

Your  
Chamber

Annual Banquet  
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2010 Millennium Sponsor



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News Brief for the Dyersburg/Dyer County Chamber of Commerce \* January 29, 2010

### *What Makes You an Entrepreneur?*

## ***Pennington Seed & Supply Wins Top State Award***

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** — Tennessee Economic and Community Development Commissioner Matt Kisber announced Pennington Seed & Supply of Dyersburg as the winner of a statewide entrepreneurship video competition – “What Makes You an Entrepreneur?” Pennington Seed & Supply will receive a \$500 cash prize in addition to a professional marketing package valued at \$2,000 for the business.

“Congratulations to all of the winners and entries to the ‘What Makes You an Entrepreneur?’ contest,” Commissioner Kisber said. “Entrepreneurs and small businesses are the backbone of many Tennessee communities, and we are honored and encouraged to be able to pay tribute to them in this way.”

The first annual “What Makes You an Entrepreneur” video competition was hosted by ECD’s Business Enterprise Resource Office and the Tennessee Main Street Program in an effort to draw attention to the strong entrepreneurial spirit in Tennessee. Participants were asked to prepare a short video answering the question “What makes you an entrepreneur?” Finalists were selected from five business

categories: Main Street/downtown; home-based; agri-business; arts and entertainment; and

encourage others to join them as small business owners.

To watch all of the competition videos, including



**Frankie McCord, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (left), and Steve Guttery, Main Street Dyersburg (right), presented the top prize in the ‘What Makes You an Entrepreneur?’ video competition to Mike Pennington, owner, Pennington Seed & Supply (center), at the Dyersburg/Dyer County Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet on Saturday, Jan. 23. The video was produced by Ken Teutsch.**

innovation. The statewide winner was selected from the finalists of each category.

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development will use the winning entries in a department-produced video and print piece intended to identify and promote innovative entrepreneurs in Tennessee communities and

the winners, please visit: <http://www.youtube.com/group/GEWContest>, or go to [dyerchamber.com](http://dyerchamber.com) and click on the YouTube link on the home page to visit our YouTube channel, where the Chamber has posted a collection of short videos about life in Dyer County for all to see. More will be added throughout the year.

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## 2009 Award Winners

*Woman of the  
Year:  
Megan Madden,  
Security Bank*



*(From left:) Justin Brock, Megan Madden, Mark Madden, Makayla Madden, Marilyn Armstrong and Johnny Armstorg.*



*Man of the Year:  
David Taylor,  
Forecum Lannom Contractors*

*David Taylor and wife JoAnn*

*Distinguished  
Community  
Service Award:  
Dyersburg  
State  
Community  
College*



*Teresa Johnson (l) and Dr. Karen Bowyer, accepting the Distinguished Service award for the Volunteer Tax Assistance program at DSCC.*

# 2009 Award Winners



## Business of the Year: *TennLawn*

(From left:) Amy Edmundson, Mark Edmundson, owner Ronnie Wales, Derek Wales and Jenny Wales represented Tenn Lawn, winner in the small business category of 1 to 14 employees.



## Business of the Year: *Dairy Queen*

(From left:) Stephanie Via, Danny Via, Stephanie Crews and Brian Via of Grogan's Dairy Queen, winner in the 15-49 employees category for Business of the Year 2009.

## Business of the Year: *Briggs & Stratton*



Lori Siebenaller accepted the award on behalf of Briggs & Stratton, winner in the category of 50 employees or more for 2009.

## Diplomat of the Year: *Ronnie Gunnels*



Ronnie Gunnels, director of the Northwest Tennessee Career Center, was named Diplomat of the Year for 2009.

*Thanks to our 2010 corporate sponsors for their support!*

*First Citizens National Bank*

*Dyersburg Electric System Sara Lee US Foods*

*Forcum Lannom Contractors*

*AT&T Security Bank*

*Dyersburg Regional Medical Center First South Bank Lannom Law Firm Forcum Lannom Building Materials Caterpillar*

## Welcome, New Members!

### **Merle Norman**

490 B Highway 51 Bypass West, Dyersburg

Contact: Vicki Thedford

Phone: 285-8441 Fax: 286-6305

### **Cole Chiropractic Clinic**

417 Troy Ave. Dyersburg

Contact: Dr. Barry Cole

Phone: 285-2696 Fax: 285-2701

### **Aztec Pest Control, LLC**

12130 S. Main Street, Dyersburg

Contacts: Bill Bowser and Jimmy Williamson

Phone: 288-6001

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## Member News-----

### ***Dr. Self launches new website***

Dr. Scott Self and staff would like to invite any and all chamber members to visit their new web site at [www.scottselfdds.com](http://www.scottselfdds.com). After several months of hard work, planning, changing and re-changing, Dr. Self and his staff are very pleased with the final result and would welcome any and all comments or suggestions to [sselfdds@yahoo.com](mailto:sselfdds@yahoo.com).

Feel free to browse the new site and let Scott know what you think!

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## Win in 2010: Walk Across Tennessee

Focus on fitness in 2010 with the **Walk Across Tennessee** program.

It's FREE, it's fun, and it holds you accountable for building a fitness routine.

### **Gather 8 friends to form a team.**

For 8 weeks, report the miles you walk to your team captain. Map your progress.

Can you do it? Can your team collectively walk 500 miles?

*University of Tennessee Extension offers its services to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or veteran status.*



Photo (Left to Right): Connie Wright, Director of Student Services at DHS; Teresa Younger, Angela Laird and Matthew Gant tour the recently renovated offices of Dyersburg High School

## Leadership Dyer County News & Notes —

Dyer County Adult Leadership recently visited Dyersburg State Community College, Dyersburg High School and Dyersburg Middle School. At DHS, Leaders enjoyed a student panel discussion about dress codes, safety, the school mascot and student involvement in extra curricular activities. Leaders explored the latest in high tech learning at DSCC's Math Lab and later toured DMS to discuss the importance of having a separate laptop computer for as many students as possible.

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### ***Check your Chamber out on YouTube***

*We have established a YouTube Channel for the Chamber. Go to [www.youtube.com/user/dyerchamber](http://www.youtube.com/user/dyerchamber) to see our videos about life in Dyer County. Cool stuff!*

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### **Competition begins February 8**

Pick up a registration packet at the Dyersburg Mall Customer Service Desk, Dyersburg Activity Center, YMCA, First Methodist Church or UT Extension Office.

Forms are also available on the web.

**Visit [www.watdyer.org](http://www.watdyer.org)**

**Enroll your team by February 5.**

For additional information, call the UT Extension Service at 286-7821.