

YOUR NUMBER  
ONE SOURCE  
FOR  
CHAMBER-  
RELATED NEWS!

Somerset Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce

Chamber

Chatter

236 East Mt. Vernon St. • Somerset, KY 42501 • (606) 679-7323

The monthly  
Chamber luncheon  
will be held  
Tuesday, August 6,  
2019, at The Center  
for Rural Develop-  
ment.

Join us on  
**facebook**  
search for  
Somerset Chamber of Commerce



**Underground  
Courier Service**  
1334 Hacker Road  
Somerset KY 42503  
606-341-6724

**Smith Enterprise Inc.**  
201 Willow Drive  
Somerset KY 42503  
606-641-5228

**Air Raid  
Trampoline Park**  
205 Shiloh Drive  
London KY 40741  
606-877-5867

**Furniture World  
Superstore**  
5210 S Hwy 27  
Somerset KY 42501  
606-425-5209

**Burritos  
Cha Cha Cha**  
6337 S Hwy 27  
Somerset KY 42501  
606-341-1201

**A+ Loans and Taxes**  
1112 S Hwy 27  
Suite A  
Somerset KY 42501  
606-425-5232

**Master Doughnuts  
of Somerset**  
4450 S Hwy 27  
Somerset KY 42501  
865-765-4807

**Mageeters**  
422 Ogden Street  
Somerset KY 42501  
865-604-219

**Comic Haven**  
2264 Hwy 2227  
Suite C  
Somerset KY 42503  
606-219-0810

**BeThrifty LLC**  
2264 Hwy 2227  
Suite B  
Somerset KY 42503  
606-217-6008

SPEAKER FOR 2019  
AUGUST LUNCHEON

Chris Girdler

SPEDA President  
and CEO

As a 7th generation Ken-  
tuckian, Chris Girdler’s  
roots run strong and deep  
throughout his hometown of  
Somerset and the Common-  
wealth of Kentucky. Having  
an extensive background in  
both the public and private  
sector, Chris is the President  
& CEO of Somerset Pulaski  
Economic Development  
Authority, also known as  
“SPEDA”. SPEDA is a ground-  
breaking and innovative  
economic development or-  
ganization that oversees and  
focuses on a well-rounded  
and collaborative approach  
to bettering the community  
and region. Its focus is busi-  
ness creation, expansion,  
retention and attraction.  
With his background as a  
former State Senator as well  
as a CEO in the houseboat  
manufacturing industry,  
Chris Girdler brings a wealth  
of experience, knowledge  
and a vast network to lead



Chris Girdler

the economic development  
efforts of the Somerset and  
Pulaski County community  
and the entire Lake Cum-  
berland region. Girdler is  
an avid outdoorsman and  
family man. He and his wife,  
Courtney reside in Somer-  
set, Kentucky with their two  
daughters Charleston (10)  
and Channing (4).

Thursday, August 29th

BUSINESS

after hours

with SPEDA



CORPORATE SPONSOR  
FOR AUGUST 6, 2019

TTAI

Toyotetsu America, Inc.

TTAI was established in  
Somerset, KY in 1995, and  
began production in 1997. TTAI  
received ISO14001 certification  
in 2003, and QS9001 certifica-  
tion in 2005. TTAI’s customers  
include Toyota Motor Manufac-  
turing Kentucky (TMMK), Nis-  
san, and Subaru. TTA is proud  
to be a community leader in  
launch of Kentucky FAME in the  
Cumberland Region (Somerset,  
KY) and Greater Owensboro  
Region (Owensboro, KY). We  
are serious about helping our  
local workforce be work ready  
and enabling us to remain a  
global leader in our field. TTAI  
is a supporter of the Bethany  
House Abuse Shelter in Somer-  
set Ky. Each Holiday Season  
TTAI organizes employee con-  
tributions in order to provide  
gifts for Children at this shelter.

BOARD MEMBER  
OF THE MONTH

Laura Glover

The Center for Rural Development

Laura Glover has  
been employed at  
The Center for Rural  
Development for  
over eleven years.  
She has held numer-  
ous roles while at  
The Center includ-  
ing event planning,  
sales, youth pro-  
gram development,  
facility oversight,  
and IT services.  
Currently Laura is  
the Managing Direc-  
tor of Marketing  
and Events and has  
expanded those ser-  
vices to our region,  
in hopes of helping  
small businesses  
communicate who  
they are to their  
customers through  
customized and af-  
fordable marketing  
and event planning.  
Prior to joining  
The Center, Laura  
was the Director  
of Undergradu-  
ate Admission at  
the University of  
Kentucky. She also  
graduated from UK  
with a Bachelor of  
Arts in Bilingual Sec-  
ondary Education.  
Laura continues  
her UK ties through  
her involvement  
with the local UK  
Lake Cumberland  
Alumni Club, the UK  
sorority chapter of  
Kappa Alpha Theta,  
and cheering on the  
CATS any chance  
she gets.  
Laura has served  
on local committees  
such as the Somer-  
set March of Dimes,  
Lake Cumberland  
Polar Bear Plunge,  
and the American  
Cancer Society  
Relay for Life of Pu-  
laski County. Laura  
and her husband  
Larry are members



Laura Glover

of the ambassador  
program for the  
Shriners Hospital for  
Children in Lexing-  
ton, KY and speak at  
various fundraising  
events. In addition,  
they partnered with  
the local Forcht  
Bank to support the  
Shriners through  
community fundrais-  
ers. Recently Laura  
was appointed as a  
member of the Gov-  
ernor’s Kentucky  
Child Care Advi-  
sory Council. She  
is passionate about  
child welfare and  
has been involved in  
many organizations  
to advocate for chil-  
dren’s rights such as  
the Mary G. Cope-  
land House in Lex-  
ington and C.A.S.A.  
(Court Appointed  
Special Advocates  
for children). Laura  
loves living in Pu-  
laski County with  
her husband Larry  
and their ten-year-  
old daughter Katie.  
She thinks Somerset  
is a great place to  
raise a family and  
loves being close  
to her parents–Jim  
and Phyllis Rasnick.  
Laura’s hobbies  
include cooking,  
art, and traveling  
with her family and  
friends.

AMBASSADOR  
OF THE MONTH

Debra Ruckel

The UPS Store

Debra Watkins  
Ruckel is a gradu-  
ate of Laurel County  
High School in Lon-  
don, Kentucky. She  
has been a resident  
of Pulaski County  
since 1990. She  
attended EKU and  
majored in Fashion  
Merchandising. She  
is a graduate from  
the National Col-  
lege of Business  
with an Associate in  
Science and Busi-  
ness Administrative  
Management. She  
employed by The  
UPS Store since  
2011, where she is  
the store manager,  
she is also a Certi-  
fied Print Operator  
and a Notary Public.



Debra Ruckel

Debra is also Secre-  
tary of Noon Inter-  
national Rotary Club  
and Vice President  
of the Somerset  
Business and Pro-  
fessional Women’s  
Club.  
Debra attends New  
Beginnings Worship  
Center. She enjoys  
spending time with  
family & friends,  
University of Ken-  
tucky Basketball,  
Traveling, Motorcy-  
cles, Kayaking, and  
Camping.

Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings

August 9, 2019 at Noon

Zilla Meals  
230 E Mt. Vernon Street  
Somerset, Ky.

August 15, 2019 at Noon

Gooden Real Estate / Roy’s Jamerican Grill  
709 E Mt. Vernon Street  
Somerset, Ky.

August 22, 2019 at Noon

Crown Services  
3311 S Hwy 27 Ste. 7  
Somerset, Ky.

August 28, 2019 at Noon

Happy Camper RV Park  
332 Falls Drive  
Somerset, Ky.