

# Pulaski wins Economic Engine Award

- By BILL MARDIS Commonwealth Journal  
Jan 20, 2018



Dan Cheshire (right) was installed as 2018 president of the chamber, succeeding Seth Atwell (left). Linda Skaarup, Real Estate Agent, Eagle Realty & Development Company, is the chamber's first vice president in 2018 and Troy Lovell, Regional Production Manager at East Kentucky Power Cooperative, is second vice president.

Ross Corder

Highlighted by Kentucky Travel Industry Association's presentation of its first Economic Engine Award to Pulaski County, the annual 2018 Somerset-Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet Thursday night honored several outstanding citizens and businesses.

Carolyn Mounce, executive director, Somerset-Pulaski County Convention and Visitors Bureau, accepted the travel industry award in behalf of Pulaski County for its significant economic impact in local and state economies. Tourism is a major economic generator for Kentucky and Pulaski County was noted for its immense contribution toward a \$14.5 billion industry.

The chamber's highest honors — Distinguished Community Service Award and Entrepreneurial Success Story — went to retiring Supreme Court Justice Daniel J. Venters and local businessman and developer Jerry Ikerd, respectively.

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Hunt Prather and Lisa Phelps are new board members, succeeding David Morris and Mark Brenzel who are rotating off the board.

(Other chamber honorees — individuals and businesses — will be in Sunday's Commonwealth Journal).