

**Join us in recognizing your favorite
local businesses and people!**

*Reader's
Choice Award
Winners*

2024 - 2025



List of Winners

Best Charity: Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse

Best Gossip Spot: Jack's

Best Public Utility: STEMC

Best School: Jacks Creek Elementary

Best Church: Friendship Baptist Church

Best Businesses

Assisted Living Center: Southern Oaks

Auto Body Shop: Quality Body Works

New Auto Dealer: Lonnie Cobb

Used Auto Dealer: Lofton's

Auto Parts: The Parts House

Auto Repair: Greene's Garage

Bakery: Cash Saver

Bank: First Bank

Beauty Salon: Hillari's Hair Service

Beer Store: Oden's Marathon

Building Supplies/Lumber: Simmon's Lumber

Cable/Satellite Provider: Spectrum

Cash Advance Service:

Catering: Hunt's TN BBQ

Clothing: MiMi's Boutique

Convenience Store: Corner Express

Day Care/Preschool: Noah's Ark Preschool

Dental Clinic: Knoell Family Dentistry

Embroidery/Screen Printing: Alliance

Event Venue: JL Acres

Eye Clinic: Henderson Eye Clinic

Finance Company: Edward Jones

Fitness Center/Gym: No Xcuse Fitness

Flower Shop: Henderson Florist

Funeral Home: Shackelford-Casey's

Gift Shop: Southern Chic Spatique

Grocery Store: Piggly Wiggly

Heating/Air: Lecornu Heating and Air

Home Décor: Duck's Market

Industry/Factory: Henderson Stamping

Insurance Agency: State Farm

Internet Provider: Spectrum

Investment Firm: Edward Jones

Landscape/Lawn Service: Turf Obsession

Liquor Store: Oden's

Manicure/Pedicure: Southern Chic Spatique

Medical Clinic: Main St. Family Medicine

Mini Storage: C & R Mini Storage

Newspaper: CCI

Nursery/Gardening: Duck's Market

Nursing Home/Rehab Center: Henderson Health & Rehab

Office Supplies: Dollar Tree

Party Supplies: Dollar Tree

Pediatric Clinic: Christian Family Medicine

Pest Control: Mack's

Pharmacy: City Drug

Physical Therapy: STAR

Plumbing/Electrical: Buck's Building Supply

Real Estate Firm: Crye Lieke Realty

Restaurant/Café: Jacks Creek Grill

Restaurant/Fast Food: Wendy's

Senior Living Apartments: Heritage Towers

Tire Store: The Tire Shop

Vitamins/Supplements: City Drug

Wrecker Service: Hi-Way Wrecker

Best People

Mr. Chester County: Stacey Smith

Ms. Chester County: Sherry Hutcherson

Attorney: Lloyd Tatum

Baker: Linda Watson

Bank Executive: Chasity Burns

Bank Teller: Kim Phelps

Barber: Jerry Beshires

Bookkeeper: Alex Lofton

Boss: Kermit Lofton

New Car Salesman: Drew Lofton

Used Car Salesman: Clint Ross

Cashier: Johnathan Sweeney

Chiropractor: Dr. Ron Burns

Coach: Jason Judd

Cook: Linda Watson

Contractor/Carpenter: Tim Wooley

Dentist: Alexander & Sara Knoell

Doctor/Nurse Practitioner: Dr. Brian McCarver

Elected City Official: Terry Bell

Elected County/State Official: Al McKinnon

Electrician: Steve Haskins

Eye Doctor: Karen Johnson

Eye Technician: Karen Johnson

Financial Planner: Edward Jones

Firefighter: Al McKinnon

Florist: Henderson Florist & Gifts

Funeral Director/Assistant: Tony Hysmith

Hair Stylist: Hillari Hurst

Handyman: Anthony Reddin

Industry/Factory Worker: Pierre McKnight

Insurance Agent: Barry Smith

Landscaper: Trevor Burns

Law Enforcement Officer: Tim Crowe

Mechanic: Greene's Garage Mechanics

Minister: Glenn Harris

Nurse: Jennifer Stevens

Office Manager: David Sweeney

Paralegal/Lawyer: Jay Johnson

Pharmacist: Robert Spain

Photographer: Audrey Stone

Physical Therapist: Vicki Stout

Plumber: Rob Cunningham

Postal Employee: Don Crews

Principal: Paydan Buckley

Real Estate Agent: Destiny Burns

Salesman: Jeff Clark

School Bus Driver: Larry Smith

Secretary/Receptionist: Johnathan Sweeney

Teacher: Melissa Greenway

School Employee (Non Teacher): Renee' Webb

Veterinarian: Heather Jacobs

Community Volunteer: Mendi Moore

Waiter/Waitress: Chloe Jones

Best Food

Barbeque: Siler's

Biscuits: Jack's

Breakfast: Wendy's

Buffet: Brenda's Kitchen

Coffee: McDonald's

Catfish: Mifflin Store

Desserts: Mifflin Store

Donuts: U.S. Donuts

French Fries: McDonald's

Fried Chicken: Brenda's Kitchen

Hamburgers: Jacks Creek Grill

Home Cooking: Brenda's Kitchen

Mexican: El Ranchitos

Pizza: Pizza Hut

Salads: Snookum's

Sandwiches: Jacks Creek Grill

Steaks: Snookum's

Tea: Snookum's

LOFTON  **1145 HWY 45 N.
Henderson, TN**

Best Used Auto Dealer

 Best Secretary/Receptionist: Johnathon Sweeney

 Best Office Manager: David Sweeney

 Best Used Car Salesman: Clint Ross

 Best Boss: Kermit Lofton

 Best Bookkeeper: Alex Lofton

 Best Cashier: Johnathon Sweeney

We would like to thank Chester County for the vote of support! It is an honor to serve this community!



Smith privileged to be named Mr. Chester County

Chester County Clerk Stacy Smith was born in 1965. He attended Chester County Schools Class of 1983 and then continued his education at UT Martin. "It was great; we left our doors unlocked, and keys in our car growing up. Of course, times have changed since then," stated Smith. After attending UT Martin and getting married to his wife Casey Smith, they spent seven years living in Selmer. He has two daughters, Taylor and Rylee.

Smith has been involved in the Chester County community since 1990 where he started at Chester County Bank. In 1994 he started as the Finance Manager for Lofton Chevrolet and stayed there for 20 years.

He currently works at the Chester County Clerk's office since September of 2014, which offers services such as:

- Car Renewals
- Car Titles
- Business Tax
- Sales Tax
- Beer License
- Notaries
- Hotel/Motel Tax
- Hunting & Fishing License
- Sales Tax Exemption Forms
- Driver's License Renewals
- Marriage License
- Mobile Home Decals

"It's an honor to be chosen. I try to stay very active and busy in the community, helping folks as best as I can," said Smith on being chosen as Mr. Chester County this year. Smith is involved with the Chester County Seniors Center, Quinco Mental Health board and Chester County Department of Emergency Services board and serves as the Director of the Lions Club.

Smith was a panelist for Chester County's UT Extension first-ever Family and Consumer Sciences Community Wellness forum that took place on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, in Henderson. Panelists sat before the community of more than 50 members to discuss the different dimensions of wellness, including physical, spiritual, financial and emotional wellness. The goal was to learn information and resources from the community to benefit overall health.

When asked about a favorite moment of getting involved with the community, he stated his favorite would be one that happened recently. "It was on the Senior Center board; you spend some time with folks that are more elderly, more experienced, and you get to learn some things. They love being around people, talking to people and they need that. Not everybody has family, but if they go to the Senior Center that is their family. That is very rewarding, and I enjoy it," stated Smith.

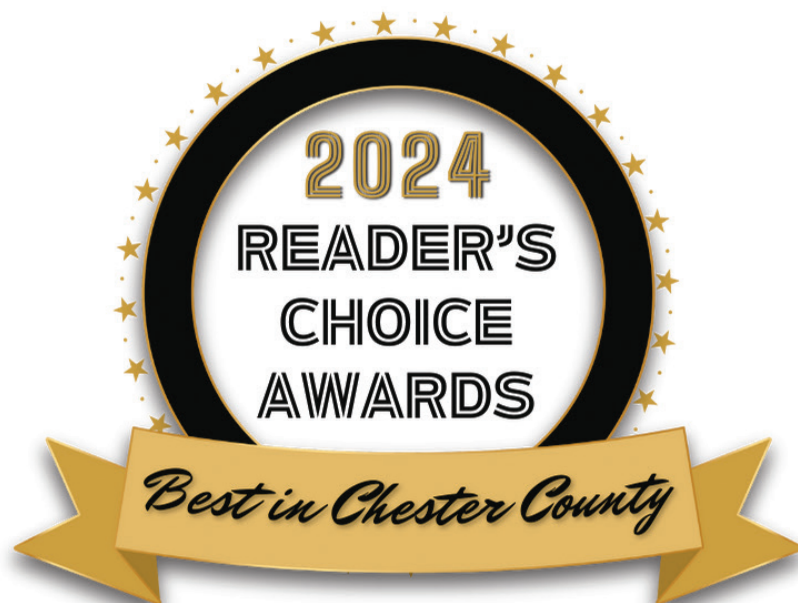
What Smith loves most about this community is the people. "You can build those relationships. You know their family, you know their parents, and you end up getting to know their kids and everybody along the way. When you drive down the road, people wave at you, and it's a great feeling."

When asked about what he is excited for when it comes to the future of Chester County, Smith stated, "Growth is good, but too much growth is not good." He enjoys the small-town atmosphere over the big-city lights, explaining Jackson would be the biggest he would like to live next to or around.

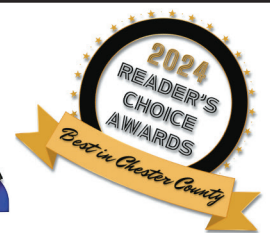
"I like the fact that we are a small community, I enjoy the way it is now... not a Metropolitan area."



STACY SMITH



CORNER EXPRESS



VOTED BEST CONVENIENCE STORE

We would like to thank our community for voting!



Mrs. Chester County: Grounded in faith, Hutcherson looks to future

By Holly Roeder

"I don't feel worthy at all," said Sherry Hutcherson upon hearing she has been named "Mrs. Chester County" in the **Chester County Independent** Reader's Choice awards. While Hutcherson challenges her inclusion among those who would qualify for the title, she says she is humbled by the nominations and feels honored. "Thank you to those that thought enough of me to vote," she said. "It's something I never expected."

Hutcherson is a true native of Chester County. Born in their Montezuma home, the daughter of Buel and Betty Ruth Maness, sister to Dennis. Growing up in Chester County, Hutcherson attended school at Jacks Creek Christian School and was Salutatorian for her small graduating class of four.

As one chapter concluded, the next had already begun. A cute boy she had seen in Chow Wagon one afternoon became her husband the December before she graduated. Forty years later, she and Barry are still together. She stated that it was the second most important decision she has made for her life. "I feel like I made a really good choice when I chose my life partner," she said. "Other than your salvation - choosing to follow Christ - the next thing would be who you choose to share your life with...and fortunately, I made a good choice." While opposites in many ways, Hutcherson says she and her husband share the same moral compass and align on the big things.

The two have carried different roles over the years. Barry has been a plumber, electri-

cian and cook and has been Chester County Mayor since 2018; she has held a variety of roles, and rolls - quite literally. In addition to her greatest accomplishments of being a wife and mother, Hutcherson began her working career babysitting her Aunt Joan's children, Michael and Angie. She worked briefly at Chester County Sportswear and then began waiting tables at Catfish Galley. She enjoyed working in the food service industry, commenting on the change of pace, the variety of tasks and people in any given shift. She credits her table philosophy to advice from a Western Sizzlin' manager, to go above and beyond, providing more to customers than what they expect. The advice served her well at Western Sizzlin' (south) and then when her family opened Snookum's steakhouse in 1994. In 1997, Hutcherson also began working in the cafeteria at the new Chester County High School. She said the role of "lunch lady" brought new avenues of service as she got to know the students. Students opened up to Hutcherson, and she met them with encouragement and support.

Through all of the different hats they have each worn, Hutcherson said she and Barry are each still the same people they have always been. A title does not change the inward compass or the outer goals, she explained, recalling the love and compassion she has observed Barry exhibit in whatever capacity he stood. "He's good all the way thorough." She was grateful to be able to work and also be with their two girls, Jennifer and Hayley, while they were young. She worked two jobs for the majority of her adult life until she had



SHERRY HUTCHERSON

emergency heart surgery in 2010. She lost her mother to heart disease in 2008. Today, she continues to spend evenings at Snookum's overseeing customer satisfaction and occasionally waiting tables while Barry mans the grill, and both set aside time to be present for their family, including their grandchildren, Khloe and Karson (Jennifer and Karl) and Palmer and Piper (Hayley and Clint).

Hutcherson's faith has carried her through, seeing God's work in her life and in the community. She said her family has always relied heavily on prayer, trusting that things will work out for the best, whether or not it works out the way you want.

"People are good, especially here in Chester County," she said. "We're blessed. We have good people that come together - when something happens people jump to help...it doesn't matter what side of the aisle you're on or what; they help each other."

"My momma always taught me to treat others how I want to be treated, and I've tried to live by that; I taught my kids to live by that."

More of the same is what Hutcherson hopes for the future of Chester County, for the community to continue working together, as a community.

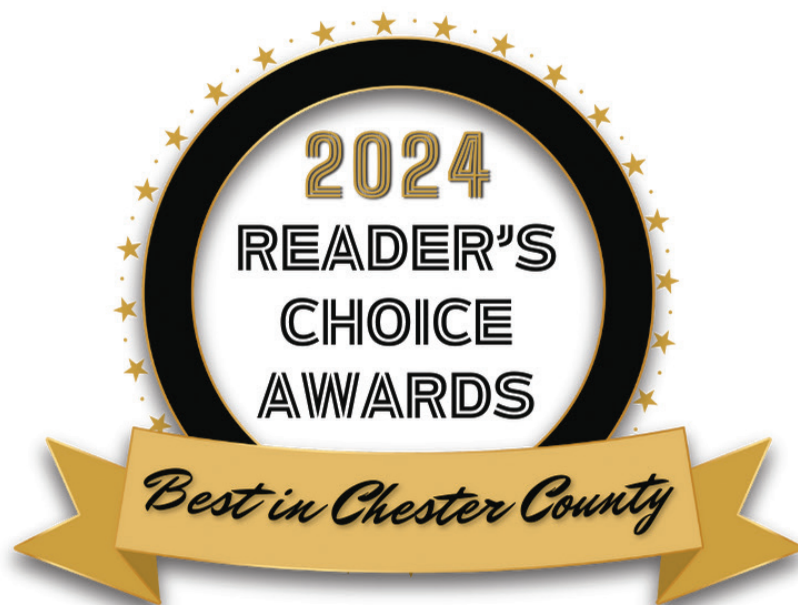
To support each other in local business.

"Our own people that are trying to make something in Chester County - we need to want each other to succeed."

To continue seeing the need, and meeting that need where each is able.

"There's people in Chester County that don't have food...people that don't have a place to sleep at night," she said. "We don't know what somebody's fighting. We may be the only smiling face they see all day."

"We don't realize how blessed we are until we go someplace else."



By Holly Roeder

When considering based on abuse reported, the need children become

The Carl P

Services offered by the center include forensic interviews; trauma focused cognitive behavioral therapy (once per week, lasting 12 weeks to one year, depending on each child's progression); victim advocacy (advocate begins the journey with the child at the forensic interview through prosecution, ensures needs are

A large rag doll with a yellow hat, red hair, and a blue shirt sits on a blue surface. Three smaller rag dolls, two girls and one boy, are sitting in front of it. The background is a solid blue color.

A Child Protective Investigative Team (CPIT) composed of 14 members evaluates all aspects of the child's case to determine every need and service. "We have an amazing team," Fahs said. "They come in, and we spend a lot of time on every kid to make sure that every single discipline that is involved has the opportunity to talk about where they are, what they see, what they think, what they need; so at the end of the day we're not missing anything, the kiddo's not falling through the cracks."

The center hosts several fundraising events throughout the year. The larger ones include the Daddy Daughter Dance, Freed-Hardeman's 5K for the

A blue acoustic guitar and a pink pig sculpture. The guitar is on the left, and the pig is on the right. The pig is covered in pink pom-poms and has a blue bow on its head.

children, the wrestling event sponsored by NEO and Dinner and Auction. Wrestling will be March 14 this year with Dinner and Auction following the next day, March 15. Dinner and Auction will be held at First Methodist Church and will feature a “Dancing with the Stars” theme. Items are now being accepted for the auction portion of the event, and may include any services, products or experiences anyone would like to donate. See the story in this week’s edition of the **Independent** for more information on these upcoming events.

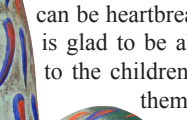


One of the hardest things about sharing the center’s needs and successes is related to privacy, according to Fahs. She said it is difficult to tell the community what good is being done, when only the briefest of details can be shared. “Being able to see so many people do something they don’t have to do, for people they don’t know that they might know, is amazing,” she said.

Fahs began working at the local center in 2007, spending some time in Hardeman County as well and serving the last nine

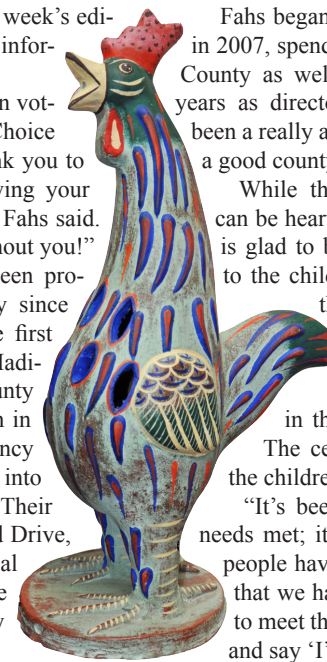
The Carl Perkins Center has been providing services in Chester County since the mid-late 1980s, as one of the first counties provided services by Madison County. The first Chester County Center operated from a spare room in Southwest Human Resource Agency on Church Ave. before moving into the Main St. location in 2005. Their most recent move was to Record Drive, a location which offers a substantial increase in space, storage and some unexpected perks due to the privacy of location.

Fahs began working at the local center in 2007, spending some time in Hardeman County as well and serving the last nine years as director in Chester County. "It's been a really amazing 18 years. This is just a good county."



While the work is challenging and can be heartbreaking, Fahs said that she is glad to be able to offer the services to the children and families who need them. Each report increases awareness, which decreases the number of children who will experience abuse in the future. Prevention is key. The center offers a safe place for the children to heal and succeed.

‘It’s been cool to see our families’ needs met; it’s been amazing to see how people have supported us to make sure that we have what we need to be able to meet these families at the front door and say ‘I’m so glad you’re here.’”



THURSDAY-SATURDAY 4:30-9:00 P.M.
731-989-3490
SNOOKUM'S
STEAKHOUSE
408 E. MAIN ST. | HENDERSON, TN

**BEST
SALAD**

**BEST
STEAK**

**BEST
TEA**

**2024
READER'S
CHOICE
AWARDS**

Best in Chester County

**THANK YOU,
CHESTER
COUNTY, FOR
VOTING US THE
BEST!**

**WE ARE
HONORED
TO HAVE
YOUR
SUPPORT, &
APPRECIATION!**

VOTED BEST NEWSPAPER



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR READERS AND ADVERTISERS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

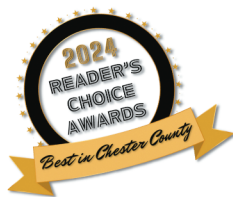
**CHESTER
COUNTY**

Independent

731-989-4624

218 S. Church Ave. | Henderson, TN 38340

www.chestercountyindependent.com



VOTED BEST BUFFET, BEST HOME COOKING, BEST FRIED CHICKEN & BEST WAITRESS: CHLOE JONES

Thank you to all of our customers for your continued support!

BRENDA'S KITCHEN

Country Cooking At Its Best

549 HWY 45 N.
HENDERSON, TN 38340
731-435-1411

Thank you for voting
Chasity Burns Best of the
Best Bank Executive!



CENTENNIAL
BANK

224 W Main St | Henderson | (731) 989-4684
www.mycentennial.bank | Member FDIC

VOTED BEST NEW AUTO DEALER!

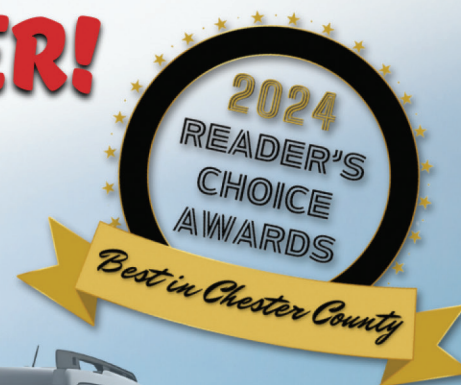
LONNIE COBB



Hwy 45 N • Henderson, TN

731-989-2121

www.LonnieCobbFord.com



We would like to thank our community for all of your votes!



**VOTED BEST
REAL ESTATE FIRM**

Thank you to those
who voted! It's an
honor serving the
Chester County
community!



CRYE★LEIKE®
ELITE REALTORS

John Sweeney, Agent
Cell: 731-608-2589
Office: 731-435-1155
johndavidsweeney@gmail.com
www.johnsweeney.crye-leike.com



**Voted Best Building
Supplies/Lumber!**

Thank you for this
expression of trust
in our products &
services!



668 West Main St.
Henderson, TN
731-989-2991



**VOTED BEST HOME DECOR
&
BEST NURSERY/GARDENING!**

*Thanks to our
community for all of
the support!*





ODEN'S MARATHON

375 Church St. • Henderson, TN

989-0032

American Owned and Operated

Thanks to our great customers and everyone who voted!

VOTED BEST BEER STORE

2024
READER'S
CHOICE
AWARDS

Best in Chester County

VOTED BEST LIQUOR STORE

2024
READER'S
CHOICE
AWARDS

Best in Chester County

ODEN'S LIQUOR

THANKS FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT!

2024
READER'S
CHOICE
AWARDS

Best in Chester County

MAIN STREET

FAMILY MEDICINE

VOTED BEST
MEDICAL CLINIC

We would like to
thank Chester
County for trusting
us with your
healthcare needs!
It's an honor serving
this community!



2024
READER'S
CHOICE
AWARDS

Best in Chester County

VOTED BEST
WRECKER SERVICE!

HI-WAY

MANY
THANKS
TO
ALL
WHO
VOTED.
WE
ARE
PROUD
TO
SERVE
OUR
COMMUNITY.



WRECKER SERVICE

553 S. Church St. | Henderson, TN 38340

731-989-5775

2024
READER'S
CHOICE
AWARDS

Best in Chester County

THE TIRE SHOP

VOTED BEST TIRE STORE

Thank you to our loyal
customers and those
who voted!

- New & Used Tires
- Oil Changes/Brakes
- Batteries/Wipers

731-989-3844

588 HWY 45 N. | Henderson, TN 38340

COOPERTIRES



2024
READER'S
CHOICE
AWARDS

Best in Chester County

VOTED BEST CAFE',
BEST HAMBURGERS
& BEST SANDWICHES

JACK'S CREEK
GRILL & GO

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK
OUR CUSTOMERS FOR THE
CONTINUED SUPPORT! WE
ARE HONORED TO SERVE
THE CHESTER COUNTY
COMMUNITY!







VOTED BEST
HEATING/AIR
BUSINESS!

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY!

MIKE LECORNU HEATING AND AIR
"Your Hometown Dealer Since 1985"
731-989-5256 | Henderson, TN 38340
Email: mikelecornu@bellsouth.net
www.americanstandardair.com



Voted Best
Mexican Food



We want to thank the Chester County
community for voting us the best!

EL RANCHITO'S
RESTAURANT





361 E. Main St. | Henderson, TN 38340
731-989-5159
"Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there."



Thank you
for selecting
us as Best
Insurance
Agency! It is
an honor to
serve this
community!



Tasha Johnson, Agent



VOTED BEST DENTAL CLINIC &
BEST DENTISTS: ALEXANDER
& SARA KNOELL

It's an honor to receive this
recognition. We're proud to
serve this community!



Knoell Family Dentistry

136 S. Washington Ave.
Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00
Some Saturday Appointments Available
Dr. Sara Knoell Dr. Alex Knoell
731-435-1253
FRIENDLY, COMFORTABLE DENTAL CARE



1330 HWY 45 S.
SUITE D
HENDERSON, TN 38340

www.thecornerstonepharmacy.com



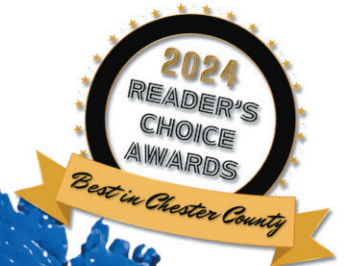
**THANK
YOU
TO THE
CHESTER
COUNTY
COMMUNITY!**

**VOTED BEST PHARMACIST
ROBERT SPAIN**



**Voted Best Nursing
Home/Rehab Center & Best
Physical Therapist: Vicki Stout**

**HENDERSON
HEALTH &
REHABILITATION
CENTER**



We want to thank our community for voting us the best!



FirstBank

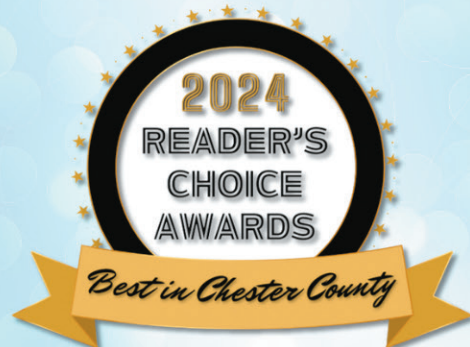
101 East Main Street
731-989-2161

425 East Main Street
731-989-5109

www.FirstBankOnline.com

VOTED BEST BANK & BEST
BANK TELLER-KIM PHELPS

Thanks to the Chester County
Community for Thinking of Us!



Thank you to our amazing customers & clients for voting for SCS! We work hard to be the best & we thank you for recognizing us in this way!

Southern Chic
SPATIQUE

**VOTED BEST MANI/PÉDI, BEST
GIFT SHOP & BEST CLOTHING
STORE - MIMI'S BOUTIQUE**





VOTED BEST PHARMACY & BEST VITAMIN & SUPPLEMENT BUSINESS

Thank you to our friends for the vote of confidence. It is OUR pleasure to serve you!

City Drug Store

P.O. Box 224
118 East Main Street
Henderson, TN 38340
stor64@bellsouth.net

731-989-2166



HealthMart.
PHARMACY
HealthMart-Caring for and about you.