

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## A GREAT YEAR IN THE MAKING

BY: JAN COLLINS

WOW! The Business League has experienced a phenomenal year! The recent “COFFEE with SENATOR COCHRAN” breakfast at Butler Snow, and the “COFFEE with CONGRESSMAN HARPER” luncheon at the Embassy Suites were both extremely successful and informative. We are most grateful to the fine members and sponsors who graciously hosted these events. (Please check out the event photos at [www.madisoncountybusinessleague.com](http://www.madisoncountybusinessleague.com)). 2011 isn't over yet! We continue to explore opportunities to add value to your membership by uniting our business leaders and elected officials to create a vision for the future of Madison County.



CONGRESSMAN GREGG HARPER

members and joint MCEDA/MCBL committee members. Of course, no issue is complete without an encouraging report from Madison County Economic Development Authority Executive Director Tim Coursey.

**“YOU ALL AREN'T WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO DO IT FOR YOU. YOU'RE AS PROACTIVE A GROUP AS I'VE EVER SEEN.”**

CONGRESSMAN  
GREGG HARPER

In this issue of One vision, one Voice, our Guest Columnist is Silver Member Madison County Engineer Rudy Warnock, who provides an interesting update on county infrastructure and other projects. Our Member Spotlight is on Silver Member Landrum & Associates with an exciting report on his Town of Livingston development and farmers market at the intersection of Hwys. 463 and 22. The farmers market is quite a fun experience on Thursday nights for the entire family!

Also in this issue you will find a complete listing of our current membership, new board

Please join us for our 2011 VISIONS CELEBRATION on Tuesday, September 27th, from 5:30 – 7:00 at the Jackson Yacht Club. This will be a reception to honor our members, elected officials, and others who have contributed to the success of the Business League during 2010-11. We will present the “VISIONS” award to one of our member businesses, and the inaugural “VISIONARY Leadership Award” to a most deserving Madison County citizen. Come enjoy good food and drink and a beautiful view of the Ross Barnett Reservoir!

*2011 Visions Celebration*  
a reception

Tuesday, September 27, 2011 - 5:30 to 7 p.m.  
at the Jackson Yacht Club

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GUEST COLUMN

# A GREAT COUNTY WE CALL HOME

BY: RUDY WARNOCK

Madison County continues to grow and improve with construction of new roads, bridges, and parks. County officials and employees also work daily to make sure our roads are safe. For almost twelve years it's been an honor and privilege to serve as Madison County Engineer on many projects that enhance our lives in this great county.

Excellent shopping, dining, entertainment and family amenities such as parks, churches, and schools are found right here in Madison County. They are the result of hard work and excellent planning by your county officials. It is the duty of the county to provide and maintain the infrastructure that continues to attract and keep those businesses right here for you to enjoy. While we work hard to maintain our existing roads, we continue to design and build new roads, bridges, and parks to better improve how we will live, work and play in Madison County for years to come.

When asked to write about projects that greatly affect the residents of Madison County, I realized it would take a book to share our progress! For this article, I've chosen two projects that I'm especially proud to have engineered for our county.

Callhoun Station Parkway is a three-phase road that stretches from Gluckstadt Road to Highway 22 in Canton, a project over 5 miles in length. Phase One runs from Church Road to Sowell Road, Phase Two stretches south from Church Road to Gluckstadt Road, and Phase Three starts at Sowell road and continues northerly to Highway 22. This road is commonly referred to by some as the road to nowhere; however, it not

only has a beginning and an end, it serves as the primary road carrying hundreds of our children daily to Gluckstadt Middle School and Gluckstadt High School. The Madison County Vocational

and Administrative complex is also located on this parkway. This project is a fine example of what can be accomplished when elected officials work together. In this case the Board of Supervisors worked proactively to provide the necessary infrastructure so the School Board could provide quality educational facilities for our children where they were desperately needed.

Another fine improvement is Sulfur Springs Park. After years in the planning stage, the park project is becoming a reality. Located at the intersection of Highway 17 and Sulfur Springs Road, the park will boast a 17- acre trophy bass lake, 16 covered picnic tables, a health and wellness trail, a children's playground and large community pavilion for organized events. The first phase of the project is the construction of the lake. Bids for this phase will be taken in October with construction to commence soon after. The project is expected to be complete late 2012 and open to the public.

Each day the leaders of Madison County work hard to make this county we call home a better place to live and work. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you have relating to these or other county projects at 601-855-2250 or rudywarnock@warnockandassociates.com.



RUDY WARNOCK

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MCEDA COLUMN

# A GREAT COUNTY WE CALL HOME

BY: TIM COURSEY, MCEDA

*"Everything in the world we want to do or get done, we must do with and through people."* - Earl Nightingale

Back in the late eighties, when I was beginning my career in economic development, I bought a series of Earl Nightingale's self improvement and leadership cassette tapes. I would listen to Earl's low gruff grandfather-like voice everyday on my way to and from work. His words of wisdom not only excited me and captured my attention but I became anxious to put them into action. Earl taught many things like how to be your best and how to prosper, but as a student of Mr. Nightingale, some twenty something years later, I now know what Earl was really encouraging us all to do. He wanted us to begin each day with a positive attitude no matter how we feel. Earl promised that if we did this one simple act that the people with whom you interact each day would reflect that same attitude back to you and many times back to everyone else in the room. It's amazing at how well this simple act works and how it can alter your life. While setting your mind in motion every day to have a positive attitude is important, it's the reaction of others to your attitude that is most important because it lays the ground work for getting things done.

Recently I was talking with Jan Collins about League's upcoming Fall event. After our talk I was thinking about how far the Business League has come from its humble beginnings. In its two year lifespan, the League has hosted something like seventeen events. These were everything from breakfast meetings with Senators and Congressmen to forums focused on the economy, excellence in education, and healthcare, all meant to educate and enlighten folks. Each meeting has its own flavor and subject matter and more personal and professional benefits to take home with you than you can shake a stick at. But they also have two strong common denominators at their core. The meetings provide powerful and useful information that can be applied constructively to help make Madison County a better place for us to live our lives, and they provide an opportunity for members and businesses to network with each other and our elected officials on a regular basis. The one thing I have heard at all of these meetings, while mingling my way from guest to guest, is great ideas from people with positive attitudes...lots of them. The room is usually full of people with vision and ideas and theories about business, and politics, and doing things better, and being better, and I'm always excited to be part of this buzz going on around me.

I have always believed that to have the vision of a leader is a wonderful thing that begins with the production of ideas. However, it is through people that a vision becomes manifest when those people get together and learn about the vision, get excited about it, embrace it completely, and push and pull it to completion or a state of being. Whether you know it or not, or whether you believe it or not, organizations like our Business League provide all of us with this rare opportunity to not only embrace visions and goals that can literally change a community but also an opportunity to become involved and to be the person with the vision and leadership that sets people in motion. As Earl once said "we all walk in the dark and each of us must learn to turn on his or her own light."



TIM COURSEY, MCEDA

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## LIVINGSTON FARMERS MARKET IS A HIT



Local businessman David Landrum and his development team for the town of Livingston have been working diligently to bring Madison County an exciting new commercial development project. In partnership with The Madison County Economic Development Authority this highly anticipated venture launched with the already thriving Livingston Farmers Market which opened in June.

Located at the intersection of Hwy 463 and Hwy 22, this development project will rebuild the historic old town of Livingston, MS which dates back into the 1700s and was selected by the state legislature in 1828 to be the first site of the Madison County seat and courthouse. The original courthouse was constructed that year and opened in January 1829. Landrum plans to use as much of the old city grid structure as possible, including the original road beds.

The plans call for eventual construction of



approximately 200,000 square feet of commercial buildings including boutique retail and office space, art galleries and artist workspace, a community chapel and events building and an Inn and spa. Phase One will include 73,000 square feet and construction will begin within the next few weeks.

Landrum has already been instrumental in building this community with the success of the Livingston Farmers Market, Mississippi's newest USDA certified Farmers Market. Pub-

lic interest and attendance for Livingston Farmers Market can be attributed to the fresh locally grown products, live music, a quaint wine garden, featured items from the Mississippi Craftsmen's Guild and products ranging from art and jewelry to fresh lemonade and fresh gulf shrimp. Weekly featured items and chef demonstrations from Parlor Market restaurant as well as Viking Culinary Institute and other local restaurants have been a focal point of the market. Novel activities such as hot air balloon rides, waterslides, a muscadine stomp and golf putting contests have helped create a general atmosphere of fun and relaxation. Livingston Farmers Market is open Thursdays from 4-8pm.

Details regarding the upcoming groundbreaking for the town of Livingston will be forthcoming. For more information, call (601)898-0212.

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