

BUSINESS FOCUS



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF COMMERCE LEXINGTON INC. | FEBRUARY 2021 | VOLUME XXIX, ISSUE II

EMERGE 2021

Full Day of
Programming
Coming
March 9th



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Austin, Texas Leadership Visit
Rescheduled for November 15-17

Commerce Lexington Inc. Brings
Central KY Day at the Capitol to You

@330 Series: Navigating a
Business in a Crisis and Beyond

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BUSINESS FOCUS

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Turner Celebrates 20 Years At Commerce Lex.

Mark Turner, Commerce Lexington Inc.'s Chief Communications Officer, recently celebrated 20 years with the organization. He started in January 2001 working as director of communications for what was then the Greater Lexington Chamber of Commerce.

In 2004, the merger of the Chamber, local economic development entity Lexington United, and the Lexington Partnership for Workforce Development resulted in the creation of Commerce Lexington Inc. Over the years, Turner has handled general communications and public relations for the organization, and managed many print publications,



MARK TURNER

such as the monthly BUSINESS FOCUS magazine, the annual Guide to the Bluegrass, and other pieces for events and programs. The communications department is also responsible for the organization's e-mail marketing efforts, multiple web sites, and its social media strategy, which was built from ground up.

During his tenure, Commerce Lexington was named the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives' Chamber of Year in 2016 in the large chamber category, going up against chambers from Brooklyn (NY), Jacksonville (FL), and Tacoma (WA).



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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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SUBMITTED BY CLX ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION: GINA GREATHOUSE, CHERYL KLEVER & KATIE VANDEGRIFT

NEW BUSINESS EXPANSIONS AND ENDEAVORS

Georgia-Pacific Expansion

In January, Georgia-Pacific shared exciting news about the expansion of its Lexington Dixie manufacturing facility by the end of 2021. This will allow Georgia-Pacific to scale its efforts and create a single, world-class manufacturing facility for cup-making. The expansion in Lexington is expected to create approximately 50 new jobs.

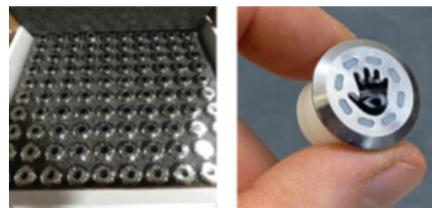
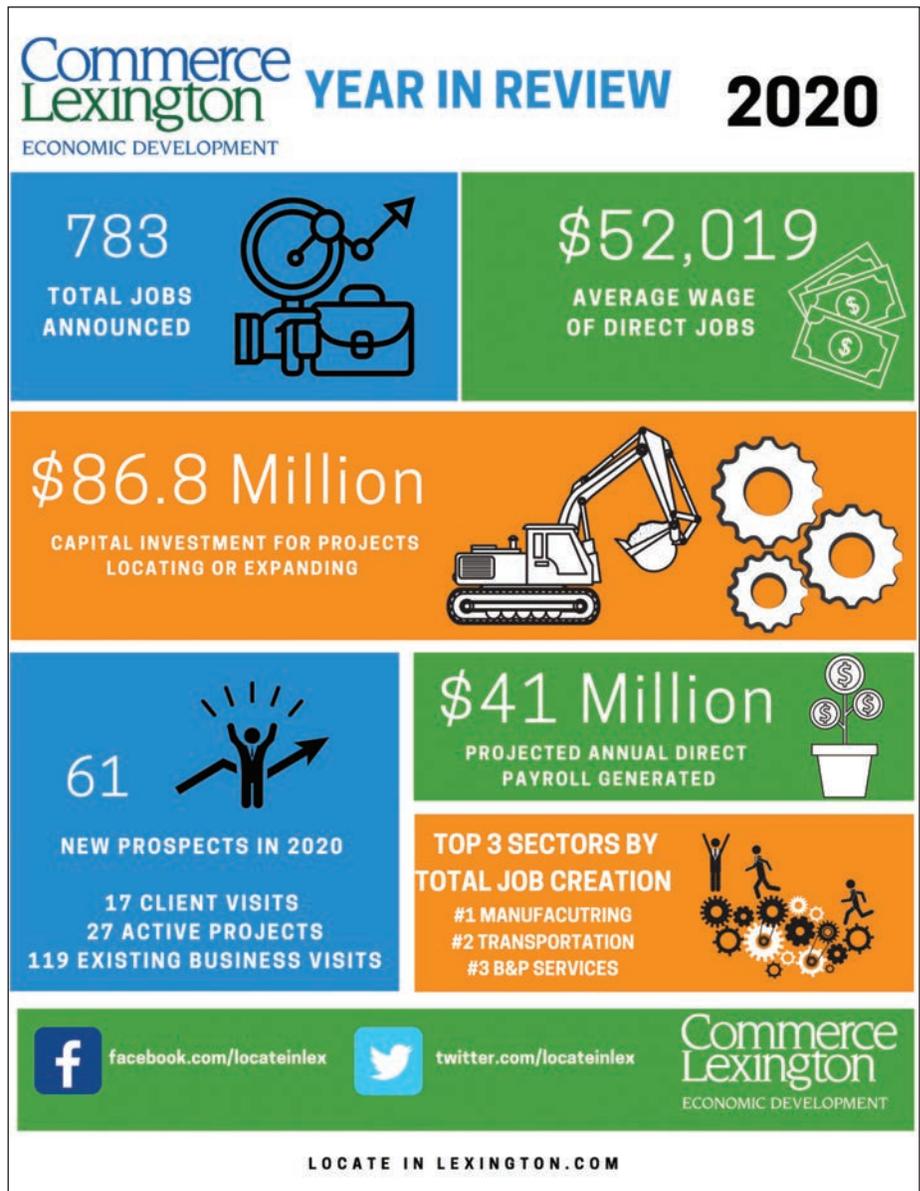
Lexington is one of two facilities Georgia-Pacific operates in Kentucky. The second is a Dixie facility in Bowling Green that produces plates and bowls. In the Commonwealth, Georgia-Pacific employs nearly 500 people directly, pays \$29 million in direct wages and benefits and creates approximately 1,000 indirect jobs. Since 2013, the company has invested more than \$200 million in its Kentucky operations, including a recent \$100 million expansion at the Bowling Green Dixie plant.

Audio Authority Launches New Brand and Product

Since 1976, Audio Authority has designed and manufactured innovative electronics for many markets and now focuses on retail product demonstration, drive-up bank and pharmacy intercoms, and ground power products for general aviation.

AirSelect touchless sensors are the kickoff product for its newest brand, **Ascentic Retail Engineering**, specializing in technology driven solutions for major retailers, consumer electronics brands and store fixture designers. Products include 4K media players, digital signage, sensors, audio-video switching, software, graphical user interfaces, and LED effects modules.

When the pandemic threatened the retail industry, these resources were dedicated to creating a solution to the challenges of the pandemic. When shoppers don't want to touch anything, traditional interactive demonstrations are no longer effective. Fixture designers and manufacturers need easy alternatives they can use to replace touchscreens touch-sensitive panels, rotary knobs, and pushbuttons. Ascentic's new touchless controls will protect consumers from the spread of pathogens by using small AirSelect™ proximity and gesture sensors for intuitive control without any physical contact.



Ascentic's new touchless controls will protect consumers from the spread of pathogens by using small AirSelect™ proximity and gesture sensors for intuitive control without any physical contact. (Photo provided)

By The Numbers:

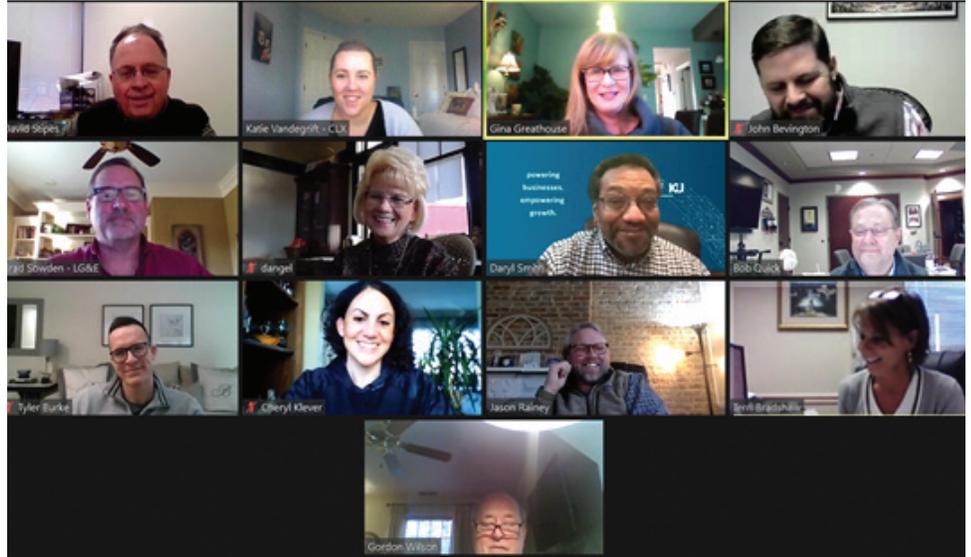
For 2021 year-to-date, Commerce Lexington's Economic Development Division has responded to calls from:

- New Business:** 7 new prospects interested in finding a new location or expanding in the Lexington area.
- Client Visits to the Lexington Area:** 0
- Existing Business Visits:** 9
- Total Active Projects:** 51



Commerce Lexington Inc. Hosts January Bluegrass Alliance Meeting

In January, the Commerce Lexington Inc. Economic Development team hosted the Bluegrass Alliance Group (BGA) meeting via Zoom. The purpose of this meeting was to introduce new members to the BGA, including Jason Rainey and Erran Persley (not pictured), discuss prospect activity, and share building and site updates. The BGA plans to coordinate a site selection consultant event in the months ahead, keeping the Bluegrass Region at the forefront of potential expansion and location projects throughout 2021. On December 31, Sandy Romensko, Economic Development Director for Montgomery County, retired from the Mt. Sterling-Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Authority. Sandy served 21 years at the Chamber and a total of 27 years in Economic Development. On behalf of the Bluegrass Alliance, thank you for your years of dedication and best wishes on your future endeavors!



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Legislative Session Begins; Governor Beshear Presents Budget Proposal

In January, state legislators returned to Frankfort to kick-off the 2021 30-day Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly. During the first eight days of Part I of the session, the House and Senate Republican Majority Caucuses quickly advanced budget measures and passed several priority legislative policy bills. This includes measures to limit Executive powers and help with economic recovery.

Last April, the legislature passed a one-year state budget because of uncertainty about the impacts of the pandemic on state revenues. Fortunately, budget experts said the Commonwealth ended the fiscal year in a better financial position than estimated due, in part, to federal funding assistance.

Governor Andy Beshear presented his budget proposal, calling for a separate COVID-19 relief appropriations bill (HB 191) for emergency action to provide \$152M in CARES funding toward the repayment of the federal loan for the Kentucky Unemployment Insurance fund; \$220M for a small business relief fund and \$20M in aid for non-profits. The Governor also called for no tax increases or budget cuts, full funding of the state's Medicaid system and public employee and teacher pension systems, funding to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and funds to modernize the state's UI system technology. The proposal raises teachers' salaries, increases the K-12 SEEK base per pupil formula and allocates additional General Fund appropriations for post-secondary institutions. The Governor uses one-time funds for proposals to expand last mile broadband services, improve school facilities, leverage investment in emerging industries and adds

to the State's Rainy Day Fund.

However, legislative leaders are likely to continue to use conservative estimates for budgeting in FY 21-22 and remain skeptical of the use of one-time money for projects. The House and Senate passed their own versions of the FY 21-22 state budget bills, describing their budget bills as continuation budgets of the previous year's budget. Since there were differences in the House and Senate bills, Conference Committees were appointed to work out differences and consider some of the Governor's proposals. Legislative leaders have said the goal is to pass final budget bills in early February.

Other bills advancing during Part I of the session included:

- **Business Recovery:** HB 1 allows businesses to remain open if the business creates and follows a COVID safety plan based on CDC guidelines or the Governor's Healthy-at-Work guidelines - whatever is less restrictive. It provides employers with flexibility, if needed, with paying unemployment insurance assessments for 2021. The bill allows businesses to delay payment of unemployment insurance contributions without penalty or interest until December 31, 2021. It also allows for limited visitation at long-term care facilities.
- **Civil Actions:** HB 3 creates a different process for hearing court cases related to challenges to Kentucky's Constitution, state law and administrative regulations.
- **Emergency Orders:** SB 1 limits the Governor's ability to extend emergency orders beyond 30 days without General Assembly approval.
- **Emergency Administrative Regulations:** SB 2 changes processes to allow for more legislative oversight and public input before emergency administrative regulations become law.

The Governor vetoed all bills mentioned above during the January recess. Republicans hold super majorities in both the House (75/25) and Senate (30/8) and have the capability to easily override any Gubernatorial vetoes. Legislators are expected to override any Gubernatorial vetoes when they return on February 2 for Part II of the Regular Session.

Commerce Lexington Inc. is also advocating for bills to provide targeted COVID-19 liability protections for businesses, increase investments in transportation infrastructure and support our equine industry.

Public access to the Capitol and Capitol Annex is restricted at this time. To enter the Capitol Annex, members of the public need to have scheduled appointments with a legislator or approval from a Committee Chair to attend a legislative committee meeting. If you have questions about an issue, contact Andi Johnson, Commerce Lexington's Chief Policy Officer, at ajohnson@commercelexington.com.

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POLICY: CENTRAL KY DAY AT THE CAPITOL

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021 | 9:00 - 11:30 A.M. | VIA ZOOM

Commerce Lex. Brings Central Kentucky Day at the Capitol Directly to You

Since we can't gather in Frankfort this year due to the pandemic, Commerce Lexington Inc. plans to bring its annual Central Kentucky Day at the Capitol directly to you. **Presented by Charter Communications**, this event will enable participants to gain valuable insight and information from a variety of state legislators and administration officials, along with some issue-specific updates.

Join us on **Thursday, February 18**, from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. from the comfort and safety of your computer screen as we take part in this important advocacy-focused day for Central Kentucky. legislative leaders will update members about the priority business issues related to the state budget, covid-19 economic relief, liability protections, infrastructure investments including broadband, education and workers development and support for the equine industry.

TO REGISTER:

There is no cost to attend this virtual Central Kentucky Day at the Capitol. Visit www.CommerceLexington.com to register.

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Emerging Leaders of the Bluegrass Announces Early 2021 Programming

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At last year's EMERGE Conference, Commerce Lexington Inc. launched the Emerging Leaders of the Bluegrass (ELBG) program presented by Keeneland. ELBG is designed for professionals striving to improve themselves and become more involved in our community. As its mission states, ELBG aims to expand the capacity of emerging leaders to perform in leadership roles within Central Kentucky. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, ELBG has taken its events virtual. Events are monthly and focused around community education or professional development.

UPCOMING PROGRAMMING:

February (Community Education):

Lex Talk About Mentoring

This discussion will highlight mentoring programs and relationships that ultimately benefit the community. By investing in children and young professionals we are investing in Lexington's future leaders.

March (Lex Leader Talk):

**Shannon Bishop Arvin
Keeneland President & CEO**

This series features prominent local leaders interviewed by emerging leaders. Leadership and learning go hand-in-hand, and our community's most interesting leaders have leadership lessons to share on pivoting, leading through change and failing forward.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

An annual pass gives you access to all Emerging Leaders of the Bluegrass events. For more information about the program or purchasing annual passes, as well as a full list of upcoming events, visit www.emergingleadersbg.com.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021 | 3:30 - 4:30 P.M. | VIA ZOOM

@330 Series: Navigating a Business Through Crisis Tips to Move Forward in the Uncertain Post-COVID Era

As the COVID-19 pandemic spread across the world and economies came to a sudden halt with shutdowns and stay-at-home orders, businesses of all types and sizes did their best to adapt. The ongoing pandemic has not only provided lessons for business in dealing with a crisis, but in many cases has spurred innovation and improvements that may have never taken place during normal times.



KAELYN QUERY

the time, it sparked a passion in her for entertainment, hospitality and events. Since then, she's dedicated her life to learning everything she can related to the industry - and has worked in every aspect of the business. She also runs the podcast "Big Ideas, Small Business," which seeks to have an open and honest conversation about starting, owning and running a small business - the good, the bad, and the ugly.

During the next Commerce Lexington Inc. @330 Series event on Tuesday, February 23, from 3:30 - 4:30, via Zoom, Kaelyn Query, Founder and President of Lexington Event Company and LexEffect Venues, will discuss opportunities that exist when your business stops (during COVID times or otherwise), how to pivot when things change, and steps you can take to protect yourself, your business, and your clients and customers. She'll also cover the very real "pains" of small business (payroll/cash flow issues, reduced workforce, extra expense for PPP, ever changing mandates, uncertainty of what's to come, etc.) and how businesses can move forward post-COVID without knowing what things will look like.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Kaelyn Query is the Founder and President of Lexington Event Company and LexEffect Venues, LLC. She started her first business when she was in high school, and while it didn't have a name at

TO REGISTER:

The @330 events feature a topical presentation that is relevant to the success of entrepreneurs, business owners and business professionals. Once you register online at www.CommerceLexington.com, a Zoom link for the event will be included in the sign-up confirmation e-mail.

Scan QR Code With
Your Device to Register



Austin Leadership Visit Rescheduled to Nov. 15-17

Due to the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, Commerce Lexington Inc. has rescheduled its Austin Leadership Visit presented by Central Bank to November 15-17, 2021. After much consideration, there are just too many concerns with certain restrictions still in place, the timing of the vaccine rollout, and several venues in Austin unable to commit to hosting our group.

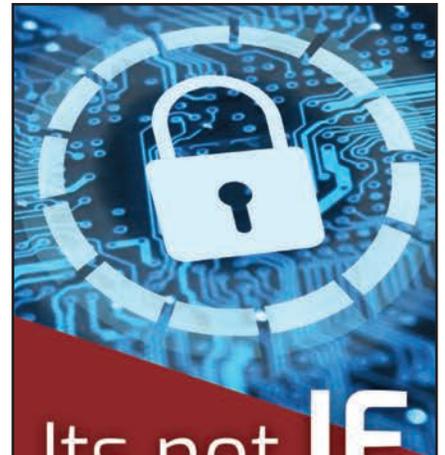
Austin, Texas has been a much anticipated destination, and this trip will include a dynamic agenda full of learning opportunities and social functions, and we look forward to experiencing Austin to the fullest. If you had already registered for the Austin Leadership Visit, it will be automatically transferred to the new date. If you need to make an adjustment to your current registration, contact Angela Carlos at acarlos@commercelexington.com.

Registration is available on-line at www.commercelexington.com/austin-2021.html.

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NEW DATES:
Austin, Texas
Leadership Visit
Nov. 15-17, 2021



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TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021 | 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

EMERGE 2021 To Offer Full Day of Programming for Emerging Leaders

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The delivery method may be different for the **EMERGE Conference presented by Forcht Bank** on Tuesday, March 9th, but the full-day of virtual programming will engage our region's emerging leaders, providing community education and professional development on a variety of topics through dynamic speakers and panel discussions, as well as fun activities like morning exercise and an after-party to conclude the day.



DENISE HAMILTON

The opening keynote features nationally recognized diversity and inclusion speaker **Denise Hamilton**, who will present on *How to Be an ALLY at Work*. In any organization, there are challenges and opportunities surrounding inclusion. The best just has to be brought out of you. In this talk, participants will be challenged to excavate the underlying beliefs that shape their strongly-held opinions around race and intersectionality. Together, Denise will help participants identify shared values and develop a framework for incorporating different perspectives. The goal of this deep-dive conversation is to harness differences within teams to generate creative and innovative solutions to move others



JUSTIN PATTON

to optimal performance. By aligning your teams, especially leadership, Denise helps you create a path to competitive excellence, improved morale and increase retention.

Headlining this year's conference will be keynote speaker and award-winning author, **Justin Patton**, who took the stage a couple of years ago as our opening speaker at EMERGE. During his presentation, entitled *YOUR ROADMAP TO TRUST*, Patton will guide participants through the four crucial elements of trust, the #1 trait that erodes trust, and how to apply those concepts in your life for better relationships and influence. Trust is your most important competitive advantage, and the best leaders use their presence to earn and keep others' trust.

TO REGISTER:

The cost to attend this full day of virtual programming is \$125 for Commerce Lexington Inc. members, \$150 for non-members. Registration is open for the 2021 EMERGE Conference at www.commercelexington.com/emerge-2021.html.



SESSION SPEAKER:

Lisa Zangari, Vice President at the Leadership Louisville Center and an executive coach, will lead a session called *Unlocking Collective Genius & Innovation at Work*. Innovation is a critical leadership competency for success and survival in the 21st century. Developing your innovation skills and the right behaviors can give you a competitive advantage in an uncertain future. In this high-energy, high-impact session you will develop the mindset, behaviors and skills of an innovator and walk away with a practical approach for breakthrough thinking.

EMERGE 2021 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Scan QR Code With Your Device to Register



9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

Opening keynote **Denise Hamilton** presents *How to Be an ALLY at Work*.

10:15 a.m. - BREAK

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Unlocking Collective Genius & Innovation at Work with **Lisa Zangari**, Leadership Louisville.

11:30 a.m. - BREAK

12:15 - 1:30 p.m.

Your Roadmap to Trust with **Justin Patton**.

1:30 p.m. - BREAK

1:45 - 2:45 p.m.

Professional Development Session Block

2:45 p.m. - BREAK

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Community Engagement Session Block

4:00 p.m.

After Party



FEBRUARY 2 AND MARCH 2 | 10:00 - 11:15 A.M. | VIA ZOOM

Member Mixer Helps You Make Valuable Connections, Learn About CLEX

Making connections during a pandemic is challenging to say the least. We know our members miss the networking that comes with our in-person events. Since we can't safely gather in person right now, Commerce Lexington Inc.'s **Member Mixer events presented by Melia Realty Group** provide an opportunity for participants to network virtually. Participants will have the opportunity to introduce themselves and their businesses followed by an opportunity for questions.

Commerce Lexington Inc. staff will update participants on upcoming member opportunities and ways to get the most from their membership. Member Mixers scheduled during the first quarter of 2021 are **February 2nd** and **March 2nd**, from 10:00 - 11:15 a.m. Join us for the interaction and referrals you have missed, while staying safe at home.

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Variety of COVID-19 Resources Available for Businesses On-Line

Just a reminder that there are a variety of COVID-19 resources available to businesses on-line at CommerceLexington.com - from business reopening best practices to workplace posters and guideline sheets to places to purchase personal protective equipment, ways to support local businesses, immediate job openings, and videos on a wide array of COVID-19 topics. Visit www.commercelexington.com/coronavirus-resources.html.

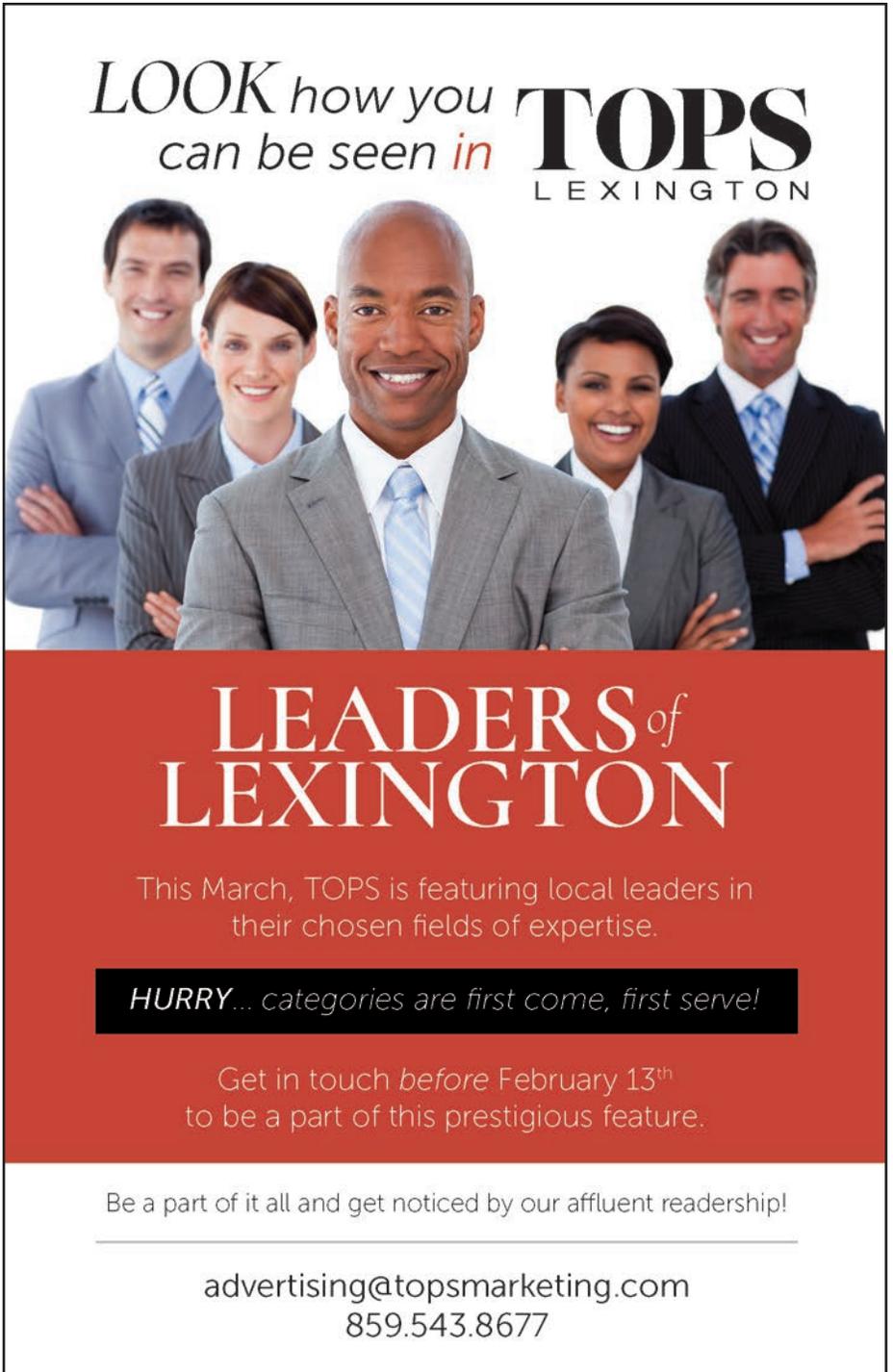
For the safety of our staff and the public, Commerce Lexington's lobby area and meeting spaces will be closed until it is deemed safe to gather in groups once again. Although our offices are closed to the general public, CLEX remains open for business as our team continues to work on behalf of members. If you have questions or need assistance for your business, access our staff directory at www.CommerceLexington.com.

TO REGISTER:

There is no cost to participate in this MEMBERS' ONLY event. Reserve your spot at www.CommerceLexington.com. After registering, attendees will receive log-in information in the event registration confirmation. **Space is limited, so register soon.**

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Leadership Central Kentucky Class Gets Overview of Jessamine County

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Excerpts of Recap by Crystal Geis, AD-IO5 Digital Media Co.

During Leadership Central Kentucky's recent Jessamine County Day Session, the class learned that the county is home to the first commercial vineyard in the U.S. according to Judge-Executive David West. The area also hosts the Kentucky Wine & Vine Festival. Jessamine County is named after an early settler's daughter, Jasmine, who was named after the Jasmine flowers that grow along the county's creek beds.

Recently, Camp Nelson Cemetery was recognized as a National Monument, and is the first national monument in the state of Kentucky's history! This process started three years ago and is in its final phase.

Jessamine County is expanding business as leaders develop a new Industrial Park, which is considered to be an "Opportunity Zone" and has about 80 acres with the potential to expand. One reason to bring business to Jessamine would be the Work Ready Skills Initiative. The county's high school technology center (JTC) provides high schoolers with the skills to be work ready for jobs in manufacturing, automotive, health care, and more. Jessamine County is also the home of the nation-

ally recognized PGA tournament known as the Bar-bosol. While they do not get a ton of revenue from this event, there is a lot of added visibility for the area, as well as a healthy tourism impact. The Bar-bosol brings \$40 million dollars in economic benefits to the region.

Like most counties in Central Kentucky, horses play a huge role in the economy, tourism, and charitable causes. Justin's Place is a new farm offering therapeutic riding lessons and more for kids between the ages of 4 and 12 years old. It is located in Wilmore, one of the safest places to live in Kentucky and home to the longest-serving mayor in the state, Harold Rainwater.

Wilmore's biggest attraction is Asbury College, which offers a state-of-the-art Media/Communications program that pulls students in from all over the world. With a current population of 56,126, Jessamine County one of the fastest-growing communities in the Commonwealth. The current challenge is getting fast and reliable Internet capacity to all the rural areas. Jessamine County offers a small-town appeal with the amenities of a larger city.

READ THE FULL RECAP AT
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Leaders' Humility & Passion on Display During Government Day Session

Recap by Paige Halpin Smith
Lexington Public Library

"How can we be active participants and leaders in our community?" This was the hope of many of my Leadership Lexington class during our virtual Government Day. Throughout the interactive sessions, we were proud to see humility and passionate care among our leaders across all branches of government.

The morning session began with the Judicial Branch. In breakout Zoom sessions, the class had the opportunity to hear from Judge Pamela Goodwine, Judge Kim Bunnell, and Judge Melissa Moore Murphy, as well as Fayette Commonwealth's Attorney Lou Anna Red Corn, First Assistant County Attorney John Hayne, and Public Defender Chris Tracy. Many of them reflected on the importance of flexibility in leadership.

We then heard from Sixth District Congressman Andy Barr. He highlighted his role in a working bi-

partisan group. JD Chaney and Bryanna Carroll of Kentucky League of Cities gave us an introduction to the role of state government, followed by a Legislative Session preview with Representative George Brown, Representative Steven Rudy, and Senator Reggie Thomas. Later, Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman challenged us to think about what we have learned for the better throughout this experience.

Our afternoon kicked off with Lexington-Fayette Urban County Councilmember Amanda Bledsoe walking us through city services, leading us in a budget session, and an interactive budget exercise. We all agreed that we have great respect for the Council's budget process. Commerce Lexington Inc. President & CEO, Bob Quick, shared parting words with us. Our class agreed that Lexington is fortunate to have many community and government leaders who believe in our citizens.

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AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT

Lesley Fluke, Market Executive, German American Bank

E-mail: Lesley.Fluke@GermanAmerican.com | Phone: (859) 410-6565, Ext. 4420 | Web: www.germanamerican.com

About German American Bank: German American Bank is a community bank started in 1910 in the heart of an Ohio River Valley rich in German-American heritage. The company is headquartered in Jasper, IN and acquired First Security, Inc., the parent company of First Security Bank, Inc. of Owensboro, in October 2018.

About Her Career in Banking: Lesley has spent the majority of her 30-plus year banking career with large, multi-regional institutions and was attracted to the community bank model, which provides more flexibility and local-decision making to better serve clients.

About Her Role at German American Bank: As the Market Executive, Lesley generates new loans and deposits for existing and new commercial clients, manages daily commercial banking operations in Lexington, monitors credit

portfolio quality, and actively participates in community events including serving on several boards.

About Being Involved in CLX: Lesley said she wholeheartedly supports the mission of Commerce Lexington. She added, "Meeting the needs of individuals, businesses, and communities creates more opportunities for everyone to achieve greater prosperity and a better quality of life."

About Serving as a CLX Ambassador: Lesley said, "I consider it a great privilege to serve as an Ambassador. We connect members to resources that provide solutions, promote their businesses, and support our communities. I encourage new and old members alike to engage with Ambassadors, particularly during these challenging times where everyone is looking for ways to develop new relationships and promote their companies in remote work environments."



LESLEY FLUKE

Read More About Our Ambassadors on-line at www.commercelexington.com/volunteer-opportunities.html

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



NEW COMMERCE LEXINGTON INC. MEMBERS FOR THE PERIOD OF DECEMBER 18, 2021 THROUGH JANUARY 20, 2021

C.R. Cable Construction, Inc.
Contractors
Main Contact: Matthew Buresh
400 Blue Sky Parkway
Lexington, KY 40509
Phone: (859) 543-8289

Centro
Bar
Main Contact: Aimee Lanza
113 Cheapside Park
Lexington, KY 40507
Phone: (859) 338-6238
www.centro-lexington.com/

CMSText
Marketing Consultants/Services
Main Contact: Kyle Harris
651 Perimeter Drive, Suite 420
Lexington, KY 40517
Phone: (859) 264-7568
www.cmstext.com

Collision Masters of Lexington
Auto Body Repair & Paint
Main Contact: Josh Wilson
765 East New Circle Rd.
Lexington, KY 40505
Phone: (859) 753-3878
www.collisionmastersoflexington.com

Colliver Appraisal Service
Appraisers
Main Contact: Kelly Colliver
2325 Dogwood Trace Blvd.
Lexington, KY 40514
Phone: (859) 368-0915
www.colliverappraisalservice.com

Compass Health of Kentucky
Healthcare
Main Contact: Blake Ferguson
1050 Monarch Street, Suite 301-A
Lexington, KY 40513
Phone: (859) 328-5812
<https://compassbehavioralservices.com>

Core4 Therapy Group
Rehabilitation Services
Main Contact: Glenda Cole
3280 Blazer Parkway, Suite 101
Lexington, KY 40509
Phone: (859) 225-5424
www.core4therapy.com

Frank Jenkins Law
Attorneys
Main Contact: Frank Jenkins
631 E Main Street
Lexington, KY 40508
Phone: (859) 389-9344
www.frankjenkinslaw.com

Haltech Inc.
Auto Parts & Supplies-New
Main Contact: Eric Gash
750 Miles Point Way
Lexington, KY 40510
Phone: (888) 298-8116
www.haltech.com

Installers Plus Inc.
Construction
Main Contact: Tyler Morris
251 Price Road, Building U
Lexington, KY 40511
Phone: (859) 388-9151
www.installersplus.com

Isabel Ladd Interiors
Interior Decor & Designers
Main Contact: Isabel Ladd
348 Kingsway Dr.
Lexington, KY 40502
Phone: (859) 940-8596
www.isabelLaddinteriors.com

Lexington Creatives
Marketing Consultants/Services
Main Contact: Barry Brinegar
Lexington, KY
Phone: (859) 806-6061
<http://lexingtoncreatives.com>

Midnite Rooster
Health & Wellness
Main Contact: Nick Wolter
101 West Loudon Ave., Suite 150
Lexington, KY 40508
Phone: (859) 618-3181
www.midniterooster.com

One Horizon Institute
Non-Profit Organizations
Main Contact: William Kenney
108 West High Street
Lexington, KY 40507
Phone: (859) 533-3405
<https://onehorizon.org/about/>

Scott Baird Plumbing & Heating
Plumbing Contractors
Main Contact: Scott Baird
1911 Henderson Rd.
Owensboro, KY 42301
Phone: (270) 683-6427

Summit Flooring Group
Floor Coverings
Main Contact: Chris Price
2521 Lawrenceburg Rd.
Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: (502) 227-0061

Todd & Todd, PLLC
Attorneys
Main Contact: Thomas Todd
153 Market Street
Lexington, KY 40507
Phone: (859) 253-9999
www.tgtlawfirm.com

V.E. Ward and Son, LLC
Business Consultants
Main Contact: Theresa Ward
3533 Polo Club Blvd.
Lexington, KY 40509
Phone: (407) 721-0020
www.vewardandson.com

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PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bank of the Bluegrass & Trust Co. announced the addition of **Ashley Cornelison** as a customer care specialist at the Southland Drive location and **Chad Rudzik** as vice president and wealth management advisor on the Wealth Management Team.

Baptist Health Lexington recently earned a top rating of “A” for hospital safety from The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit healthcare rating organization, which uses 28 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign grades. This marks the sixth consecutive time that Baptist Health Lexington has received an “A” grade.

Central Bank & Trust Co. announced the promotions of several individuals, including **Leigh Ann Young** to vice president, trust operations manager, **Melissa McCay** to mortgage underwriter, officer, **Lauren Lovely** to personal trust officer, assistant vice president, and **Brandy Osborne** to assistant vice president, commercial lending.

Churchill McGee was a recipient of the 2020 KEMI Destiny Award, which recognizes organizations for their commitment to workplace safety. Kentucky Employers’ Mutual Insurance (KEMI) hosts this award annually, and this year 28 organizations were recognized.

CLARK Material Handling Company was recently recognized with a 2020 Kentucky Employers’ Mutual Insurance (KEMI) Destiny Award, in recognition of the safety measures CLARK has in place to ensure workplace safety for all employees. This year marked the seventh time CLARK has earned this award

Community Trust Bank announced that **Tonya Lanae Johnson** has been promoted to the position of Market Senior Retail Lender located at the Mt. Sterling Main Office.

Connor O’Neil was recently named as a staff accountant at **Enderle & Romans, PLLC**.

Janie Greer has been elected to the Board of Directors at the **First National Bank of Manchester** (FNBM) and recently named as executive vice president. FNBM is located in Lexington, London, and Manchester.

Fowler Bell PLLC recently welcomed **Teresa T. Combs** as Of Counsel in the firm’s Education and Employment Law Groups, **Aziza Ashy-Jones** in the Workers’ Compensation Group, **Mary Porter McKee** in the Real Estate Department, and **Danielle Harlan** in the Creditors’ Rights and Bankruptcy Department and Litigation.

The **Kentucky Distillers’ Association** announced that industry veteran **Sara Barnes** has joined the non-profit trade group as director of industry responsibility and sustainability.

Michael Lawrence of Lancaster recently joined **Kentucky National Insurance Company** as vice president, business development.

Kentucky Utilities Co.: Residential customers of KU have ranked the company first in customer satisfaction among its utility peers in the Midwest mid-size region. The honor was awarded by global data and analytics company J.D. Power as part of the company’s 2020 Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study.

Lexington Habitat for Humanity recently announced the appointment of **Parashar Joshi** (Valvoline) as the new chair of its board of directors. The organization also welcomed four new board members: **Brooke Hanson** (Chick-Fil-A), **Kristy Maggard** (Maggard Marketing Group), **Kyle Wicker** (Republic Bank), and **Ryan Worthen** (Kentucky Employers’ Mutual Insurance). Other 2021 board appointments include **Chris Crumrine** (University of Kentucky) to Vice Chair, **Brandi Peacher** (LFUCG) to Secretary, and **McKay Moore** (LRC Real Estate) to Treasurer.

Melia Hord, Agent/Team Owner of the **MELIA Realty Group at Keller Williams Bluegrass** has been named as one of America’s Top 100 Real Estate Agents. The selection to America’s Top 100 Real Estate Agents® is by invitation only and is comprised of the nation’s most exceptional Real Estate Professionals whose accomplishments merit recognition. To help ensure that all real estate professionals selected for membership meet the very high standards expected for selection, candidates are carefully screened through third-party research and statistical data analytics based on a broad array of criteria. Less than one percent of active real estate agents and brokers in the U.S. will receive this honor — truly the most exclusive and elite level of real estate professionals in the community.

Commerce Lexington Inc. member companies **MosquitoMate** and **Schneider Electric** were highlighted as examples of excellence during a recent Commerce Department “Discover Global Markets” business development forum. The **Lexington Economic Partnership** was also recognized at the forum. The partnership includes the private sector (Commerce Lexington Inc.), the City, and the University of Kentucky in economic development.

J.L. Cannady, CCIM, an agent with **NAI Isaac** has been promoted to assistant vice president. Cannady is a sales/leasing associate primarily focused on office and retail offerings within the Lexington market. NAI Isaac also announced the promotion of **Anne Kilcoyne**, CPM, to assistant vice president of its Property Management Department.

Rose Grascch Camenisch Mains (RGCM) was ranked among the top law firms for 2021 by *U.S News – Best Lawyers in America*. The firm was recognized in eight categories, demonstrating the strength of its client service and the breadth of its practice areas. RGCM received the Best Lawyers Metropolitan Tier 1 ranking for Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships). It also received rankings for Commercial Litigation, Corporate Governance Law, Corporate Law, Litigation - Banking & Finance, Litigation - Real Estate, Mergers & Acquisitions Law, and Real Estate Law.

The 2021 edition of *Kentucky Super Lawyers* recently honored 42 **Stites & Harbison, PLLC** attorneys, with 28 named to the Super Lawyers list and 13 attorneys named to the Rising Stars list. Attorneys **Ashley W. Ward** (Lexington office) and **Mark R. Overstreet** (Frankfort office) were recognized as Super Lawyers, while Lexington attorneys **Rebecca M.W. Sherman**, **Emily Startzman**, and **Alison M. Zeitlin** were named to the list of Rising Stars.

Stites & Harbison, PLLC announced that **Dustyn Jones** was promoted to Member (Partner) in the Lexington office. She practices in the Health Care Service Group and Insurance Regulatory Service Group.

Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC promoted litigator **Jessica Roberts Stigall** to Member of the firm and welcomed new associate attorney **Emily B. Pence** to the firm’s Torts & Insurance practice.

The Webb Companies welcomed **Chris Hooten** to its Asset Management team and announced the retirement of **Nick Schwendeman**, CPM Emeritus as Executive Vice President of Asset Management. Mr. Schwendeman is one of the company’s longest-serving employees with 35 years of service.

SUBMIT PERSONNEL NEWS:

Submit your company’s awards, personnel changes, additions, or promotions for Business Focus to mturner@CommerceLexington.com. Information is published in the order received & as space permits.



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COMMERCE LEXINGTON: UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2021:

- 2** Member Mixer presented by Melia Realty Group, 10:00 - 11:15 a.m. via Zoom. - [SEE PAGE 11](#)
- 3** UK Gatton College's Economic Outlook Conference, 8:30 a.m. - Noon (virtual); <http://gatton.uky.edu/economic-outlook>
- 11** Leadership Lexington program presented by McBrayer PLLC: Arts Day Session.
- 17** Leadership Central Kentucky program presented by LG&E and KU - PPL companies at Madison County Day.
- 18** Central Kentucky Day at the Capitol presented by Charter Communications, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m., via Zoom. - [SEE PAGE 7](#)
- 23** @330 Series, TOPIC: Navigating a business through a crisis & beyond; 3:30 - 4:30 p.m., via Zoom. - [SEE PAGE 9](#)

CLEX TEAM IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS:

For the safety of our staff and the public, Commerce Lexington's lobby area and meeting spaces will be closed until it is deemed safe to gather in groups once again. Although our offices are closed to the general public, CLEX remains open for business as our team continues to work on behalf of members, answer phone calls and e-mail messages, and communicate important resources during the COVID-19 pandemic and the reopening process. If you have questions or need assistance for your business, access our staff directory at www.CommerceLexington.com.

MARCH 2021:

- 2** Member Mixer presented by Melia Realty Group, 10:00 - 11:15 a.m. via Zoom. - [SEE PAGE 11](#)
- 9** 2021 EMERGE Conference presented by Forcht Bank; Full-day virtual event. - [SEE PAGE 10](#)
- 11** Leadership Lexington program presented by McBrayer PLLC: Economic Development Day Session.
- 17** Leadership Central Kentucky program presented by LG&E and KU - PPL companies at Scott County Day.

JULY 2021:

Presented by Fifth Third Bank, our pre-eminent networking event and celebration of business, the **Annual Dinner**, will be held in July 2021 (date TBD). We can't wait to see many of you face-to-face and put 2020 behind us.

NOVEMBER 2021:

- 15-17** Leadership Visit to Austin, Texas presented by Central Bank & Trust Co. - [SEE PAGE 9](#)