

Business Focus

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Register Now for Leadership Visit to Salt Lake City, Utah (June 5-7)

Join Us for A Conversation With KCTCS Leadership on April 26th

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Commerce Lexington Mourns Loss of Long-time Account Executive Kelly Bates

The Commerce Lexington family is saddened by the passing of our dear friend and team member, Kelly Bates. For nearly 15 years, Kelly was an integral part of our account executive team, which was highly regarded and recognized as one of the top sales teams in Kentucky and the nation.



KELLY BATES

Her extensive background in the hospitality industry prior to her time at Commerce Lexington was instrumental in the excellent customer service she provided to our members. In 2017, she received a Lifetime Sales Achievement Award from the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). Kelly later took on management of

our Ambassadors Program, a group of volunteers that serves as a liaison between Commerce Lexington and its membership.

Commerce Lexington Inc. President and CEO, Bob Quick, said, "We will miss Kelly very much, and I know many others in the community will too. Her smile was infectious, and her hard work certainly made us better as an organization. Despite her recent health challenges, she always had a positive outlook and a sharp sense of humor. During this difficult time, we would like to express our condolences to her husband, Dann, her children, Bryce and Karsyn, and all who love Kelly."

Commerce Lexington Launches New & Improved On-line Job Board Platform

Commerce Lexington is pleased to announce that it has launched a new and improved on-line Job Board platform that will be beneficial to both employers and job seekers across the region. While Commerce Lexington member businesses can post job opportunities at no charge as a member benefit for up to 60 days, the job posting option is now available to all businesses across the region for a nominal cost, providing a more local and targeted approach to hiring.

This new Job Board is more user-friendly with jobs searchable by keyword, location, industry, and employment type. Employers can also take advantage of added upgrades when posting jobs, such as featured listings that include listings pushed to the top of the board, highlighted posts, and jobs published to the Google Jobs Network. There is also a Résumé Bank that enables people to upload their résumés for added visibility and employers to source qualified candidates. Résumés connect directly to member profiles to make follow-up easy.

Commerce Lexington President and CEO, Bob Quick, said, "Employers have been facing huge challenges of maintaining and growing their workforce, and this new on-line platform will help them better promote job openings and connect with job seekers. There is an ongoing regional collaborative initiative that includes nine counties and aims to improve our ability to compete for jobs and talent. This new Job Board will most certainly bolster those efforts to recruit and retain talent within our region."



SCAN TO VIEW OR POST JOBS



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Personnel Updates:

Submit your company's awards and milestones or personnel changes and additions to mturner@commercelexington.com. Personnel news might include promotions, additions, awards and milestones, recognitions and certifications and/or appointments. Information is published only as space permits.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Submitted by Gina Greathouse, Niki Goldey, Cheryl Klever, Falon McFarland & Katie Vandegrift

NEWS & NOTES:

Toyota Invests \$1.3 Billion in Georgetown Plant

For nearly four decades, Toyota has invested in the Greater Lexington region. We are thrilled to share they are reinvesting once again in its Georgetown facility to support previously announced future BEV assembly at Toyota Kentucky. The investment includes the addition of a battery pack assembly line which will support the assembly of an all-new three row battery electric SUV for the U.S. market. This announcement brings Toyota's investment to nearly \$10 billion overall to our region.



Turner-UK Construction Diversity Accelerator

Commerce Lexington is pleased to be one of the community partners for the Turner-UK Construction Diversity Accelerator program, a collaboration of Turner Construction and the University of Kentucky in collaboration with the Kentucky APEX Accelerator. This is the third consecutive year of the Turner-UK Construction Accelerator cohort. Aimed at fostering an intentionally inclusive economic ecosystem; the 10-week program prepares diverse contractors in construction related businesses with the needed tools to be an industry competitor. Class begins March 5 and concludes with graduation on May 7.

Columbia Gas Presents to Bluegrass Alliance

In early February, members of the Bluegrass Alliance economic development group met in Richmond to share updates within each of the communities. Tyler Burke with Columbia Gas also presented to the group about how natural gas procurement and distribution can affect economic development. Kentucky is well situated geographically to obtain less expensive gas providing cost savings for current companies and those potentially expanding into the Greater Lexington region.



New Year's 'Railsolutions' Presentation

On January 17th, Commerce Lexington hosted New Year's Railsolutions at Big Ass Fans. More than 40 people attended, including Bluegrass Alliance members and professionals from existing manufacturing companies within Greater Lexington. Leaders from CSX, R.J. Corman, and Norfolk Southern presented an overview of the rail industry, including how this reliable and safe mode of transportation may be implemented to allow for cost savings when moving goods.



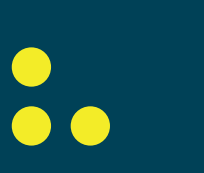
Money Smart for Small Business Classes

In February, Community & Minority Business Development kicked off the Money Smart for Small Business classes with over 35 participants consisting of both aspiring and existing business owners. Sessions were taught by Dale Morgan of Foundation47. Participants were also introduced to community partners including Sarah Gaines – Manager, Economic Development, FCPS; Sherita Miller – Minority Business Enterprise Liaison, LFUCG; and Marilyn Clark, Economic Inclusion Manager, University of Kentucky. Classes conclude March 11.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY THE NUMBERS:

For 2023 year-to-date, Commerce Lexington's Economic Development Division has responded to calls from:

- New Business:** 6 prospects interested in finding a new location or expanding in the Lexington area.
- Client Visits to the Lexington Area:** 3
- Existing Business Visits:** 19
- Existing Business Attempts:** 17
- Total Active Projects:** 35



Driving Innovation: Regional Companies Thrive with KY's SBIR/STTR Match Program

Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear recently announced recipients of \$449,819 in state matching grants through Kentucky Innovation's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Matching Funds Program. Greater Lexington's innovation and technology sector stood out as three out of the four companies receiving grants are located in Lexington. These companies are pioneering advancements in energy systems cybersecurity (Covert Defenses), biopesticides (Lepidext), and digital therapeutic tools for Alzheimer's disease care (VRTogether).

The grants provide vital capital for promising early-stage technology companies by matching federal grants received by Kentucky-based businesses or those relocating to the state. This

initiative has recruited 43 companies to Kentucky, with 28 relocating to the Greater Lexington region. The success of these companies and the state's matching program has a significant impact on the economy, creating high-paying jobs, leveraging federal and private capital, and driving innovation in key sectors.

Since 2006, the Commonwealth's program has awarded 175 grants, totaling \$40 million in state matching funds, to more than 80 unique companies in the Greater Lexington region. Many of the founders and researchers of these companies have invested in our community through employment and research funds in addition to investment in real estate, angel investing, and time devoted to our economic development efforts.



UK Economic Outlook Conference Presents Data About Economy

Commerce Lexington staff recently attended the 35th annual conference. Presentations by Charles Gascon with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis and Dr. Michael Clark, Associate Professor of Economics, included reviews of 2023 national and state conditions along with forecasts for 2024. Dr. Brent Harrison presented a session centered on the promises and pitfalls of Artificial Intelligence (AI) followed by a look at how AI could affect employment and wages. Commerce Lexington is proud to be a long-time co-sponsor of the University of Kentucky Economic Outlook Conference.

Lunch With A Purpose

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March 13

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EVENTS

Make New Connections at Opportunity Exchange on March 21st

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Commerce Lexington's next **Opportunity Exchange event presented by Equity Solutions Group** on **Thursday, March 21**, from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Lyric Theatre & Cultural Arts Center (300 E. Third Street) will feature great networking, exchange of ideas, and interaction for minority-owned and small businesses in the Lexington region. The event connects minority business owners with procurement representatives from some of the largest companies in the region.

The featured speaker is **Monique Quarterman**, Executive Director of KY Innovation, the state's engine for innovative small business development. Quarterman is a native of Hardin County, Kentucky, and has an extensive background in supporting Kentucky's entrepreneurs. In 2012, she supported Kentucky's founders in the Office for



MONIQUE
QUARTERMAN

Research & Innovation at the University of Louisville. She has been a Business Development Manager at MEMStim, a founder of a Louisville-based innovation consulting practice, and collaborated with the Cabinet for Economic Development and KY Innovation in 2020 as the Executive Director of Kentucky Commercialization Ventures within the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation. This distinct background has positioned Quarterman to understand the founders' mentality and identify how KY Innovation can help.

TO REGISTER:

The cost to attend is \$5 for Commerce Lexington Inc. members, and \$10 for potential members. Register on-line at commercelexington.com.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SPONSORS:

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OPPORTUNITY EXCHANGE:

WHEN: Thursday, March 21

TIME: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Lyric Theatre (300 E. Third Street)

REGISTER: Register on-line at commercelexington.com

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2024 EMERGE Features Dynamic Keynotes, Engaging Breakouts

For the eleventh consecutive year, Commerce Lexington's EMERGE Conference will bring together emerging leaders across Central Kentucky for a full day of networking, engaging keynote speakers, informative breakout sessions, and discovering ways to better connect to and impact the community. An outgrowth of one of Commerce Lexington's past Leadership Visits, the **2024 EMERGE Conference** will take place on **Tuesday, March 12**, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Central Bank Center in downtown Lexington.

TO REGISTER:

The cost to attend 2024 EMERGE is \$225 per person and includes a full-day program, luncheon, keynote speakers, and reception. Registration is available at emergelexington.com.

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LUNCHEON KEYNOTE:

The EMERGE Luncheon Keynote sponsored by Guide Realty will feature Sarah Stewart Holland and Beth Silvers, hosts of the podcast *Pantsuit Politics*. They help individuals and teams establish a foundation for curious and respectful exploration of values and policies,



BETH SILVERS &
SARAH STEWART
HOLLAND

harness the power of healthy disagreement, and create dialogue when organizations confront difficult issues. Sarah and Beth also help facilitate conversations about specific tensions through communication and leadership skills. *Pantsuit Politics* was named one of 2021's best shows by Apple Podcasts and has been featured in The New York Times, The Atlantic, Good Morning America 3, The Guardian, Elle Magazine, and Parents Magazine. They are also the authors of *Now What? How to Move Forward When We're Divided (About Basically Everything)* and *I Think You're Wrong (But I'm Listening): A Guide to Grace-Filled Political Conversation*, which was featured on MSNBC's Morning Joe.

MORNING KEYNOTE:

Our Morning Keynote speaker sponsored by Hanna Resource Group is Dr. Bryan K. Williams, a speaker, consultant, and author, who is a noted authority on service excellence and leadership effectiveness. His high-energy, dynamic approach educates and inspires professionals to be consistently exceptional. Dr. Williams has facilitated workshops and delivered keynotes worldwide for various companies in diverse industries. Bryan was the Global Corporate Director of Training and Organizational Effectiveness for the Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company. He holds degrees in Business Administration, Hotel and Restaurant Management, and Adult Education, including a Doctor of Management in Organizational Leadership. Bryan is the founder of the BW Leadership Academy, the STRONG Leader Institute, the Manager Skills Workshop, and has authored six books. He was also a member of the Board of Examiners for the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program.



DR. BRYAN K.
WILLIAMS

EMERGE 2024 BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

COMMUNITY EDUCATION TRACK:

- Advance Your Career (and Do Good) with Nonprofit Board Service.
- The Power of Community Festivals & Projects in Greater LEX.
- Thinking Historically as a Leader.
- Mobile Market.
- Marketing the Greater Lexington Region.
- How Expanded Gaming Has Impacted the State and Local Economy.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK:

- Elevate Your Brand: The Power of Personal & Professional Presence.
- Is This a Hobby or a Business?
- Navigating Financial Uncertainty.
- Hitting the Brakes to Go Further.
- Prompting the Future: Best Use Cases and Empowerment Strategies with GenAI.
- Creating a Culture of Belonging.



2024 Leadership Visit Heads to Salt Lake City, Utah, June 5-7

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Commerce Lexington is pleased to announce that the **2024 Leadership Visit presented by Central Bank & Trust Co.** will take us to Salt Lake City, Utah, **June 5 - 7, 2024**. Labeled as the Silicon Slopes, Salt Lake City is home to a buzzing tech scene - between that and the other booming businesses in the city, its downtown area has been brought to life like never before. From a top-shelf performing arts scene, to award-winning dining, craft beer, and distilling culture, this Old West town has become a forward-thinking, and burgeoning urban hub. There will be a lot for us to learn during this trip - from Salt Lake's thriving tech industry to its exceptional quality of life and efforts in the talent attraction space. It is also home to the Huntsman Cancer Institute, a nationally-recognized cancer hospital and research center and benchmark institute for the UK Markey Cancer Center.

This state capital city has a growing number of IT, finance, outdoor products, and manufacturing companies capitalizing on the area's strategic location as the "Crossroads of the West." Ranked as one of the best environments for business, the Salt Lake area's concentration of biomedical, high tech, and software firms is among the highest in the nation.

Since 2019, the city has seen a hefty 12-percent increase in tech talent to nearly 67,500 tech jobs, outpacing the national average in tech job growth over that same period. Although there has been a



rapid acceleration of the tech industry in recent years, software companies like Novell and WordPerfect got their start in Utah in the late 1970's.

The city is home to University of Utah, the state's flagship university with over 31,000 students, and one of the top 25 business and entrepreneurship schools according to the *Princeton Review*. The educated, multilingual, and ambitious workforce in Salt Lake City makes it an ideal location for top companies.

TO REGISTER:

Registration is available now on-line at **commercelexington.com** for the 2024 Leadership Visit. Full registration includes charter air travel, meals as outlined in the agenda, and two nights' accommodations at The Grand America Hotel (555 S. Main St., Salt Lake City, UT 84111).



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Fund for Greater Lexington co-chairs
(from left) Wes and Anne Murry,
Noa Gimelli and Headley Butler

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EVENTS

Business Community Gathers for An Evening With Commerce Lex.

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The regional business community gathered at An Evening With Commerce Lexington presented by Fifth Third Bank on January 25th at Central Bank Center. During this premier networking and community recognition gathering, we celebrated the

previous year's success, honored a few people from the community, and set the stage for going forward. Participants enjoyed great music, food and drink, a brief program, and of course connecting with other business professionals.



Left to right: Karen Harbin (Commonwealth Credit Union); Jeff Morrett (Parsons and Howard Insurance Group); and 2023 Commerce Lexington Board Chair Cassidy Rosenthal (Stites & Harbison, PLLC). (Photo by Mahan Multimedia)



Left to right: Commerce Lexington 2023 Board Chair Cassidy Rosenthal, Lexington For Everyone board members Raquel Carter (Guide Realty), Rob Shear (SRC of Lexington), Carla Blanton (Carla Blanton Consulting) & Ray Daniels (Equity Solutions Group), and Amelia Adams (Stoll Keenon Ogden). LFE Board member not pictured was Reverend L. Clark Williams (Shiloh Baptist Church). (Photo by Mahan Multimedia)

Jeff Morrett: Volunteer of the Year

Jeff Morrett from Parsons and Howard Insurance Group received Commerce Lexington's **Volunteer of the Year Award sponsored by Commonwealth Credit Union**. Jeff is a strong advocate for Commerce Lexington, having served on the Ambassador Committee since 2021 and taking on a leadership role as Chair of that committee for the last two years. The members of this selective group help educate members on benefits, programs, and events, while representing the organization at ribbon cuttings, grand openings, and other community events. He received the Ambassador of the Year Award in 2021. He is also a proud member of Rotary of Lexington and participates in Business Network International, fostering connections and collaboration within his industry.

Lexington For Everyone: Community Impact Award

An organization dedicated to advocating for balanced, common-sense land use policies in Fayette County and educating the public about the impact of those policies, Lexington For Everyone received the **Community Impact Award sponsored by Stoll Keenon Ogden**. The organization had a significant impact on Fayette County's latest Comprehensive Plan process through a public awareness campaign that included digital media, informational events, presentations to community organizations, and meetings with councilmembers. After much debate, councilmembers approved a more balanced Comprehensive Plan that protects our iconic horse farms, leverages infill and redevelopment opportunities, and adds important land for housing and jobs within the Urban Services Boundary.



At Left: Fifth Third Bank City President Mary-Alicia Weldon made presenting sponsor remarks. **Above:** Fifth Third Bank team enjoyed the event. **Above right:** Lexington Mayor Linda Gorton. **At Right:** 2024 Commerce Lexington Board Chair Steve Byars (Moneywatch Advisors). (Photos by Mahan Multimedia)

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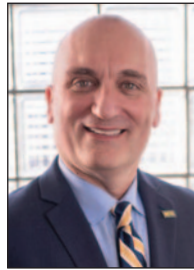


Commerce Lexington Presents: A Conversation with Dr. Ryan Quarles and Dr. Greg Feeney

Higher education is very important to the Greater Lexington area, and the start of 2024 brought a new chapter to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. Dr. Ryan Quarles was announced as the fourth president of the system and Dr. Greg Feeney took the helm as president for Bluegrass Community and Technical College. Join us for Commerce Lexington Presents **A Conversation with Dr. Ryan Quarles and Dr. Greg Feeney on Friday, April 26**, from 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. at the Lexington Marriott City Center's Grand Ballroom (121 W. Vine Street). Dr. Quarles and Dr. Feeney will discuss their first 100 days and what lies ahead for KCTCS.



DR. RYAN QUARLES
KCTCS PRESIDENT



DR. GREG FEENEY
BCTC PRESIDENT

statewide public service. He was first elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives in 2010 where he served until his election as Kentucky's commissioner of agriculture in 2016.

In late 2023, **Dr. Greg Feeney** was selected as president and CEO of Bluegrass Community and Technical College. A 25-year employee of BCTC and its former provost, Feeney served as the college's interim president for six months. As the college's provost, Feeney wore multiple hats as chief academic officer, chief student affairs officer, and he provided leadership for adult education and workforce development.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS:

Dr. Ryan Quarles is president of the KCTCS and the first native Kentuckian to lead the system of 16 community and technical colleges and 70 campuses. Quarles comes to KCTCS with a long history in

TO REGISTER:

The cost to attend this event is \$39 per person for Commerce Lexington members or \$49 per person for potential members. Register on-line at commercelexington.com.

CONVERSATION PARTNERS



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A CONVERSATION:

WHEN: Friday, April 26
TIME: 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.
WHERE: Lexington Marriott City Center Grand Ballroom, (121 W. Vine St.)
REGISTER: Register on-line at commercelexington.com

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Leadership Central Kentucky Class Visits, Learns About Fayette Co.

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Recap by Mackenzie Hanes, Awesome Inc.

The Leadership Central Kentucky visit to Fayette County started with a welcome from Commerce Lexington President and CEO, Bob Quick, followed by an engaging presentation from cohort member Betsy Dexter (Executive Director of the Business and Education network), with Gina Greathouse, EVP for

Economic Development, and Andi Johnson, Chief Policy Officer, on the innovative work that they are leading with the Regional Competitiveness Plan. LCK members dove into identifying how their home counties can continue to support the work of the plan.

Next, Francisco and Juan Castro, co-owners of the JCC Group, shared their passion for Lexington and its booming Hispanic and Latinx communities. Class members were educated on the expansion of the Hispanic and Latinx demographics, as well as the uniqueness and similarities the community members represent as well as how they contribute to the regional economy.

The class then traveled to DV8 Kitchen at The Met to learn from Co-Founder Rob Perez about the restaurant's approach to the drug addiction, recidivism, and relapse crisis facing individuals, families, and businesses. Class members heard first-hand from the employees who were given the grace and space to continue their fight against their addiction while employed by the Perez family.

After lunch, the LCK cohort traveled to the Joe Craft Center to learn more about the University of Kentucky basketball history and the work of the entire athletic department as they engage with student athletes through mentoring, empowering and community engagement. We were able to hear from two student athletes, Nyah Leveretter and Sam Anaele, and the Associate Athletic Director for DE&I, Tiffany Massey. Lastly, we were joined by Athletics Director, Mitch Barnhart, who shared his Five pillars of leadership that have guided him successfully during his tenure.

The group then traveled to the Distillery District to meet with LCK alum and entrepreneur, Toa Green, Owner and Operator of Crank & Boom Craft Ice Cream. Mrs. Green shared her story and engagement in entrepreneurship from her early family beginnings to her own launch of several businesses.

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Leadership Lexington Class Explores Local Education Resources

Recap by Tracy Bruno, Fayette County Public Schools

On February 8th, the Leadership Lexington class spent the day familiarizing ourselves with education in Fayette County. The class interacted with educators from early childhood, the elementary level, and the collegiate level. Class members began the day at the John D. Price Building, which houses district support teams for Fayette County Public Schools. We were welcomed by the Superintendent for Fayette County Public Schools, Dr. Demetrus Liggins. The welcome was followed by a report from some of our classmates that spent time shadowing administrators on different FCPS campuses.

The group then traveled to William Wells Brown Elementary and were able to witness a school-wide morning meeting. School Principal Ebony Hutchison and Family and Community Liaison Melody Westerfield explained that the meeting was a social/emotional lesson based on leadership traits that all students promised to exhibit, such as perseverance and kindness toward others. The school uses a house system, so students feel connected to other classmates and teachers at the school. Our class was then split up and taken on student-led tours of the school. We were able to drop in on classes, as well as learn how the school transforms into a community resource center outside school hours. The visit concluded with a panel discussion around early childhood education. Dr. Whitney Stevenson spoke about youth brain development and the need for hands-on learning and the importance of play.

The group relocated to the Nutter Training Facility on the campus of the University of Kentucky. We were treated to a tour of the new track facility and



During Education Day, Leadership Lexington class members toured William Wells Brown Elementary. (Photo by Mahan Multimedia)

were able to speak with a graduating athlete and discuss her time at UK and her plans for the future. Next on the agenda was a panel that included UK basketball players Nayah Leveretter and Ajae Petty. The students reflected on their time at UK and spoke about the support and mentorship opportunities they were part of during their time in school.

UK Athletic Director Mitch Barnhart spoke about his leadership journey with the class and his motto, "our goal is to put rings on fingers and diplomas in hands." The day ended with a final discussion panel centered on how public education could move away from traditional structures to give students more opportunities to earn college credit in high school and how FCPS works with industry partners to strengthen our local workforce.

We are grateful to Fayette County Public Schools and the University of Kentucky for allowing us a glimpse into the many valuable educational opportunities students have in Lexington.

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Lexington History Museum

AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT: Nicole Corbin, Davis H. Elliot Company

As the marketing and communications manager for Davis H. Elliot Company, Nicole Corbin oversees marketing, advertising, events, and external affairs. She said, "I am passionate about building brand awareness, event planning, and community involvement. At Elliot, I get to pursue everything I'm passionate about while maintaining excellence for the Elliot brand and its family of brands."

A 100-percent employee-owned company, Elliot is a comprehensive electrical contractor, focusing on overhead and underground distribution, transmission, substations, lighting, traffic signaling, utility locating, and industrial/commercial services. Over the years, Elliot has broadened its portfolio to include solar, damage prevention and reclamation, electric

vehicle charging, event and video production, managed IT services, and a diverse array of businesses within the Elliot family.

Nicole said, "Being involved with Commerce Lexington is important because of the endless networking opportunities. I love getting to know people, learning about their businesses, and helping others make meaningful connections."

She said her favorite event to attend is Business Link, because of the opportunity to connect with fellow business professionals in a relaxed atmosphere. Nicole also highly recommends participating in one of the leadership development programs, citing the lasting friendships she formed as a member of the 2020-21 Leadership Central Kentucky class.



NICOLE CORBIN

Ambassadors volunteer their time to assist with Commerce Lexington's member relations and retention efforts. The individuals on this important committee serve as a mentor to members and to help members make business connections. They also represent Commerce Lexington at community ribbon cutting and grand opening events. Find out more on-line at www.commercelexington.com/ambassador-program.html.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

New Commerce Lexington Inc. Members From January 19 to February 18, 2024

NEW BRONZE PREMIER PARTNER

Charles T. Creech, Inc.

Feed Dealers

Main Contact: Gatewood Gay
4100 Heraldry Court
Lexington, KY 40513
Phone: (859) 293-6658

A Traveling Cupcake

Bakeries

Main Contact: Jillian Mora
Nicholasville, KY 40356
Phone: (813) 394-7705
www.atravelingcupcake.com

Abri | Financial Planner

Financial Planning Consultants

Main Contact: Logan Johnson
333 East Short Street, Suite 210
Lexington, KY 40507
Phone: (773) 217-0029
www.abri.io

Association Management Services of Kentucky LLC

Real Estate Management

Main Contact: Mark Stringer
185 Pasadena Drive, Suite 240
Lexington, KY 40503
Phone: (859) 317-5715
www.amskentucky.com

Aye You Transport LLC

Transportation Services

Main Contact: Henrico Aurelus
Lexington, KY 40509
Phone: (740) 307-3438
www.ayeyoutransport.com

Babaloo Jewelry

Jewelers & Jewelry Design

Main Contact: Almeta Dellagnolo
3201 Ridgecane Rd.
Lexington, KY 40513
Phone: (859) 333-3930
www.babaloojewelry.com

Board & Co.

Caterers

Main Contact: Grace Ramsey
1060 Chinoe Rd., #108
Lexington, KY 40502
Phone: (859) 321-7867
www.boardandcompany.com

Briggs Commercial Construction

Building Contractors

Main Contact: David Briggs
437 Lewis Hargett Circle, Suite 150
Lexington, KY 40503
Phone: (859) 223-1278
<https://briggs.us>

Build Inclusion

Non-Profit Organizations

Main Contact: Rachael Lanter
P.O. Box 23030
Lexington, KY 40523
Phone: (606) 622-0292
www.buildinclusion.org

The Champion Therapy Center

Social Service Organizations

Main Contact: Daisy Brown
1125 Commerical Drive
Lexington, KY 40505
Phone: (859) 359-8352
www.thechampiontc.com

Christian Brothers Automotive - Brannon Crossing

Auto Repair & Service

Main Contact: Brad Rizer
616 E. Brannon Rd.
Nicholasville, KY 40356
Phone: (859) 788-3353
www.cbac.com/brannon-crossing

Christian Towers Apartments

Retirement Communities / Independent Living

Main Contact: Jenny Daugherty
1513 Versailles Rd.
Lexington, KY 40504
Phone: (859) 253-3625
<https://mansermar.com/our-communities/christian-towers-ii>

Fine Point Ads

Marketing Consultants/Services

Main Contact: Lyndsay Palombi
101 Bold Bidder Ct.
Georgetown, KY 40324
Phone: (888) 831-4732
www.finepointads.com

Furlong Logistics dba Kingpost

Transportation Services

Main Contact: Will Holton
1051 Newtown Pike, Suite 160
Lexington, KY 40511
Phone: (855) 860-5464
<https://kingpost.us>

Gene Young Insurance Agency, Inc.

Insurance

Main Contact: Gene Young
101 Malabu Dr., Suite 9
Lexington, KY 40503
Phone: (859) 277-6695
www.shelterinsurance.com/CA/agent/GENEYOUNG

Graham Packaging

Manufacturers-Products

Main Contact: David Urekew
2447 Palumbo Drive
Lexington, KY 40509
Phone: (859) 300-8521
www.grahampackaging.com

Great Stories LLC

Marketing Consultants/Services

Main Contact: Chris Poore
158 E. Bell Court
Lexington, KY 40508
Phone: (859) 489-0491
www.greatstoriesllc.com

Halligans LLC

Restaurants

Main Contact: Sarah Cveticanin
1170 Manchester Place, Ste 130
Lexington, KY 40508
Phone: (859) 785-0858
www.halliganslex.com

La Brasa Lexington

Event Production

Main Contact: Leah Thomas
903 Manchester Street
Lexington, KY 40508
Phone: (859) 305-8001
www.labrasalexington.com

Lexington Prime Aesthetics & Wellness

Health & Wellness

Main Contact: Ashley Bailey
989 Govenors Lane, Suite 375
Lexington, KY 40513
Phone: (859) 351-2686
www.lexprimeaesthetics.com

Malone Solutions

Workforce Development

Main Contact: Timothy Brown
115 N. Locust Hill Drive
Louisville, KY 40509
Phone: (502) 664-8848
www.malonesolutions.com

Randstad

Employment Services

Main Contact: McKenzie Hughes
3070 Lakecrest Circle, Suite 300
Lexington, KY 40513
Phone: (859) 219-9675
www.randstadusa.com

Rise N' Brine

Coffee Shop/Restaurant

Main Contact: Matthew Borland
331 Romany Road
Lexington, KY 40502
Phone: (859) 309-0098
www.risenbrinebiscuits.com

Shearer Storage Solutions

Storage

Main Contact: Beth Jones
21 A Street, Winchester, KY 40391
Phone: (859) 744-2308
sscontainers.com

Simple Solutions Behavioral Health

Rehabilitation Services

Main Contact: David Eggers
300 E. Main St., Unit 310
Lexington, KY 40507
Phone: (859) 629-0003
www.SimpleSolutionsrecovery.com

Spencer Business Solutions LLP

Accountants

Main Contact: Kelly Spencer
400 E. Vine St., Suite 228
Lexington, KY 40507
Phone: (859) 317-6240
www.spencerbusiness.com

Spirited, Inc.

Manufacturers

Main Contact: Bill Meehan
354 E. Main St., Lexington, KY 40507
Phone: (412) 251-2470
www.spiritedbio.com

Urban Dynamics

Technology Consulting

Main Contact: Ferris Ellis
206 Irish St., Greenville, TN 37743
Phone: (276) 685-4444
<http://urbdyn.com>

Walker Electric

Electric Contractors

Main Contact: Karen Puckett
2308 Frankfort Ct.
Lexington, KY 40510
Phone: (859) 252-2892
www.walkerelectricky.com

Wanner Medical, PLLC

Medical Services

Main Contact: Ross Wanner
1117 Lantern Creek Ct.
Lexington, KY 40517
Phone: (614) 425-8469

Winterwood Inc.

Real Estate Management

Main Contact: Zach Worsham
1390 Olivia Lane, Lexington, KY 40511
Phone: (859) 276-5388
www.winterwoodinc.com

Yeiser Structural

Engineers - Structural

Main Contact: Lincoln Wainscott
403 Marquis Ave., Suite 200
Lexington, KY 40502
Phone: (502) 320-4929
<https://yeiserstructural.com>

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Corporate Moves, Company Awards and Notable Milestones



The Agency announced the following new agents, including **Donna Williams, Katie Feola, Ben Williams, Cecil Williams, Melissa Combs, Debra Collier, Jackie Neal** and **Herbie Parks**.

Randy Newsome was recently installed as the 2024 president of **Bluegrass Realtors®**. He has served the association in many leadership positions including a nine-year directorship, was treasurer in 2022 and has held many committee roles including finance, executive, bylaws, government affairs and diversity. Newsome is a managing broker/associate with United Real Estate. The remaining 2024 officers are president-elect **Todd Hyatt** (Lois Ann Disponett Real Estate) and treasurer **Tom Thomas** (The Real Estate Company). Other 2024 Board of Directors include: **Rony Jo Ballou**, Power House Realty; **Daniel Carmack**, Sallie Davidson, Realtors®; **Gary Denton**, Rector-Hayden, Realtors®; **Christina Dudek**, Coldwell Banker McMahan; **Paula Elder**, The Brokerage; **Jeff Green**, Keller Williams Commonwealth; **John Groft**, RE/MAX Creative Realty; **Mike Inman**, Coldwell Banker McMahan; **Ruby Mason**, RE/MAX Elite Realty; **Trey McCallie**, Realty One Group Bluegrass; **Kelley Nisbet**, Coldwell Banker McMahan; **Hannah Porter**, Dee's Real Estate Service Inc.; **Kevin Verhoven**, The Gibson Company; and **Nelson Weaver**, Keller Williams Bluegrass Realty – Lake Cumberland.

Central Bank & Trust Co.: Attorney and certified public accountant, **Lesley D. L. King**, joined the bank as vice president, trust officer, while **Lauralea Pfenfnder** joined the bank as CIC registered operations specialist officer.

Central Bank & Trust Co. announced the selection of eight new members to its Lexington Advisory Board, including **Brian McCarty** and **Bruce Drake** (Bluegrass Hospitality Group), **Jeff Yeary** (Atlas Street, LLC), **Adolph "Chip" Rupp** (Rupp and Associates, Inc.), **Shelby Marshall** (Lynn Blueprint & Supply), **Rick Avare** (MAP Entities), **Lucas Campbell** (Gorman Company), and **John Irvin, Jr.** (Kinkead & Stiltz, PLLC). They will join **Jay Johnson, Crinda Franke, Jerry Woodall, Mirella Mills, Trisha Layow, Dr. John Hobbs, Nick Rowe, Laura Gardner, David Ashford, Debbie Long, P.G. Peoples, Bill Quigg, Kenny Ray Schomp, Mike Smith, Gregg Thornton**, and **Kathy Wilford**.

CHI Saint Joseph Health's Cancer Care centers across Kentucky have been named Centers of Excellence by GO2 for Lung Cancer for their ongoing commitment to providing local communities with patient-centered, evidence-based lung cancer care. The facilities include CHI Saint Joseph Health's two centers in Lexington and the centers in Bardstown, London, Corbin and Mount Sterling.

City Holding Company, the parent company of **City National Bank**, appointed **James M. Parsons** to its board of directors to fill a vacancy. Mr. Parsons is a native of Morgantown, West Virginia and currently resides in Lexington, Kentucky.

CLARK Material Handling Company recently announced plans for upcoming leadership appointments in the North American company. The company is making plans to welcome the third generation of the family into this business. **Dennis Lawrence**, President and CEO of CLARK Material Handling Company, has been appointed to the board of directors for CLARK Material Handling and will step down as President and CEO on July 1, 2024. The company announced the appointment of current COO **Michael (Mike) Binnie** as CEO effective July 1, 2024.

Community Trust Bancorp, Inc. announced the appointment of **Jeff Sandlin** to its board of directors. Mr. Sandlin will serve on the Audit and Asset Quality Committee and the Risk and Compliance Committee.

Alexander "Alex" Lewis has been promoted to Regional President and a Director at the **First National Bank of Manchester** with offices in Manchester, London, and Lexington.

Frost Brown Todd LLP and **Stites & Harbison PLLC** were recognized in *Southern Business & Development* magazine's 2023 edition of "The South's Best Economic Development Law Firms," a directory produced once every five years. Only two Kentucky law firms made the list.

Haymaker Company announced the addition of **Sean Haymaker** to its team. He is pursuing his education in business and leading with a focus on being a sales/leasing associate. Sean is continuing his pursuit of growing Haymaker's construction, property management and development divisions.

Lexington Clinic announced new officers for its 2024 board of directors, including **Michael T. Cecil, M.D.** (President), **Tharun Karthikeyan, M.D.** (Vice President), **Robby K. Hutchinson, M.D.** (Secretary), and **An-Yu Chen, M.D.** (Treasurer). Other members of the board include **Brandon Devers, M.D., Jamil Farooqui, M.D., Kimberly Hudson M.D., Jordan Prendergast, M.D., David Keilar, M.D., Nick Rowe**, and **Paul Rooke**. Additionally, **Brandon A. Gockley** joined Lexington Clinic as its chief information officer.

The **Lexington-Fayette Urban County Airport Board** welcomed **Angela Coleman** (American Trust) and **Bangaly "Sav" Savané** (AirMart Aircraft Sales & Brokerage) as new members to serve four-year terms on the airport's 10-member board.

NAI Isaac: J.L. Cannady, CCIM, was recently promoted to vice president. He is a sales and leasing specialist with a focus on retail, office, and industrial properties throughout Kentucky.

The 2024 edition of *Kentucky Super Lawyers* recently honored 49 **Stites & Harbison, PLLC** attorneys, including 35 named to the Super Lawyers list and 14 named to the Rising Stars list. Lexington attorneys on the Super Lawyers list include **W. Blaine Early, III, Warren D. Schickli, Michael S. Hargis, Ashley W. Ward**, and **Gregory P. Parsons**. Rising Stars from the Lexington office included **Joshua F. Barnette, Drake W. Staples, Gentry C. Collins, Taylor J. Stuckey, Robin E. McGuffin, Alison M. Zeitlin**, and **Rebecca M.W. Sherman**, while **Katie M. Glass** and **Vanna Rae Milligan** were named Rising Stars from the Frankfort office.

Stites & Harbison, PLLC announced that attorney **Jennifer J. Cave** has been appointed chair of the firm's Environmental, Energy & Sustainability Service Group. Cave succeeds Bill Gorton, who served as service group chair for 12 years. Meanwhile, attorney **Elizabeth "Betsy" Johnson** was recently elected to the board of directors of the Kentucky Nonprofit Network, which works to strengthen and advance the Commonwealth's nonprofit community.

The partners of **Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP** have approved the election of **Thomas E. Travis** as partner in the firm. Mr. Travis is a member of Wyatt's Litigation and Dispute Resolution team.

SUBMIT PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Submit company awards, personnel changes, additions, or promotions to mturner@commercelexington.com. Information is published in the order received and as space permits.



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COMMERCE LEXINGTON CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 2024:

- 12** **EMERGE 2024** presented by UK Online, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Central Bank Center. **- SEE PAGE 7**
- 14** **New Member Luncheon**, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Commerce Lexington's first floor conference room.
- 14** **Leadership Lexington** presented by Community Trust Bank: Arts Day Session.
- 20** **Leadership Central Kentucky** program presented by Kentucky Utilities at Woodford County.
- 21** **Spring Opportunity Exchange**, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., at the Lyric Theatre & Cultural Arts Center (300 E. 3rd Street). **- SEE PAGE 6**

APRIL 2024:

- 11** **Leadership Lexington** presented by Community Trust Bank: Diversity Day Session.
- 15** Applications become available for **2024-25 Leadership Lexington** program.
- 17** **Leadership Central Kentucky** program presented by Kentucky Utilities at Clark County.
- 26** **A Conversation with KCTCS President Dr. Ryan Quarles & BCTC President Dr. Greg Feeney**, 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. at Lexington Marriott City Center. **- SEE PAGE 11**

JUNE 2024:

- 5-7** **Leadership Visit** presented by Central Bank & Trust Co. to Salt Lake City, Utah. **- SEE PAGE 8**