys Farm Center. **Row 5:** Marley Seay, Paducah Bank; Sanci Teague, West Kentucky Community and Technical College; Tara Vann-Schreck, Marquette Transportation Company; Emily Vlach, Lotus; Liz Walker, The Carson Center; Josh Webb, Paducah-McCracken Joint Sewer Agency; Scott Webber, Four Rivers Nuclear Partnership; Ryan Willcutt, McCracken County Sheriff's Office; Landon Young, Paducah Financial Consultants.

Leadership Paducah Class #40 Selected

Leadership Paducah Class #40 has been announced by the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce. Class #40 is the largest class to date with 45 class members. Class members will take part in a 10-month educational course, that began with an orientation and overnight retreat and ends with their

graduation in June 2027.

Chamber President and CEO Sandra Wilson said, "The size of this year's class reflects the strong interest in leadership development and community engagement across our region."

SEE **CLASS/PAGE 54**

August PIP



Murray State University was the presenting sponsor of the August Power in Partnership Breakfast. The featured speaker was Dr. Ron Patterson, MSU President. Pictured (L to R): Sandra Wilson, Paducah Chamber President/CEO; Todd Buchanan, Paducah Chamber Chair-Elect and President of GEO Consultants Corporation; Dr. Ron Patterson; and Kenny Boyd, 2026 Chair of the Chamber Board and President of Baptist Health Paducah.

Small Business Cohort



Members of the 2026 Paducah Chamber Small Business Cohort were recognized during the August Power in Partnership Breakfast. Pictured (L to R): Members of the sixth class of the Paducah Chamber Small Business Cohort were also recognized during the breakfast. Pictured left to right: Cathy Hutchins, Hutchins Flooring America; Joelle Bright, Realtor, EPIC Group/ EXP Realty; Jacqueline Crawford-Jones, mooknjac brew project; Tara Wilson, My 360 ProBooks; and Daegon Byers, DRD Mobile Detailing and DRD Automotive. Members of the class not pictured are: Kim Cates, KC Coaching; Katelyn Myrick, Hillside Counseling; Tammy Owen, Signature Travel; Victor Sredl, Victor Enterprises, Inc.; and Benjamin Strong, Mrs. Sweet Strong, LLC. The presenting sponsors for the Cohort are Murray State University Center for Economic and Entrepreneurial Development (CEED) and Paducah Bank. Supporting sponsors are Open Door Accounting + Coaching and West Kentucky Community & Technical College Workforce Solutions.

Membership Campaign



The Paducah Chamber's Annual Membership and Total Resource Campaign is being held in August. Team captains were recognized at the August PIP Breakfast. (Pictured L to R): Andy Wilson, West Kentucky Community and Technical College; Justin Halvorson, Paducah Bank; Alex Chalker, Brown & Brown; DeeAnn Bogaczyk, Blended Brews; Todd Buchanan, Chair of the Campaign and President of GEO Consultants Corporation; Reis Driver, Baptist Health Paducah; Keaton Faughn, CFSB; Rebecca Ferch, Four Rivers Nuclear Partnership; and Lisa Lauck, Lauck Marketing.

Ribbon Cutting



Congratulations to Conrad Love on the grand opening of the new McDonald's location at Mustang Village, 5345 US 60. This location will be open 24 hours a day, and it is the 12th McDonald's location for the Love Family.

CLASS

FROM **PAGE S3**

Leadership Paducah gives participants a deeper understanding of our community while helping them build meaningful relationships across sectors. Through visits with local businesses, conversations with community and government leaders, and participation in a class project, participants broaden their perspective, expand their network, and strengthen their ability to lead and serve."

Established in 1984, Leadership

Paducah is a program to develop the leadership potential of men and women in the Paducah/McCracken County area. The classes are comprised of individuals with diverse backgrounds who have demonstrated a talent and commitment for leadership. More than 1,100 citizens have graduated from the program during its 38-year existence.

Leadership Paducah is a program of The Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce, in coordination with The Leadership Center. Frank Bennett, the Executive Director of The Leadership Center, is the Leadership Paducah program facilitator.

YOUTH LEAD

Class #16



Applications are now available!

Do you know a high school junior who should apply? Visit paducahchamber.org/youth-lead

Applications are due by **Friday, September 11th** at 5:00 P.M.

Youth LEAD is a leadership program of the Paducah Chamber and the Leadership Paducah Alumni Association through The Leadership Center. The program educates high school juniors across McCracken County about the different sectors in the community and the opportunities our area has to offer. Class #16 begins in October!



Group of 2026 Summer Intern Initiative Participants and Paducah Young Professionals gather in the home of Heath and Tara Bowling for CEO Roundtable.

Paducah Chamber Completes a Successful 2026 Summer Intern Initiative

The Paducah Chamber recently wrapped up its 2026 Paducah Chamber Summer Intern Initiative. The group of 40 interns met with Paducah Young Professionals, Paducah Chamber Board Members, local employers and fellow interns throughout the course of the summer. With seven events in June and July, this program, in coordination with our Paducah Young Professionals, helped our local interns make meaningful connections with each other and the community.

The Chamber's goal through the Intern Initiative is to showcase Paducah as a welcoming community where young talent can see a future building careers and families. In partnership with Paducah Young Professionals (PYP), the program continues to strengthen connections between students, emerging leaders, and the broader business community. PYP was established by the Paducah Chamber to provide social and professional opportunities for emerging leaders, age 21-40. The goal of PYP is to connect, engage and develop our community's current network of young professionals to make Paducah a place where more young talent want to live, work and grow.

The summer events kicked off with the annual "Breakfast with the Interns" sponsored by CFSB. With nearly 50 attendees, this event gives interns the opportunity to network and meet fellow interns. This event

followed up with another annual tradition, the Downtown Tour & Reception sponsored by PFGW Architects. During this downtown walking tour, summer interns learned about the rich history of Paducah.

Another highlight event was the CEO Roundtable featuring Heath Bowling sponsored by Edward Jones. Heath and Tara Bowling opened their home to interns and Paducah Young Professionals. This event gave PYP members and interns the opportunity to hear about Heath's journey, and his perspectives on leadership.

The Intern Initiative is more than a summer program. It's a pathway to building Paducah's future workforce. MacLaine Mathis, a local intern, says this experience has shown her everything Paducah has to offer. "There are a lot of things that Paducah has to offer that a lot of people don't know about. There are also all kinds of careers Paducah has to offer. I think Paducah is a great place to live and start a life because there are so many different opportunities, events, and history you can explore," said Mathis.

Local businesses, organizations, and community leaders are invited to continue supporting this effort as efforts are made to work together to make Paducah the place where young professionals want to plant their roots.

Paducah Chamber Intern Initiative *By the Numbers* Summer 2026



7
Events in
June + July



12
Businesses
Represented



50
Intern
Participants



200+
Combined
Attendees

CHAMBER CONNECTORS

Connector of the Month

Alex Chalker

Employee Benefits Producer
Brown & Brown

How long have you been a Connector?
"6 months"

Why do you serve on the Membership & Marketing Committee?
"This committee has the opportunity to be the first impression on behalf of our community. I want to help make sure it's a great one!"

What is your favorite Chamber event?
"Paducah Chamber Golf Scramble, of course."

Alex is currently...
Watching Duck Dynasty
Reading The Mackay MBA of
Selling in the Real World
Listening to KPOP Love



From Paducah to Washington: Advocacy in Action

Advocacy is about more than having a voice. It's about making sure that voice is heard. Several years ago, the Paducah Chamber adopted a simple advocacy mantra: we will never be known by our absence—we will be known for our presence. That philosophy continues to guide our work today.

The Paducah Chamber is recognized for strong advocacy on behalf of our business community at the local, state, and federal levels. Whether in Frankfort, Washington, D.C., or right here at home, the Paducah Chamber understands that meaningful advocacy starts with showing up and making sure the voice of our business community is heard.

Earlier this spring, the Chamber hosted three forums as part of their Public Policy Spring Mini Series event. These three forums focused on key races impacting the local community and the Commonwealth: U.S. Senate Forum, Democratic Candidates; U.S. Senate Forum, Republican Candidates;

and McCracken County Judge Executive Forum. In July, the Chamber welcomed local legislators for their annual Legislative Thank You. On August 28, U.S. Rep. James Comer provided a Capitol update; he will also serve as the keynote speaker during next month's D.C. visit.

Now, the Chamber is preparing to go to our nation's capital for the 23rd Paducah Chamber Washington, D.C. Fly-In. Every September, the Chamber brings a large group of community and business leaders to D.C. for two days of meetings with members of Congress, federal agencies, and national organizations.

This year, we are anticipating our largest delegation to date with 80+ local participants joining the September trip—individuals and businesses making a significant investment to represent Paducah and our region. That level of participation sends a powerful message. These visits are critical to maintaining strong relation-

ships with federal partners and speaking with one voice about our priorities. Our advocacy has delivered concrete results, including millions of dollars directed to projects in our community. Each February, a smaller delegation of about eight to 10 participants returns to D.C. for targeted follow-up.

We are grateful to our Presenting Sponsor, Four Rivers Nuclear Partnership, and to all sponsors who make this work possible. The full sponsor list appears in this edition of The Chamber Connection.

The agenda is robust. On the first morning, our day will kick off at the U.S. Department of Energy. Later that afternoon, we will head to the Capitol Visitor Center for meetings with federal officials. We will conclude with an evening reception at the U.S. Botanic Garden, hosted by GEO Consultants Corporation. On Wednesday morning, we will return to the Capitol Visitor Center for a full day of meetings with

congressional offices and federal agencies. We will have lunch at the Library of Congress where Congressman James Comer will address the delegation. We will conclude our two-day trip with a reception featuring Senator Mitch McConnell hosted by FRNP.

Through our media partnership with WPSD Local 6, residents have been able to follow our Washington, D.C., trips over the years, and WPSD has earned awards for its coverage. Evening news anchor Todd Faulkner and photojournalist Mason Watkins will join us again in Washington, D.C. You can follow along on WPSD's website and on WPSD's and the Chamber's social media channels.

I am proud to participate once again, and I hope our community shares that pride in the Chamber, its advocacy, and the work we do.

Kenny Boyd
2026 Chair of the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and President of Baptist Health Paducah



KENNY BOYD

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 DC FLY-IN SPONSORS!

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MP Lawson Construction

Murray State University
Swift & Staley
Waste Control Specialists
West Kentucky Community & Technical College

Weekly Leadership Brief: **High Performers Need Different Leadership**

Why employee growth should change the supervisory relationship, not end it

A supervisor scans the team and immediately knows where her attention needs to go.

One employee missed another deadline. Another is struggling with a new responsibility, while a third needs help resolving a conflict that has begun affecting the rest of the team. Then she reaches the name of her strongest employee and feels a small sense of relief.

She's fine.

The employee understands the work, keeps her commitments, solves problems without constant help, and exercises sound judgment. She has become the person the supervisor worries about least, and that is often when the relationship begins to weaken.

Supervisors do not usually withdraw from strong employees because they

care less. They withdraw because competence creates relief. The dependable employee does not create urgency, so the supervisor redirects attention toward the people and problems that do.

Coaching goes to the struggling employees and conversation to the urgent problems, while the reliable employee is simply given space.

At first, that space looks like trust, and in many ways it is. Strong employees should have room to work without being overmanaged, second-guessed, or forced to seek approval for every decision.

But autonomy and withdrawal are not the same thing.

Autonomy expands ownership. Withdrawal reduces investment.

Autonomy says, "I trust you to use your judgment." Withdrawal says, "You seem fine. Let me know if you need anything." Those messages can look similar from the supervisor's side of the desk, but they feel very different from the employee's side.

The employees who need the least supervision can quietly receive the least leadership.



FRANK BENNETT

WHEN COMPETENCE CHANGES THE RELATIONSHIP

Early in an employee's development, the supervisor's role is easy to recognize. The employee needs direction, clarity, feedback, and support. The supervisor explains the work, establishes expectations, corrects mistakes, and helps the employee build confidence.

Over time, those efforts begin to work. The employee requires less instruction, anticipates problems, makes better decisions, and handles

responsibilities that once required close oversight. She no longer needs the supervisor to provide the same kind of leadership.

This is where an important misunderstanding often begins. The supervisor interprets the decline in one kind of need as the disappearance of need altogether. Because the employee requires less correction, the supervisor assumes she requires less leadership.

But the relationship that helped an employee become capable cannot remain unchanged once the employee becomes highly capable. If the supervisor continues directing every detail, the employee will eventually feel constrained. If the supervisor simply disappears, the employee will eventually feel overlooked.

The answer is neither continued control nor retreat. The relationship must evolve.

High performers do not need less leadership. They need a different kind of leadership.



In addition to the many leadership programs under the direction of The Leadership Center, we also offer training for employees with a variety of topics both onsite and at The Commerce Center.



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☎ **270-408-4818**
🌐 **leadershipcenter.training**



PADUCAH INNOVATION HUB TOUR

Discover how this exciting community resource is fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and growth in Paducah.

SEPTEMBER 17 | 12:15 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Meet at The Innovation Hub
500 S. 25th St. Paducah, KY

\$20 per person

Register online at paducahchamber.org

Don't miss this opportunity to see behind the scenes and connect with fellow LPAA alumni!

Pre-registration is required. You do not have to be an LP Alum to attend.

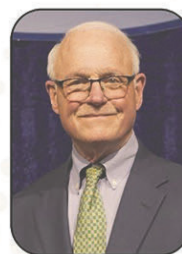
Save the Date

**"BEST CLASS EVER ANNUAL CELEBRATION"
FOR LEADERSHIP PADUCAH ALUMS**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

PADUCAH-MCCRACKEN CO. CONVENTION CENTER



Featured Speaker:

MARK WHITLOW

2025 Leadership Paducah
Alumnus of the Year



INTERESTED IN BEING A SPONSOR?
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**8TH GRADE CAREER FAIR
WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 21
PADUCAH-MCCRACKEN CO. EXPO CENTER**

Our goal is to showcase the variety of career options available locally to help students choose an education path and ultimately stay in our area after graduation.



**RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIP NOW!
HELP US BUILD OUR LOCAL WORKFORCE!**

More than 800 students in all Paducah and McCracken County School Systems will be participating in the one-day event.

Register at paducahchamber.org

