



Hancock County Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

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June 2014

Items of Interest

Message from the President	1
No June Breakfast	1
Annual Dinner Meeting June 17	1
Scholarship Winners Announced	1
Spotlight Business: Domtar, Hawesville Mill	2
Lewisport Heritage Festival & Founding Anniversary	2

Annual Banquet Tickets are available for \$12.50 at: US Bank, Hancock County Farm Store, and the Hancock County Farm Bureau in Hawesville; as well as the Hancock Bank & Trust and the Independence Bank branches in Hawesville and Lewisport.

Board of Directors

Tim Heavrin, President

Sharon Russelburg, VP

Lois Kennedy, Treasurer

Steve Canepari

Renee McBrayer

Tim Meserve

A Message from the President

Don't forget the Annual Banquet on the 17th. We will vote on two replacement Board members, recognize three \$500 scholarship winners, and will be entertained by a great speaker. The Chamber Board works hard to provide quality events for our members and encourage everyone to attend.

~ Yours in service, *Tim*



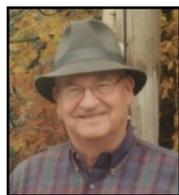
No June Breakfast Meeting

There is no June breakfast meeting due to the Annual Banquet.



Annual Chamber Banquet

The 2014 Hancock County Chamber of Commerce **Annual Banquet** will take place on **Tuesday, June 17** at the Immaculate Conception Fellowship Hall in Hawesville. **Bob Park** will be the guest speaker for this event.



Park, an author and humorist, has written and produced segments for *On the Front Porch*, a radio show that airs on

WSON in Henderson.

As a Bluegrass musician, Bob has performed with various bands including Canoe Creek and Highway 41. As a playwright, he has written five plays with characters inspired by the good citizens of Taffy, three of which have been produced and performed at Henderson Fine Arts Center, and a fourth that will be part of the Center's 20th anniversary performing arts season. He has also produced other variety shows for the Fine Arts Center, including *A Kentucky Evening* and *Kentucky Strings*. Since 1991, he has had more than 600 professional speaking engagements.

Park was named a Melvin Jones Lifetime Honoree and a Kentucky United Way Volunteer of the Year. He is a lifetime honorary member of the Kentucky Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers.

Bob resides in Henderson with Jane, his wife of 59 years, is the father of two, granddad to five and great-granddad to six.

2014 Chamber \$500 Scholarship Winners

CONGRATULATIONS to our Chamber and RI Glover Scholarship winners:

- **Matt Turner**, son of Kathy Adkins of Lewisport, who is employed at Aleris. Matt plans to attend the University of Kentucky, majoring in Computer Science with a minor in math.
- **Jacob Sanders**, son of Hancock County Board of Education employee, Traci Sanders of Reynolds Station. Jacob plans to major in Computer Engineering, with a minor in Electrical Engineering, at the University of Louisville.
- **Brittany Stone** is the recipient of the **RI Glover Scholarship**. She is the daughter of Jerrie Stone of Hawesville, who is employed by Aleris. Brittany intends to major in mathematics at Cornell University.

Thank you to all of our area students who applied. We are proud of each one!

Spotlight Business



June's Spotlight is on **Domtar, Hawesville Mill**.

Domtar Paper Company, LLC, which operates a Hawesville pulp and paper mill, seems to thrive on challenges. Domtar operates in a competitive worldwide market that demands ingenuity and flexibility. The market for office-paper products, a core Domtar product, started to decline in 2000. Three factors contributed to the slide: the Great Recession of 2007, competition from rising imports and increased use of electronic communications. The overall market for high-grade paper products continues to decline 3 to 4 percent a year.

"While we operate in a challenging, declining core market, we are optimistic about the future of Domtar-Hawesville," said Steve Henry, general manager. "We have demonstrated our ability to be agile and innovative as we continue to diversify our product mix."

From tea bags to credit card receipts to fast-food restaurant bags, the mill now makes many products people rely on daily. For example, Domtar is now a leading manufacturer of incontinence products marketed primarily under the Attends® brand, as well as baby diapers.

Henry credits his Hawesville team for developing and making new products on the mill's existing machines, which were not originally designed for the plant's expanded product line.

Instead of scaling back during trying times, Domtar-Hawesville continues to invest in its future. For example, the mill has built a \$10 million barge-unloading facility on the Ohio River (pictured below). The project includes a mile-long conveyor.



The barge-unloading facility will reduce Domtar's environmental footprint and lower manufacturing costs. Another payoff: Moving wood chips by conveyor belt from the river means 54,000 fewer truck trips through Hawesville's congested U.S. Highway 60 corridor.

"In the global economy, adaptability is replacing productivity as a key measure for success," Henry said. "... We have changed our paradigm and are focusing on being flexible and responsive to customer needs.

"As we are producing less paper but a more diverse product mix, we continue to focus on ensuring we are as efficient and low cost as possible."

The Hawesville team takes great pride in its mill and enjoys the opportunity to welcome community leaders for a visit. A Community Breakfast has traditionally been held at the Mill during the Spring, which also provides an excellent forum for discussing key performance results and an opportunity for the mill to thank the community for its ongoing support.

Fun fact

The area where the Hawesville Mill built its conveyor system encompasses a protected wetland and a site where Native American artifacts have been found, as well as protected plant and wildlife species. The planning and development team put in place several special measures to protect the site's biodiversity and cultural richness, such as widely spaced foundations and anchorage away from the river's bank.



An actual arrowhead found at the Hawesville Mill site.

Excerpts of this article were taken from the December 2013 Kenergy Member Matters newsletter.

Lewisport Heritage Festival & Founding Anniversary

Don't miss the **25th Annual Lewisport Heritage Festival and the 175th Anniversary Founding of Lewisport**, Kentucky planned for Thursday, June 5—Saturday, June 7th. The event flyer can be found at: <http://www.hancockky.us/Festivals/lewisportheritage.htm>

