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**Janice Sword Way named SEK Chamber's 2018 Junior Williamson, East Kentucky Ambassador of the Year**

The Southeast Kentucky Chamber of Commerce (SEKC) held the 2018 Annual Awards Night at the East Kentucky Exposition Center on Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. This event highlighted the achievements of SEKC members by recognizing them for their successes and commitments to our region.

Janice Sword Way was named 2018 Junior Williamson, East Kentucky Ambassador of the Year. The Junior Williamson Memorial East Kentucky Ambassador Award has been given since 1991 in honor of the late Junior Williamson. Many will remember Junior Williamson as a true ambassador for East Kentucky - raising positive awareness of the area beyond its borders. This honor is awarded to a person who embodies the role of an ambassador for Eastern Kentucky throughout the region, the state and possibly the nation.

Janice Sword Way is President of Leadership Kentucky. She grew up in Pikeville, is extremely proud of her Eastern Kentucky heritage, and shares that message with those she encounters.

After graduating from Eastern Kentucky University, Janice received her master's degree in Telecommunications from the University of Michigan. She began her career at WPKE radio and worked there throughout college. Early in her career, Janice was the Promotion Manager for WKYT-TV and Producer at Kentucky Educational Television (KET). She was on the original team launching WYMT-TV in Hazard where she served as News Anchor, Reporter and Producer. Later, she worked at WBIR-TV in Knoxville, Tennessee. One of the reasons Janice chose a career in communications was to help share positive messages about Eastern Kentucky, the remarkable people who live here, and visionary work taking place among its residents and leaders.

Janice came to Leadership Kentucky from St. Elizabeth Healthcare in Northern Kentucky, where she was Assistant Vice President of the health system's Foundation. At St. Elizabeth and The St. Luke Hospitals (before the two hospital systems merged), she served as Director of Public Relations and Marketing, supervised community and legislative relations, and led the St. Luke Community Foundation as Vice President.

She has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and chaired numerous committees over the years. She also serves on the board of Kentucky Educational Television (KET). She was named an Outstanding Woman of Northern Kentucky and won the Walter Pieschel Award from the Northern Kentucky Chamber for her volunteer efforts.

SEKC is proud to have Janice as an advocate for the region. The effects of her dedication to advancement and progress resonates throughout the state.