## DISCOVER CHESTERCOUNTY FOURTH EDITION 2012











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www.chestercountychamber.com









## WELCOME

to the City of Henderson and Chester County, Tennessee! We are nestled just ten miles south of Jackson between Memphis and Nashville. We are proud of our history, educational heritage and beautiful natural surroundings.

With a rich history rooted in the beginnings of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, charming downtown Henderson continues to grow and prosper. It is home to Downtown Park (a wifi hotspot); Freed-Hardeman University (a private four-year, liberal arts university); our highly rated public schools; the historic Chester County Courthouse, where scenes from Walking Tall: the Buford Pusser Story were filmed; famous BBQ restaurants; award-winning hamburger joints; and unique shops. Downtown Henderson is also alive with local artists and entertainers at Arts in the Alley events on the third Thursday evening of each month.

Chester County is home to Chickasaw State Park, one of the top-rated state parks. Here you can hike, swim, paddleboat, canoe, horseback ride and camp. The park is one of only two state parks with a Wrangler Campground, where you can camp with your horse. There are also plenty of other outdoor activities and organized youth sport leagues. Gene Record Park in Henderson features a handicap accessible, state-of-the-art playground, soccer fields and a farmer's market.

The Henderson/Chester County Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to supporting our local businesses and shaping a better community. Each fall our largest chamber-produced event, the Chester County BBQ Festival, takes over the Courthouse lawn and Main Street for a three-day celebration including famous Chester County BBQ, entertainers, arts and craft vendors, and children's activities. We host more than 12,000 guests that weekend, so we have plenty of opportunities to share our Southern hospitality.

We are proud to welcome you to our home! Stay a while and come back often. It won't take long for you to find out why this is a great place to live, work and play.

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Vicki Dickson Chamber Board President

Hurt Johnson Chamber Executive Director



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## credits

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## calendar of events

To submit or suggest information for next year's issue, please email the Chamber of Commerce: discover@chestercountychamber.com

Discover Chester County can be viewed online at www.chestercountychamber.com.

Chester County BBQ Festival — September 27-29

Chickasaw Craft Fair — October

Henderson Christmas Parade — December 6

Freed-Hardeman University Annual Benefit Dinner — December 7

Lighting of Chickasaw State Park — December 9-11

Chester County Tour of Homes — December

Annual Lions Club Implement Sale — January 26

Freed-Hardeman University Annual Bible Lectureships — February 3-7 Exchange Club/ Carl Perkins Center Annual Dinner and Auction — March

Freed-Hardeman University Makin Music — April 12-13

Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Tournament — April

Chester County Relay for Life — May

Lions Club Annual Walking Horse Show — June

## HENDERSON/CHESTER COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Henderson/Chester County Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary organization dedicated to supporting business and shaping a better community. It was established to promote civic, commercial, industrial and agricultural progress and to work diligently with community partners; it is managed by a volunteer board of directors. Collaboration is at the heart of all chamber activities. Volunteers, members and business partners make it possible for the chamber to accomplish goals and make the community a great place to live, work and play.

The Henderson/Chester County Chamber of Commerce provides support and information through membership services. The chamber offers excellent networking opportunities, such as monthly Business After Hours events and chamber coffees. It offers free monthly business counseling through a partnership with the Tennessee Small Business Development Center, partnership opportunities during community events, business education, a web site and social media presence. The chamber informs members of community events and local, regional and state issues concerning business. When a company is a member of the chamber, consumers feel the company is trustworthy, connected to the community and listens to its customers.

The chamber works to promote what is good and unique about Chester County. It seeks to educate residents and encourage visitors to discover the historic, cultural and recreational opportunities in the area. One of our main goals at the chamber is to educate leadership and "front-line" businesses about tourism opportunities and the importance of tourism. As a result of taxes generated by tourist activities in Chester County, each household pays \$130 less in local and state taxes. Tourist activity in Chester County in 2010 created \$290,000 in county tax revenue.

Our community is proud to be home to Chickasaw State Park, hosting one of only two wrangler campgrounds in the Tennessee State Park system. The park averages more than 600,000 visitors per year. Chester County is also home to many unique shops, award-winning restaurants and interesting small community stores.

The chamber promotes the community's advantages as a residential and business location and serves as a portal for possibilities in innovation, education and recreation. It identifies and promotes the community's quality of life, healthcare services, family friendly neighborhoods, quality jobs, arts, youth programs, outdoor activities and top-rated public school system. It facilitates physical improvements through projects such as the Henderson Downtown Park and strong involvement with the Tennessee Downtowns program. The chamber also is the coordination point for the Chester County Imagination Library Volunteer Team, hosting meetings and helping educate our citizens on the importance of literacy. Chester County has a rich education heritage. Since 1869, higher education has shaped the community. Downtown Henderson is home to Freed-Hardeman University, a four-year private liberal arts school. For the last decade, U. S. News and World Report has repeatedly ranked Freed-Hardeman University as a top-tier university. Students go on to be doctors, engineers, businessmen and women, teachers and social workers. FHU strives to make the world a better place by instilling in their students the importance of a Christian life, no matter the vocation.

The chamber also serves as the economic development team for the county. Through partnerships with Southwest Tennessee Development District, West Tennessee Industrial Association, Jackson Regional Partnership, the City of Henderson and Chester County, it promotes Chester County to industries and commercial enterprises. It leads existing business development initiatives to encourage companies to stay, grow and prosper in Henderson and Chester County. The chamber works with the REDI program, FHU, and the Henderson/ Chester County Technology Center to advance education and workforce development. It also encourages the entrepreneurial spirit by partnering with the Tennessee Small Business Development Center.

The chamber identifies, educates and motivates emerging community leaders by facilitating Leadership Chester County. The class is a comprehensive, results-oriented leadership program. It has four components: education, interaction, personal enrichment and involvement. There are eight class sessions with topics including health care and social issues, local government, manufacturing, agriculture, education, state government, tourism and economic development.

The state of Tennessee recognizes the importance of successful community development best practices and the impact on sustaining economic growth. The Three-Star program helps rural counties achieve excellence in community development by emphasizing foundational steps and targeting community strengths to improve quality of life and grow jobs. The chamber maintains the accreditation for Chester County's Three-Star program.

The chamber organizes a variety of community events, including the famous Chester County BBQ Festival and the Henderson Christmas Parade. The BBQ Festival is a three-day event centered around the historic Chester County Courthouse lawn in downtown Henderson. The Chester County small-community barbeques can be traced back to the 1800s and are a tradition that has continued into the 21st century. The barbeques were the inspiration in the 1970s, when the Henderson Jaycees were looking for a fundraiser that reflected the heritage and culture of the county. In 1978 the Chester County



BBQ Festival was born, and the performance of Dale Evans, countrywestern star and wife of Roy Rogers, was the highlight of the event. During her performance she announced that the West did not have barbeque of the type that the fine cooks of Chester County produced. In the 1980s the chamber of commerce was given duties to plan the festival, which has grown into a regional attraction. Each year the festival shares famous Chester County barbeque cooked by local Chris Siler with thousands of guests.

Entertainment is still an important feature of the festival. The Chester County Bank Entertainment Stage is filled with talent for three days. Locals and visitors set up their lawn chairs and enjoy the entertainment in the shadow of the beautiful courthouse. The highlights of the entertainment venue are the talent shows sponsored by Thomas Media on Friday night and Saturday afternoon. Main Street is closed to vehicle traffic, and vendors line the streets selling handmade and unique items, while children enjoy train rides and face painting. Local businesses and supporters sponsor the festival, so there is no admission fee. Sponsors and volunteers make the event possible. While most guests think of the festival's barbeque, fried treats and entertainment, those who are local cherish its memories, traditions and a strong spirit of community. The 2012 festival is Sept. 27-29.

The Henderson Christmas Parade has been a tradition for more than 20 years. On the first Thursday night of December, Main Street closes, and young and old welcome the Christmas season. Floats, bands, cheerleaders, sports teams and many others participate in the parade. The highlight of the night is Santa Claus' waving from the top of a big red fire truck.

The chamber of commerce plays a vital role — from sending out relocation and tourist information to economic and retail development to organizing festivals and parades. To find out more, visit www.chestercountychamber.com and www.facebook.com/ HendersonChesterChamber.

## DISCOVER TRAVEL TREASURES IN SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE.



# SMALL TOWN, SMALL SCHOOL, BIG OPPORTUNITIES!

Written by: Nancy Bennett

Freed-Hardeman University offers the Henderson and Chester County community a variety of activities usually found only in larger towns. Whether your interest is in collegiate sports, theatre, music, art or academia, the bustling campus has a plethora of events and activities for the young and the young at heart.

Lion and Lady Lion athletic teams compete in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, and they compete very well. Last year, three teams participated in national championships. So-if it's basketball, volleyball, softball, baseball or soccer you like to watch, come to Brewer Sports Center or one of the athletic fields for exciting competition.

FHU Theatre presents three or four productions annually, one in Loyd Auditorium and the others in the intimate setting of the Black Box Theatre. In addition, they cooperate with the Henderson Arts Council to bring a professional production to town. The 2012-2013 season will include five shows and several guest artists; "The Heiress," a 1947 American classic by Ruth and Augustus Goetz, will be the Homecoming play scheduled for Nov. 8-10.

Student art exhibits as well as those done by professors and other professionals are frequently staged in the Troy Plunk Gallery in Bulliner-Clayton Art Center. See the work and hear the artist talk-all for free.

Of course, the university also hosts a number of special events each year. Chief among these is the annual benefit dinner to raise funds for student scholarships. This stellar occasion has brought former United States presidents, senators, star athletes, nationally known newsmen and entertainers to campus for one night in December. In 2012, former Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice will be the featured speaker at what is typically the largest single night fundraiser in the state.

The university's athletic program also hosts a well-known athlete in April to raise funds for intercollegiate athletics. Speakers have included legendary coaches and all-stars on the professional level, including Peyton and Archie Manning, Bobby Bowden, Ozzie Smith and Eddie George, to name a few. The night also features an auction of sports memorabilia.

Thousands of visitors converge on Henderson the first full week in February for five days of Bible study, education and fellowship. More than a hundred speakers and sessions are available to participants in the program that began in 1936. The theme for the Feb. 3-8, 2013 Bible Lectureship will be "We Will Serve the Lord: Conquest and Deliverance in Joshua to Ruth."

Freed-Hardeman students present a musical extravaganza called Makin' Music each April. Student groups compete for the sweepstakes trophy by designing the set and costumes, writing the lyrics, and finally presenting their show. Again, thousands of guests visit the campus for one of its three performances. Saturday night's show when the winners are announced usually sells out, so reserve your tickets early.

When summer rolls around and students go home for the break, the campus belongs to hundreds of young campers who come to learn and play. The calendar features sports camps for basketball, baseball, soccer and volleyball, as well as an academic camp (QUEST), a leadership camp (Horizons), and a service camp (GO!). FHU also operates weekly sessions at Mid-South Youth Camp off-campus, for campers aged 9-18. Adults can participate in the Christian Training Series held in July. More information about all of these camps is available on the university web site at fhu.edu.

An after-school art class and music lessons for elementary school children are also offered on FHU's campus and swimming lessons are taught in the summer. The ladies enjoy an afternoon of sweet treats and entertainment at the Freed-Hardeman Associates' annual Victorian Tea Party in May.

Many community residents utilize the temperature-controlled walking track in Brewer Sports Center for their daily exercise program. The gymnasium opens early and stays open during the evening so it's easy

## Annual FHU Associates' Tea Party:

Written by: Nancy Bennett with Mary Beth

There is no trouble so great or grave that cannot be much diminished by a nice cup of tea. Bernard-Paul Heroux

Henderson and Chester County ladies of all ages celebrate spring the first Saturday in May by attending the Freed-Hardeman University Associates' annual Victorian tea party. For a decade now, guests have gathered at the Hardeman House on White Avenue to take a step back in time for a leisurely afternoon.

In addition to a variety of teas, scones are always on the menu, along with a delicious variety of sweet and savory items. "I've visited many different tearooms in the last few years, including having tea at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, and I can't help but think that our tea party food is always the most delicious I've ever tasted," Kristen Hicks, a former chairman of the event, said.

The full afternoon tea might include minted butter cucumber sandwiches, dilled chicken salad on pastry puffs, and radishchive tea sandwiches with sesame and ginger. As for sweets, the menu might feature chocolate caramel mini cupcakes, lemon pistachio puffs and white chocolate lime cookies. The scone of choice and the tea options change from year to year. If tea and friendly fellowship are not enough, the afternoon also offers several activity venues including making paper roses, learning ribbon embroidery, a tutorial on tablescaping, and playing croquet on the lawn. The youngest ladies have activities of their own, including a dress-up room. A photographer is on hand to capture guests decked out in their tea attire. Hats and gloves add to the ambiance, but are not required.

The tea party typically includes a venue featuring "all things tea" for sale to those who want to take a specialty tea, tea pot, or cozy home with them.

The event raises funds for scholarships to Freed-Hardeman University. The Hardeman House was the home of N.B. Hardeman, former vice president and president of the school.



to fit in a few laps before or after work or on your lunch hour. Eleven laps around the track equal a mile toward your physical fitness goal.

For those interested in the more serious part of college life, the university also offers tuition discounts to graduates of Chester County High School. Senior citizens may audit classes at no charge on a space available basis. So, if you want to take a class, see a game, watch a play, meet someone famous, view an art exhibit, learn more about the Bible, enjoy musical entertainment, camp out, or take a walk, you can do it all without ever leaving town. Nurture your body, your soul and your mind. The welcome mat is out at Freed-Hardeman University.

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## Magic Valley Air Force

The Magic Valley Air Force's sense of community was apparent at its Summer 2012 fly-in. With a strong spirit of friendliness, cooperation, helpfulness and sportsmanship, everyone pitched in to make the day work. Experienced pilots assisted novices on trainer or buddy boxes, helping them control the incredibly responsive remote planes whenever they needed it. Parents of a 23-year-old pilot who began the sport at age 11 volunteered to cook and sell food to participants and audience members. One member took his turn serving as contest director, as pilots coordinated take-offs with one another.

With a clubhouse, restroom and fence for safety, members have developed a site in the middle of Chester County farmland that even boasts an asphalt runway suitable for jets. The June fly-in drew participants from surrounding counties and states. About 30 pilots participated, bringing radio-control aircraft ranging from helicopters and fixed-wing planes to a jet.

According to Jim Feirick, summer contest director, the sport is perfect for clearing the mind of daily stress because of the concentration it requires. He explained, "It's very relaxing because you can't think about anything else when you're flying."

The organization hosts three fundraising flyins per year in spring, summer and fall, and members fly on designated weekdays at the Mickey Cherry Memorial Field. Magic Valley Air Force is a chartered club of the Academy of Model Aeronautics. Tommy Wooley serves as organization president. Details about the the club and its events can be found at magicvalleyairforce.org.





## Child Advocacy Center: Safe Haven for Children

After experiencing the most traumatic moments of their lives, children find refuge at the Exchange Club–Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse. Located at 113 E. Main St. in Henderson, it offers a safe place to fall for severely physically abused and sexually abused children in Chester County.

The center's roots go back to 1981, when the legendary Carl Perkins was so moved by the death of a child at the hands of an abusive parent that he teamed with the Exchange Club to begin a child abuse prevention center in Madison County. Today the center boasts 15 child advocacy centers throughout West Tennessee.

"We put them at ease, and let them know that they are safe in this place."

Previously located on Church Street, the Henderson center moved to Main Street in 2005 after First State Bank (now Clayton Bank and Trust) gave the center its new home rent-free.Members of the Henderson Elks Lodge pooled their resources and renovated the building, including a kitchen, large conference area, bathroom, therapeutic playroom and offices.

The center has a director, family advocate, office manager and AmeriCorps member.

Practicum students from Freed-Hardeman University social work or counseling programs assist the staff, also. "Children are pretty scared when they come to the center for the first time," Chester County Director Clay Jordan said. "We immediately put them at ease and let them know that they are in a safe place. They learn to trust our staff very quickly."

Children usually are referred to the center following a disclosure of abuse to a trusted adult. The adult then calls the local Department of Children's Services (DCS), the state Child Abuse Hotline or a local law enforcement agency, who then calls the center. Center staff work under the jurisdiction of Child Protective Services (CPS) case workers and managers, who guide the investigation process, starting with a forensic interview at the center.

A forensic interview (FI) is a highly skilled interview conducted by one with extensive training in the art of interviewing children using non-leading questions. The interview takes place in the FI room and is watched via closed-circuit television by Child Protective Services case workers, law enforcement officers and Jordan. The Child Protective Investigation Team (CPIT) reviews all cases at monthly meetings. Headed by Assistant District Attorney Al Earls, the multidisciplinary team decides whether a case is prosecuted. They also decide if the child needs to be referred for services at the center. Members of the CPIT Team in Chester County are: Al Earls, Assistant District Attorney, 26th Judicial District; Gary Davidson, Henderson Police Dept. Investigator; Jason Crouse, Chester County Sheriff's Dept. Investigator; Dr. Laura Melaro, behavioral therapist; MariLynn McCloskey and Takisha Wallace, Child Protective Services officers with the Dept. of Children's Services; Terry Bell, Youth Services Officer; Dr. Brian McCarver of Prime Care Medical Center; and Jordan.

Abused children between the ages of six and 12 are often referred to the VOCA Program (Victims of Crime Assistance). The VOCA Program is directed by Family Advocate Kirbi Fahs. "The program begins each year in July with a new bunch of kids," Fahs said. "We start off by getting to know one another and familiarizing them with the center and staff. Throughout the year we teach them to overcome the trauma of their abuse. We stress that abuse is never their fault, and we go over an extensive safety plan, so that the child will be empowered to stop a potential abuser if faced with that again. Our primary goal is self-esteem building, so that the child isn't haunted by the abuse throughout his or her lifetime."

Staff also conduct courtroom prep with children before they have to testify in court. They also accompany the children to court for moral support and are often required to testify.

Fahs also oversees the relative caregiver program. Designed for relatives who are raising grandchildren, nephew, nieces, cousins, or younger siblings, the RC program offers activities to enrich the family life experience. Monthly support groups give caregivers a safe place to vent and discuss the new obstacles in their lives. Children also have support groups that help them cope with the changes in their families.

The center also offers weekly parenting classes. Adults are referred to parenting by the court system, law enforcement, DCS or selfreferral. The 10-week curriculum is designed to improve their parenting skills by teaching selfrestraint, motivating them to be better parents and giving new tools to use for disciplining. The class meets every Monday at 11 a.m. and is taught by Jordan. "Group discussions are key to the learning experience," Jordan said. "They learn from both the lesson plan and each other's experiences."



Besides VOCA, RCP and parenting, the center also offers Forever Parents, a class for divorcing parents. During the four-hour course, parents are taught to put their children first and never involve them in adult problems. "They learn to stress to their children that divorce is not their fault," Jordan stated. "I also stress that parents will have healthier children if they don't talk about one another in the child's presence."

The Carl Perkins Center is considered a Child Advocacy Center because of the full range of services offered within its walls. Children are always at the heart of every decision that's made, and that's something every employee is aware of at every moment of the day. "We never forget why we're here," Jordan added. "Without us, many of these children would not have an advocate. We love what we do but it's a very serious job and we never forget that. We work to protect children, and there can't be a greater job anywhere."



#### **Hotline Number**

The center offers 24-hour hotline assistance where callers, often anonymous, can relay information on suspected child abuse cases that the staff then calls into the Tennessee Central Intake number. CPS workers are dispatched to investigate and determine if abuse, in fact, has taken place. The center would once again become involved in cases of severe physical abuse and in all sexual abuse cases. Calls range from neglect such as malnourishment or poor home conditions to severe physical and/or sexual abuse. In emergency circumstances, staff often call law enforcement as well so that the case can be looked into immediately. The 24-hour hotline number is 1-800-273-4747 and can be used by anyone who suspects abuse.

#### **Child Abuse Prevention Month**

April is National CAP Month and has been since 1989 when Bonnie Finney of Norfolk, Va., tied a blue ribbon to her car antenna to memorialize the death of her only grandson, who died as a result of child abuse. She chose the color blue to constantly remind her of the black and blue bruises that covered his battered body. That was the beginning of the national blue ribbon movement. "Each year the Carl Perkins Centers choose a theme upon which to base CAP Month," Jordan explained. "We've had some creative campaigns in the past few years." Past CAP Month themes have included "It's Time to Talk About Child Abuse;" "Team Up Against Child Abuse;" "Take Out Child Abuse;" and "Wear Blue So Children Don't Have To." Blue ribbons paint the downtown landscape and the center has a special appreciation luncheon for members of the Child Protective Investigative Team.

#### Volunteerism

Adults can volunteer at the center after completing a ten-hour course that trains them in confidentiality and child abuse reporting laws. Anyone wishing to volunteer can come to the center and get a volunteer packet. After completion of training, he or she may work with children directly or indirectly, as they wish. Volunteer training is not required if someone wants to work on fundraising.

#### **Fundraisers**

The center operates on grants, private donations and on fundraisers that are conducted throughout the year. The primary and most lucrative fundraiser is the annual dinner and auction. Held on the campus of Freed-Hardeman University, the Carl Perkins Dinner and Auction is a night filled with good food and great entertainment. Tables are sold to local businesses, as well as friends and families, who get together for an unforgettable evening. Both silent and live auctions are held with items being donated from all across the country. Sports memorabilia, autographed books and CDs, clothing, jewelry, home décor, vacations and more are offered each year in an attempt to raise funds and make Dinner and Auction the best that it can be.

Memphis Wrestling, sponsored by NEO Products, is the second highest grossing fundraiser the Center has annually. Organized by Terry Hearn, the event netted \$10,000 in 2012. Other fundraisers include the Elks Lodge Memorial Golf Tournament. Held in August at Chickasaw Golf Course, the annual event brings in \$3,500 each year for the Center. The Annual Circles of Hope Telethon is also held in August. This is a fundraising event for all Carl Perkins Centers. In October No XCuse Fitness conducts the Pig Trot, a 5K run held in conjunction with the BBQ Festival. In November the center hosts A Field of Flags to honor servicemen and women as well as patriots. December closes out the calendar year with the Holiday Tour of Homes, a fun way for area residents to tour some of Chester County's finest houses while they are decorated for Christmas.





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Written by: Dawn Bramblett



Building on the service of those who have encouraged the arts in Chester County through the years, the Henderson Arts Commission is working to achieve 501(c) (3) (charitable organization) status in order to further its mission of recognizing, educating, enriching and entertaining through the arts.

A popular HAC event is Arts in the Alley, held in downtown Henderson on third Thursdays spring through fall. When attending, visitors will find a casual atmosphere, with attendees ranging in age from infants to retirees. Guests sit in lawn chairs listening to the band or chat with vendors while buying handmade items. Celebrity grillers help fund the event each month, filling the air with the smell of hamburgers and hot dogs on the grill. This family-friendly event has no admission charge.

# 

Chickasaw State Park is a quaint park located just west of Henderson, within an hour's drive of both Jackson and Memphis. The park's namesake comes from the Chickasaw Indians. Although the Chickasaws never lived there for long periods of time, they owned the

land and used it for hunting big game that included black bear, buffalo and the white tailed deer that still make appearances in the park. The Chickasaws hunted throughout the area until the government bought it from them in 1818. After this purchase, white homesteaders moved into the area, creating what is considered one of the most intense land rushes in history.

Chickasaw State Park was planned and built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the late 1930's as part of the Land Utilization Act. It is recorded that 290 people were employed to develop Chickasaw. One of the first projects to be completed was the damming of Piney Creek to create Lake Placid. Cabins 1-7, Sagamore Lodge, much of the group camp (including Lake Lajoie) and the springhouse that still operates along the lakeshore trail were all built during this time. Although these structures are more than 75 years old, they are still in daily use.

Because of the hard work of the CCC, there are many recreational opportunities today at Chickasaw State Park. One of the most popular spots at Chickasaw is the swimming area in Lake Placid. The sandy beach connected to it is great for sunning or picnics. Adjacent to the swimming area is a full bathhouse for guests to clean up afterwards. Also centrally located are two playgrounds, a volleyball court, a basketball court, a swing and many benches that may be used to enjoy the beautiful grounds. Additionally, there are tennis courts and a ball field with lights.

Near the swimming area there are several picnic tables with grills that are great for group events. There are also picnic shelters, which are covered areas with tables, grills, water and electricity. Guests have the option of renting one of these three shelters or using one of the other three that operate on a first-come, first-served basis.

The boat dock is open during the summer months from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Guests can rent paddleboats or fishing boats. The paddleboats hold between two and four people and are \$2 per person per hour. The fishing boats accommodate around three people and are \$3 per hour. Trolling motors are not included, although guests are welcome to bring their own. The park provides life jackets.

Guests are welcome to take advantage of the bountiful fishing in Lake Placid. Anyone 13 or older must have a Tennessee state fishing license. The lake hosts lots of largemouth bass, bream, crappie and catfish. Guests can fish on boats or from the shore of the lake. Aside from the park's boats, only canoes, kayaks or inflatable rafts are allowed on the lake.

There are four different hiking trails, and another trail will open soon. Each trail is of varying difficulty and length. They cover all of the different natural areas in the park, including deep forest, lakeside, marshland and lush creek. At the trail head of the Fern Creek trail is a piece of history. The Brewer-Fields cabin was built in 1876 in Reagan, Tenn. Parts of this cabin have been reconstructed and other aspects of it are original. It provides a glimpse into homesteaders' lives.

There are three camping areas at Chickasaw. The first, tent camping, is nearest the lake and is connected to the swimming area by the well-known footbridge. There is water, but no electricity at these sites. Each campsite is equipped with a picnic table, a grill and a fire pit. It is \$13 per night to camp at the tent campground.

The second camping area is the Wrangler Campground, which is reserved for guests who bring horses. These sites have electricity, in addition to all of the amenities provided at the tent campground. There is a trail leading from this area into the state forest that surrounds the park, where many guests enjoy riding horses. There is also an RV campground that has the same amenities as the Wrangler Campground. Camping in this area is not restricted to RVs and trailers; guests are welcome to set up tents. Both the RV campground and the Wrangler campground are \$20 per night. Each camping area has restrooms and a playground.



There are 13 different cabins available to rent at Chickasaw. They sleep either four or six people and provide full kitchens — with dishes, silverware, linens, microwave, toaster, refrigerator and coffeemaker. The cabins are also equipped with satellite TV and central heat and air.

A group lodge that sleeps 40 people in bunk-style beds is available, also. It ahas a full kitchen and central heat and air. Check-in time for both the cabins and the group lodge is 3:00 p.m. and check-out is 10:00 a.m..

Lake Lajoie is another option that can be rented as a group camp. It can accommodate 163 people in 16 cabins and has a mess hall with a full kitchen. Group camp guests are welcome to fish and swim in Lake Lajoie. Group camp and group lodge guests must provide their own linens. Sagamore Lodge is also available for day rental; it is a popular spot for weddings, meetings, and family reunions.

> Also notable is the park restaurant, which is open Friday night and all day Saturday and Sunday. The restaurant has large windows, offering customers a beautiful view of Lake Placid. There is a full menu in addition to the Southern style buffet. The restaurant is known for its catfish, seafood and steaks and is popular with park visitors and local residents alike.

Chickasaw State Forest, which surrounds the park, is a haven for horseback riding, off-road vehicles and hunting. Guests are welcome to ride ATVs, dirt bikes and other vehicles in the forest. While welcomed in the state forest, these vehicles are not legal in the park. They must be on a trailer when on park grounds. There is prevalent hunting in the state forest within season. The park is, however, a safety zone.

Horse rentals are available at the stables, as are guided hour-long trail rides. Scheduled activities that take place from Memorial Day to Labor Day. They include arts and crafts, historical programs, hikes and wildlife activities, all of which are appropriate for both children and adults.

Chickasaw a wide variety of accommodations and activities. In a time when many are becoming disconnected from nature, it is more important than ever to support state parks. Information can be found at the park office (731-989-5141), and there is a Chickasaw State Park page on Facebook.

### SAVING OUR ENVIRONMENT AND DOLLARS, TOO



With curb-side recycling pick-up that began Sept. 9, 2011, we're doing more than just protecting our environment; we're saving taxpayers' dollars. Every pound of recyclables that we collect is one less pound of waste that we pay to bury in a landfill.

The City of Henderson's recycling collection takes place every two weeks and is on a different day than normal garbage collection. If you are interested in recycling, email your name and address to recycle@ci.henderson.tn.us. Businesses and residences within the city limits can participate at no charge. More information is available at http://hendersontn.org.



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## Let's go green together.



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## Recycling Witten by: Shelby Jumber with Amber Greene



The Chester County Solid Waste & Recycling Department (CCSWRD) is ahead of the curve in Tennessee when it comes to providing eco-friendly alternatives to disposing of waste. The business, which recycled more than two million pounds of waste in 2011, is an environmentally conscious organization that is dedicated to responsibly eliminating waste through waste reduction programs, litter prevention and environmental education. CCSWRD has five convenience centers located throughout Chester County for waste drop off. The main recycling buildings, as well as the city transfer station are located in Henderson on Talley Store Road.

One very important value held by CCSWRD is educating the public on environmentally responsible waste disposal. Chester County Recycling Coordinator Amber Greene visits local schools to share a new spin on the three R's: reduce, reuse and recycle. Greene carries a "recycling man" as her teaching aid. The man, who is made out of recyclable products like cans and apple juice bottles, is used to help students learn about what to recycle. Greene also lets students participate in activities that help them learn how to sort different recyclable products. She distributes several recyclable items to the students and lets them sort the



The leadership of Mayors King and Seaton has been instrumental in the success of our recycling program. Danny Benard, Director, Chester County Solid Waste













In order to help keep Chester County litter-free, several types of waste are accepted at CCSWRD. In 2012, CCSWRD began collecting **glass** as well as all types of **plastic**. Other items accepted at CCSWRD include **aluminum cans**, **clothing**, **cardboard**, **metal**, **office paper**, **newspaper**, **pallets**, **electronic waste**, **batteries** and **paint**.

In addition to their drop off services, CCSWRD also operates several pick-up routes. A cardboard route, which helped recycle 415 tons last year, picks up cardboard from 42 businesses. A paper pick-up route, which helped recycle 125 tons of mixed paper in 2011, travels to 14 Chester County businesses each Tuesday. In addition to these pick-up routes, a free paper shredding service for any school or business in Chester County is also offered through CCSWRD.

Although CCSWRD has been creating a buzz in Chester County for some time, it has recently begun to receive state-wide recognition. In 2011 CCSWRD received a \$282,500 grant from the Tennessee Department of Environment Conservation's Division of Solid Wates and Hazardous Management to begin the first Recycling Hub in Tennessee. The funds will enable the county to establish a pilot project for recycling solid waste. Chester County will be a hub for the Shiloh region and surrounding counties in Tennessee, which include Chester, Hardin and McNairy Counties. The goal of establishing the hub is to promote and increase recycling across Tennessee and to encourage municipal governments to partner with other local governments for recycling.

items into different bins placed around the room. Following the presentation and activities, the students are given bags containing brochures, colors, coloring books and Frisbees sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Transportation Litter Grant Program.

In an effort to continue educating students on recycling, paper recycling bins were placed in Chester County schools in January 2011. Each school has the bins in classrooms, as well as several containers throughout the school. Through this program, CCSWRD collected 26 tons of paper from the Chester County schools in 2011. Aluminum can bins and plastic bottle bins are scheduled to be placed in the schools, also.

In September 2011, the City of Henderson implemented a curbside recycling program. Residents who enroll receive blue recycling bags, and filled bags are picked up every other Friday (Aug. 24, Sept. 7 and 21, Oct. 5 and 19, Nov. 2, 16 and 30, Dec. 14 and 28, etc.). Recylables that can be combined in blue bags include aluminum cans, plastic bottles (such as water, detergent, fabric softener), paper (newspaper, junk mail, paperback books, magazines) and cardboard. Residents may sign up for the blue bag curbside recycling program through www.hendersontn.org or by calling 731-983-5000.

More information on the department and recycling is at www.chestercountytn.org/solidwaste.

#### Stay Comfortable.





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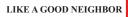


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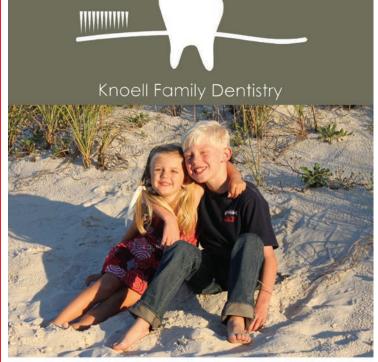






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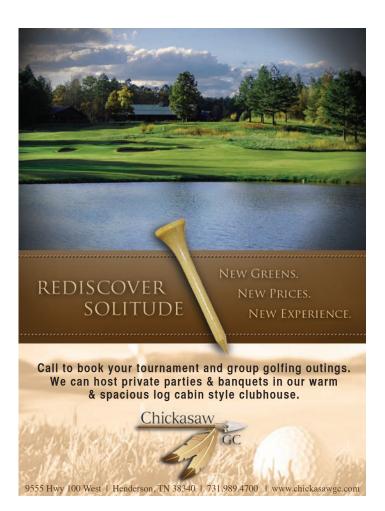




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Established after WWI in April 1945, the Chester Co. Lions Club was chartered by professionals, teachers, professors, businessmen and industry leaders. Lion Orman Campbell, a retired optometrist, has been a member since 1953. "Lattie Averitt, Bob Darnell, and local leaders kept the club going for years. The president was Dr. Bully Guy when we came here," said Lion Campbell. "Others involved at that time were: Tal Enoch, Hubert Steed, James Williams, William Mitchell, Fentress Casey, Leon Johnson, Johnny Bryant, Dr. Casey Carrington, Butch Wilkins, Jess Wilcoxon, Houston Carroll, L.E. Pevahouse, Melburn Connor, Carlton Morton and many others."

In the early days, the club provided eye care and Dr. Campbell did most of the exams. Scholarships were given to local students and the club regularly contributed to the Southerm College of Optometry, held eyeglasses collection drives, sold brooms, sold toothpaste and toothbrushes, and stayed busy at work in the community.

The club's first female member was Juanita Canada, who was also the club's first woman president. Since that time, women have been a strong, growing part of the club. Lion Canada started the Servant of the Month award. "She actively started many programs and kept them going," said Lion Campbell. Through the Student of the Month Award, the club began recognizing local junior high and high school students who excel academically, civically, athletically, artistically and socially.

Sight services are the main focus of Lions Club International. The local club gives donations to support the Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing Services and the Hamilton Eye Institute in Memphis. In Chester Co., the Lions Club helps purchase eye glasses for those who are indigent and cannot afford glasses. In 2011, approximately 20 people were helped through the eye glass service.

Since the 1950s, the club has provided free vision screenings in the local schools. In February 2012, the Mobile Sight Van and local volunteers visited all county schools, where about 900 students were screened. Of those, 87 were referred for follow up by an optometrist. In October 2011, the club provided free vision screenings to almost 50 senior citizens at the Senior Citizens Center.

The club awards annual scholarships. In 2012 Zach Morton and Mitch Naylor received

## the LIONS club

L. E. Pevahouse Memorial Scholarships based on their academic, athletic and civic performances.

The club recognizes those who give of their time and resources to help others and Chester Co. through the Servant of the Month award. Some past recipients are: Sheriff Blair Weaver, Renee Phelps, Teresa King, Janice Plunk, Jeanine Moore, Ken Golson, Wanda Smith, Bobby King and others.

Lions are also active volunteers for the annual Clean Up Chester Co. Day. They help staff the pit at the Chester County BBQ Festival and assisted at the area's first Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinic last year. In 2011, the club sponsored a camp for children affected by osteogenesis imperfecta (brittle bone disease). The club hosts a campsite and raises funds for Chester County's Relay for Life.

Club funds are used to help sponsor: Dixie Youth Baseball, AYSO Soccer, Girls State, Boys State, the Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, Project Graduation, West Tennessee Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and the Chester County Quarterback Club. In the last year, the Chester Co. Lions Club has donated more than \$10,000.

How is the club able to do all this? One word—fundraising! An implement sale is held on the last Saturday in January. A pancake breakfast is held in May. The Lions Club provides a concession stand for the families fo 400 kids who participate in soccer at Gene Record Park. For 40 years, the Lions Club has sponsored the Walking Horse Show at the Chester Co. Fairgrounds. Horse trainers and owners from five states come for a night of fun competition. In 2010, the Lions Club assisted Leadership Chester County with the first Courthouse Lawn Showing of Walking Tall. Each of these activities is key in meeting the group's goals

What does being a Lion mean? ...Being part of Lion's Club helps my individual contribution make significant differences in the lives of others. Knowing I'm able to help give the gift of sight to men, women and children who may not otherwise have the means is truly significant. It feels good to not just go through life with a catcher's mitt; it's important to throw some goodness back to others. — Lion Donna Rouse-Butler

... I'm proud to help serve my community through Relay for Life, scholarships, eye screenings and all the worthwhile things that help advance life for people here. — Lion Barry Hutcherson

... I am honored to be a part of the hardest working, most caring, and giving people I know. Working with this organization has given me an outlet to share with others why I make Chester County my home. — Lion Courtney Bingham

...The Lions Club is more than a service organization; it is a "family of people" dedicated to the Lions motto "WE SERVE." — Lion Lynda Tacker



### Important Numbers

HENDERSON/ CHESTER COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE www.chestercountychamber.com	989-5222
Emergency Chester County Sheriff's Office 126 Crook Avenue Henderson Police Department 126 Crook Avenue Chester County Drug Task Force	Dial 911 989-2787
	989-2201
305 Record Dr.	989-2993
FIRE DEPARTMENTS- RESCUE Emergency Chester County 823-A East Main St.	Dial 911 983-5570
Henderson Fire Department 505 Sanford Ave.	Emergency 989-2359 Business 989-5664
Rescue Squad Highway 100 East	989-3939
SCHOOLS Freed-Hardeman University 158 East Main St. Chester County Schools Superintendent of Schools	989-6000
970 East Main St.	989-5134
High School Office 552 East Main St. Adult Basic Education East Chester Elementary	989-8125 989-2404
708 East Main St. West Chester Elementary	989-8145
1243 W. Main St. Jacks Creek Elementary	989-8150
65 State Rte 22-A S - Jacks Creek Chester County Middle School	989-8155
634 East Main St. Alternative School	989-8110
186 Luray Family Resource Center Henderson-Chester Co. Tech. Center 1449 White Ave.	989-8144 989-8143 989-8188
Chester Co. Adult Education 1449 White Ave.	989-9407
<b>CITY OFFICIALS</b> Henderson City Hall 121 Crook Ave. Mayor's Office Recorder's Office www.hendersontn.org	983-5000 983-5000 983-5000

CHESTER COUNTY OFFICIALS	
Agricultural Agent 159 East Main St.	989-2103
Clerk and Master 126 Crook Avenue	989-7171
County Court Clerk 133 East Main St.	989-2233
County Mayor's Office 159 East Main St.	989-5672
Elections Commission 133 East Main St.	989-4039
Health Department 301 Quinco Dr.	989-7108
Juvenile Office 133 East Main St.	989-7938
Property Assessor's Office 159 East Main St.	989-4882
Register Of Deeds - Courthouse	989-4882 989-4991
Veterans' Service Office 126 Crook Ave.	989-0795
Emergency Management Agency www.chestercountytn.org	989-5674
PUBLIC WORKS	
Highway Department 1069 Main St. Supervisor's Office	989-2689 989-7311
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305 Moss Loop Cave Springs	989-7244
1340 Cave Springs Road Chickasaw Center	989-9326
6345 State Route 100 Henderson Center	989-0551
315 Talley Store Road Hilltop Center	989-9436
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