



2025 Annual Business Celebration Finalists

Young Professional of the Year

Brittany Wiggins, Owner- Brittney Wiggins Fitness

Brittany opened Murray's first women-only fitness studio in 2020 with a mission to create a supportive, empowering space for women of all ages and fitness levels. With nine years as a Certified Personal Trainer and a degree in Nutrition from Murray State, Brittany has grown her studio to serve over 125 women in-person weekly and more than 500 virtually. She expanded her team with four local female instructors and introduced flexible, affordable class options—including cardio kickboxing and boot camps. Her impact extends beyond fitness, raising thousands for causes like the Humane Society and Towing for Toys. Through every class, Brittany helps women reclaim their strength—physically, mentally, and emotionally—while setting an inspiring example for her daughters and community.

Jenny Jackson, Co-Owner-The Gathered Event Company

Jenny has turned a garage hobby into one of Murray's most beloved event design businesses—growing from a handful of events to over 100 in 2024, and recently expanding into a 5,000 sq. ft. space in the heart of town. A proud Murray native and small business owner, Jenny is deeply committed to giving back through her church, schools, nonprofits, and mission work in Guatemala. Her passion for event design was born from celebrating her daughter Halyn's first birthday—a milestone made even more meaningful by her daughter's diagnosis of Turner Syndrome. Whether it's an elegant banquet or a balloon garland, Jenny brings heart, creativity, and purpose to everything she does.

Lars Griggs-CEO, Woodall Companies Roofing & Exteriors

Lars leads with purpose, innovation, and a deep sense of stewardship. Under his leadership, Woodall Companies Roofing & Exteriors has experienced exceptional growth, including a projected 60–70% increase this year and 11 new team members added in the last 12 months. Guided by the company's core values—Stewardship, Excellence, and Growth—Lars is transforming roofing into a strategic partnership. Beyond the business, he serves his community through Redeemer Community Church and participates in events that uplift and connect others. His motivation is rooted in faith, leadership, and a commitment to shaping a strong future for both his company and the community.

Tyler Cope- Business Development Officer at CFSB & Owner, The Mocktail Guy

Tyler is reimagining how our community celebrates—offering vibrant, alcohol-free mocktail experiences that are creative, inclusive, and family-friendly. Since launching in January 2025, The Mocktail Guy has seen rapid growth, tripling revenue and booking 30+ events in its first six months. A passionate mentor, nonprofit leader, and advocate for safe celebration, Tyler also serves as a Chamber Ambassador, Vice President of the Hope Calloway board, and the visionary behind CFSB at Sunset. With every endeavor, Tyler is focused on connection, purpose, and bringing joy to every event and person he serves.

Nonprofit of the Year

Need Line

Murray-Calloway County Need Line is committed to alleviating hunger and meeting essential needs with compassion and dignity. Serving over 1,470 families each month—including more than 1,300 students through its backpack program—Need Line provides food, hygiene items, utility assistance, and holiday support throughout the year. Signature programs like Empty Bowls and Project Clean unite the community while raising vital funds and awareness. In 2025, Need Line will expand its services to include the Kentucky Prescription Assistance Program (KPAP), helping individuals access life-saving medications. With the help of dedicated volunteers, student partnerships, and generous local farms and businesses, Need Line continues to grow its impact—ensuring that every family who pulls into their parking lot knows they're not alone.

Purpose Church

Purpose Church launched in 2019 with a mission to connect people to Jesus and help them live on purpose—far beyond the walls of a traditional church. Under the leadership of Pastors Dustin and Allie McClain, the church has grown from meeting in a middle school to welcoming over 1,000 attendees weekly at its renovated Southside facility, with record attendance of 1,872 at Easter 2025. Since its inception, Purpose Church has given over \$500,000 to local, national, and global outreach efforts, embodying its core value that “Generosity is our privilege.” Through impactful initiatives like Project Sole—which has provided 2,186 local students with brand-new shoes—and events like “I Love My City” Serve Day, Purpose has become a driving force for good in the Murray-Calloway community. Looking ahead, the church envisions expanding to multiple campuses and launching a Hope Center to support individuals facing addiction, all while continuing to serve with intentional love and purpose.

Murray WATCH, Inc.

WATCH Inc. has been a cornerstone of compassion and inclusivity in Murray for over four decades, serving 60 adults with developmental or intellectual disabilities and acquired brain injuries. Operating out of a nearly 20,000 sq. ft. campus on Main Street, WATCH provides community-based support, vocational opportunities, and life-enriching experiences—like contract work with Pella, volunteering, and public engagement. Founded from humble beginnings in 1976 and officially incorporated in 1984, WATCH remains the only agency in Calloway County offering contract employment for adults with disabilities. The organization is staffed by a dedicated team of 17 and led by Executive Director Regina Slaughter. With a deeply rooted culture of love, inclusion, and purpose, WATCH continues to make a lasting impact—where 60 daily hugs and countless moments of joy are simply part of the routine.

Woman in Business of the Year

Cui Liu – Cui Liu Designs and Cui Liu Rentals

From her kitchen table to over 6,500 retail locations nationwide, Cui has built a globally recognized lifestyle brand rooted in faith, innovation, and empowerment. Her new luxury rental business and expanding operations are bringing national attention—and new opportunities—right here to Calloway County.

Kim Inman – Taco John's Franchisee

Starting as a 16-year-old team member, Kim has grown into a multi-location franchise owner with six successful Taco John's across western Kentucky. Her commitment to her employees, unmatched customer service, and unwavering community support have made her a trailblazer in the restaurant industry—and the first female to ever win the brand's national "Ms. Taco" award.

Lacee Stanger – Corvette Lanes & SBG Real Property Professionals

From arriving in Murray with just \$20 to now leading two thriving businesses, Lacee's story is one of grit, heart, and vision. She's transformed Corvette Lanes into a community gathering place and built one of the region's leading real estate and property management firms—all while giving back through events, service projects, and job creation.

Educator of the Year

Erica Gray- Calloway County High School

Erica, a 22-year veteran educator and Calloway County High School chemistry teacher, brings a passion for science and academic excellence to everything she does. A former cancer researcher turned AP Chemistry teacher and Academic Team coach, Erica has guided countless students toward success in STEM fields—many of whom now serve as physicians, engineers, and researchers. Her AP Chemistry students consistently outperform state and national averages, and her leadership has helped her school earn top science rankings in the region. Erica is also a respected coach whose Academic Team has earned dozens of district, regional, and state honors, including international recognition in Future Problem Solving. A National Board Certified teacher and community mentor, Erica's work is defined by her belief in the power of critical thinking and collaboration—and the lasting relationships she builds with students long after graduation.

Scott Pile- Calloway County Middle School

Scott, a 23-year veteran teacher at Calloway County Middle School, is known for transforming science education through inquiry-based learning, hands-on labs, and immersive field experiences. His commitment to creating problem-solvers and fostering student engagement extends beyond the classroom as the head coach of the CCMS Academic Team, which consistently ranks among the top in the state and nation. Scott also mentors over 100 students weekly through Lakers 4 Christ, a student-led leadership and faith-based group, and volunteers extensively through coaching youth sports and church programs. A passionate educator, leader, and community advocate, Scott's impact is far-reaching and deeply rooted in his belief that all students deserve extraordinary opportunities.

Coy Samons- Murray Independent School District

With a 37-year career dedicated to Kentucky public education, Coy has made a lasting impact from Eastern to Western Kentucky. Since becoming Superintendent of the Murray Independent School District in 2017, Samons has championed student-centered leadership, expanded career and technical programs, and guided the district to numerous state and national accolades—including National Blue Ribbon and 5-Star School recognitions.

A first-generation college graduate and lifelong advocate for equitable education, Samons led growth in both enrollment and opportunity. His leadership saw the launch of a thriving FFA chapter, new ATC programs, and the development of a new elementary school campus. He has held key roles in regional and state educational cooperatives and was recently named a Kentucky Colonel, the state's highest civilian honor.

As he prepares for retirement in July, his legacy is one of visionary progress, advocacy, and unwavering belief in students as the heart of every school.

Emerging Business of the Year

Chicken Salad Chick – Murray, KY

Since opening in 2024, Chicken Salad Chick has quickly become a community favorite—not just for their delicious food but for their big-hearted service. From supporting Murray State and local schools to donating proceeds to the Need Line, this location is living out the brand’s mission to Spread Joy, Enrich Lives, and Serve Others.

Fulcra Leadership Group

Founded by Nathan Carter and Katrina Coffelt, Fulcra Leadership Group is equipping local leaders through coaching, strategic planning, organizational assessments, and team-building experiences. From hosting the Leadership Exchange series to the Live2Lead West KY event, they are inspiring professional growth and community transformation right here in Murray.

Kentucky Advanced Medical Research

This one-of-a-kind clinical research site is bringing world-class trials to rural Kentucky. Thanks to founder Ann Marie Edwards and Sub-Investigator Stephannie Goodrum, patients in our region have access to cutting-edge treatments for conditions like eczema, lupus, and more—completely free of charge. They are not only advancing medicine but improving lives in our own backyard.

Business of the Year

Greif

Greif (formerly TPG Plastics) may have only called Murray home since 2020, but their impact has already been profound. What began as a local operation with a national vision has evolved into a key part of a global enterprise—first through acquisition by iPACKCHEM in 2022, and then by Greif, Inc., a Fortune 1000 company and global packaging leader, in 2024.

At their core, Greif is more than a plastics manufacturer—they are innovators and problem-solvers, designing high-performance containers for industries that rely on safety, strength, and sustainability. With their proprietary A-IMF™ technology and ongoing investment in automation and quality, Greif continues to lead in packaging solutions that matter for real-world essentials.

Their growth has brought more jobs, expanded production, and deeper community involvement. Whether partnering with local schools, participating in job fairs, supporting employee development, or giving back through volunteer work, Greif is invested in the future of Murray as both an economic force and a community partner.

Driven by a powerful mission—to protect products, people, and the planet—Greif exemplifies integrity, innovation, and excellence. They are honored to represent Western Kentucky on the global stage, and proud to build a brighter future, one container at a time.

Sirloin Stockade

Sirloin Stockade has been a cornerstone of family dining in Murray for 30 years, offering high-quality, affordable meals with friendly service in a welcoming atmosphere. A value-driven restaurant, it has built a loyal community of guests who return time and again from across the region.

Overcoming the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic with resilience and teamwork, Sirloin Stockade has celebrated three consecutive record sales years and recently earned the highest sales volume across the entire Stockade Companies franchise group. The business continues to grow with the expansion of its affordable catering service, supporting schools, churches, and businesses throughout the area.

The owners' commitment to community runs deep. From complimentary meals for every local teacher and school employee to hosting annual fundraising dinners for the Boy Scouts and Murray State Golf Team, Sirloin Stockade consistently gives back. Owners have also served on the Chamber Board and currently contribute to local tourism efforts through the Calloway County Tourism Commission.

Sirloin Stockade's success is built on consistency, care, and community—and they're proud to keep serving Murray for years to come.

Walter's Family Pharmacy

Walter's Family Pharmacy has been a pillar of compassionate care in Murray for over 30 years, offering personalized service that goes far beyond filling prescriptions. Locally owned and operated, the pharmacy is known for its long-standing patient relationships, dedicated team of local staff and student

workers, and unwavering commitment to meeting the community's healthcare needs. Whether it's through in-person consultations, free delivery, support for assisted living residents, or vaccination clinics, the team at Walter's shows up with heart and purpose. Their pharmacists are often the bridge between patients and providers—advocating, educating, and offering a listening ear when it's needed most. Even during the challenges of the pandemic, Walter's remained a trusted constant. Under new ownership, but with the same values and familiar faces, Walter's Family Pharmacy continues to grow and serve as a vital part of Murray's healthcare landscape.