

TINA LAKEY - 2016 MCBL & F CHAIRMAN



Tina Lakey, Chairman

I am honored to serve as the Madison County Business League and Foundation 2016 chair. We have many events planned in 2016 and look forward to each of you being actively involved.

We will again host our 2016 League & Legislature on February 24, 2016, as well as our Luncheon, 'Coffee with the Congressman/Senator', and our Vision Celebration.

We will continue to be stake holders and support MCEDA as they work to bring new industry into our county. We will also continue to support the Madison County Youth Leadership program and to support the North Madison County Excel by 5.

We will make recommendations to the Madison County Community Trust Board of Directors for education projects we deem worthy.

It will be extremely important to meet with our legislators to get a pulse on what is happening...new legislation. What can we do? The MCBL&F will support moving forward with the conference center in Madison County as we feel this is vital as Madison County continues to grow; support our businesses with meeting space to accommodate large group meetings.

We will meet with, and continue to build relationships with our elected officials on all levels; supporting their efforts on behalf of economic development in Madison County.

We want to be a strong voice and join efforts for new endeavors that might need our support... possibly through letters of support or resolutions.

As Madison County continues to grow, we want to continue growing our membership as well; we need your help and support to do this. We will be looking at increasing our membership ...again, we need each of you helping us by inviting new businesses to come and be a part of this great organization. I also encourage each of you to actively participate in our committee events. These events are perfect to invite potential members to be your guests. We are only as strong as our members are willing to support and serve!

Jan does an excellent job of scheduling events and informative forums to educate and inform us about what is happening in Madison County, as well as our state. We are 'The Voice' of Madison County and that means each of you. We want to hear from you on what the business community needs are in Madison County.

Again, my sincere thanks to each of you for your continued support. I look forward to a very productive and informative year ahead, as together, we grow Madison County!

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The Madison County Business League & Foundation
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KEYNOTE SPEAKER
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MADISON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE & FOUNDATION

VISION CELEBRATION TIME TO REFLECT ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PAST YEAR

Over 400 Madison County movers and shakers gathered recently for the Madison County Business League and Foundation's 2015 Vision Celebration at the Country Club of Jackson. Jan Collins greeted the business men and women, elected officials and other guests in attendance before the meeting kicked off with music and pageantry as Miss Mississippi Hannah Roberts played the Star Spangled Banner on the violin as the colors were presented.

Bob Williams, who served as co-chair of the MCBL&F for 2014-15, explained the merger with Business League and Madison County Foundation, which occurred December 1, 2014. An Advisory Board of Directors was created with the merger agreement. The legacy of the Madison County Community Trust (501)c3 continues with a separate Board of Directors with the mission of helping education efforts in impoverished areas of Madison County.

Other highlights of the past year include co-hosting an Industry Holiday Luncheon with MCEDA to show appreciation for existing industry in Madison County. The Executive Committee met with mayors, supervisors, and other county elected officials to discuss priority topics for the 2015 legislative session and ways the MCBL&F could help support their efforts on behalf of economic development in Madison County. The 2015 League & Legislature Luncheon had 400 members, guests and elected officials at the in February meeting honoring State Representative Rita Martinson. Presentations were given by Governor Phil Bryant and State Treasurer Lynn Fitch. The keynote speaker was Speaker of the House Philip Gunn. The Madison County Business League & Foundation Entrepreneurship SWAT Team was created to assist in mentoring and coaching of start-up companies throughout the state. The MCBL&F hosted the Youth Leadership Class for Quality of Life Day and Government Day and the Board of Directors voted to award \$250.00 scholarships to each of the 2015-16 class members who complete the program. A late afternoon event was co-hosted with

MCEDA to celebrate the renaming of Panther Creek to the Madison County Megasite, a BioTechnology and Advanced Manufacturing Park. Governor Bryant was on hand for the announcement. The Madison County Creative Economy Council hosted the first Madison County Law Enforcement Appreciation Week in May to recognize and show gratitude to law enforcement officers throughout the county and municipalities.

Helping to grow with the needs of Madison County, the MCBL&F and MCEDA boards of directors passed a resolution in support of moving forward with the concept of a new 60,000 square foot conference centers with an adjacent 200 room hotels. The conference center would have a projected impact of more than \$16M in direct spending by convention-goers in Madison County. Business leaders and community leaders presented the resolution to the Madison County Board of Supervisors in an August board meeting. Dr. Shannon Campbell, Director of the Trent Lott Center for Economic Development at the University of Southern Mississippi, facilitated an audit of the Madison County Strategic Plan and presented the findings to the MCBL&F which are posted on the website (www.madisoncountybusinessleague.com).

The MCBL&F hosted five luncheons with each level of membership to welcome and share the benefits of membership with the newly merged members. The MCBL&F Education Committee hosted a May luncheon at the Embassy Suites with State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carey Wright who delivered the assessment of public education in Mississippi. Also in May, Central District Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall was the keynote speaker, along with County Engineer Rudy Warnock, for a Transportation Committee luncheon. The MCBL&F Health & Wellness Committee hosted an August luncheon at the MS Hospital Association to enlighten the members on the efforts of each hospital to promote a healthy community and workforce.

The Government Relations & Education Committees hosted two luncheons in August and September to inform and educate the business leaders and local elected officials on proposed Initiatives 42 and 42A. Madison County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ronnie McGehee and School Board attorney Jim Keith spoke on behalf of 42 at Holmes CC and Speaker of the House Philip Gunn spoke at Ruth's Chris on 42A.

In September, speaking to a packed ballroom, US Congressman Gregg Harper was the keynote speaker for the 2015 Coffee with the Congressman luncheon.

Throughout the year, the MCBL&F maintained three websites, including madisoncountybusinessleague.com, MCtheroadahead.com and madisoncountycreativeeconomy.com, and produced two newsletters.

Williams passed the gavel to incoming 2015-16 MCBL&F Chair Tina Lakey, who said she's looking ahead to 2016. She said that the MCBL&F has a strong voice in the County. "We are 218 members strong and we will continue to grow as Madison County continues to grow."

Gail Pittman, who serves on the MCBL&F Advisory Board, presented the Visionary Leadership Award to David Landrum. Landrum is a noted Madison County Developer. Noah's Mill has become one of the most exclusive developments in Mississippi. Landrum is responsible for the development of The Town of Livingston, a mixed-use development situated on 480 acres. The development has already had a major impact on Madison County with the creation of nearly 200 jobs. Past recipients in attendance were Joanne Gordon, Joel Bomgar and Dr. David Powe.

Tony Jeff, president and CEO of Innovate Mississippi announced that MCEDA director Tim Coursey had been awarded the John I. Rucker Community Innovation Leadership award at the annual Innovate Mississippi Conference on November 11 in Jackson.

Coursey recognized Joanne Gordon, who has retired from her 26 years as executive director of Canton Convention and Visitors Bureau. "She accomplished much over the years along with her small but dedicated staff and corps of volunteers. She was a pioneer in the film industry in Mississippi. The groundwork of the film industry we have here in the state today was laid by Joanne. For years to come, we'll all enjoy the events she worked so hard to establish, including the Canton Flea Market, Victorian Christmas and the MS International Balloon Festival."

Coursey also spoke about the annual report, and key projects that include TelehealthONE, the Global Training Institute at the Mississippi Bio-Medical Business Collaboratory in Canton.

The Vision Award was presented to Merit Health of Madison. Brett Phelps, CEO of Merit Health Madison, accepted the award. Past recipients include CSpire, Levis Strauss & Company, BankPlus, Nissan North America and St. Dominic Health Services. Merit Health Madison has 113,000 square feet in their facility, and ground will be broken for a new addition in early 2016. Merit puts a strong emphasis on recruiting and retaining exceptional professionals. The company currently employs 277 in Madison location.

Sam Kelly with the Brunini Law Firm introduced the keynote speaker, Lance Nail, Ph.D, CFA, Dean and Professor of Finance at the Jerry S. Rawls College of Business Administration in Lubbock,

Texas. Nail spoke about thinking globally on a local level. He referenced Rich Karlgaard, Forbes Editor-in-Chief and said that industries that will benefit from the emerging global trend of a stronger middle class are industries that are already strong in Mississippi, including agriculture, crop sciences and nutritional sciences. Other industries that will benefit are life sciences, healthcare, energy, technology, innovation coming out of R&D, financial services, and there will be a greater need for banking and investment services as well as lower end automobiles. He told the audience that it was important to build a cluster of expertise in order to know where the comparative advantage. He said that Madison County continued to trend higher than the national average in income, and that leads to a positive economic environment. Nail said we need to be very strategic, targeting healthcare and technology as the best places to invest. He said a strong emphasis needs to be put on a regional workforce development idea which will have broader global implications, as well as specialized manufacturing, which will provide people without college degrees with good jobs. He said that Madison County is well-poised to benefit from a growing global middle class. The demographics, workforce and educational environment here offer a strong balance of both professional and skilled labor. He said we need our own Bill Gates—a champion!

For more information please visit

www.madisoncountytceda.com

and

www.madisoncountybusinessleague.com

COFFEE WITH CONGRESSMAN HARPER



John Dorsa, Sam Keyes, Congressman Harper and Marc Petro

The County Business League & Foundation hosted the 2015 "Coffee with the Congressman" VIP reception and luncheon on Wednesday, September 2, 2015, at the Country Club of Jackson. Special guest speaker was Mississippi's Third District US Congressman Gregg Harper. Over 400 members, elected officials and guests attended the events. Congressman Harper's speech was titled "Inside Baseball." The guests were entertained by international acclaimed vocalist James Martin and the Raphael Semmes Ensemble.

View photos from the event at www.madisoncountybusinessleague.com

MERIT HEALTH ACCEPTS THE 2015 VISION AWARD



Tobey Houston, Robyn Pollack, Brit Phelps, Shea Sutherland, Steve Dobbs, Renee Cotton

MCEDA and MCBL&F created the VISION award in 2010 as a means of recognizing and thanking certain stand out Madison County businesses for their contributions to the community. By contributions we mean their unique or remarkable accomplishments, their investments in people and the resulting impact that their operations have on the local area economy.

MCBL&F ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER PRESENTS THE 2015 VISIONARY LEADERSHIP AWARD TO DAVID LANDRUM OF THE TOWN OF LIVINGSTON



MCEDA and MCBL&F created the VISIONARY Leadership Award in 2011 as a means of recognizing and thanking certain stand out Madison County individuals for their visionary leadership contributions to the community. By contributions we mean their unique or remarkable accomplishments, their investments in people and the resulting impact that their operations have on the local area economy. Past winners include Superintendent Mike Kent, Madison County Schools; JoAnn Gordon, Canton Convention & Visitors Bureau; Joel Bomgar, Bomgar Corporation; and Dr. David Powe, TelehealthONE.

2015-16 MADISON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE & FOUNDATION ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Front Row (L-R):

Bob Williams	Immediate Past Co-Chairman Office of Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney
Sam Kelly	Vice Chairman Brunini Grantham Grower & Hewes, PLLC
Tina Lakey	Chairman CenterPoint Energy
Phil Buffington	Secretary-Treasurer Adams & Reese
Mark Garriga	Immediate Past Co-Chairman Butler Snow

Back Row (L-R):

Sherry Chance	Past Chairman Tulane University- Madison Campus
Terrell Knight	Director C Spire
Barney Daly	Director Trustmark National Bank
Trace Swartzfager	Director St. Dominic Health services, Inc.
Dr. Don Burnham	Director Holmes Community College – Ridgeland Campus
Brad McMullan	Director Bfac.com
Calvin Harris	MCEDA Appointee Warnock & Associates
Brad Maley	Director BancorpSouth
Dick Hutchinson	Past Chairman MCEDA Appointee
Jan Collins	Executive Director MCBL & F

LINKS TO REPORTS/DOCUMENTS

★ 2015 MCEDA ANNUAL REPORT ★
www.madisoncountymceda.com

★ EXCELERATE MS ROAD STUDY ★
www.exceleratems.com

2015-16 MADISON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE & FOUNDATION ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Cecil Harper	Harper Rains Knight & Company
Mark Bounds	Mark S. Bounds Realty Partners
Todd Burwell	G. Todd Burwell, P.A.
Gail Pittman	Gail Pittman, Inc.
Renee Rice	Renasant Bank
Bill Senter	Atmos Energy
Alon Bee	Regions
Stacey Wall	Pinnacle Trust (Not Pictured)
Wesley Goings	Telapex, Inc. (Not Pictured)
Rodney Grogan	MMC Materials (Not Pictured)

MADISON COUNTY COMMUNITY TRUST OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The Madison County Community Trust, Inc. is a 501 © (3) organization dedicated to improving the educational, health, economic and social status and wellbeing of the citizens of Madison County, Mississippi.

Front Row

Barney Daly	Vice president Trustmark
Tom Cook	President Copeland Cook Taylor & Bush
Cecil Harper	Secretary-Treasurer Harper Rains Knight & Company

Front Row

Mark Garriga	Director Butler Snow
Renee Rice	Director Renasant Bank
Donna Sims	Director BankPlus
Wesley Goings	Director Telapex, Inc.
Tina Lakey	Director CenterPoint Energy
Sam Kelly	Advisor Brunini Grantham Grower & Hewes

CAN A PETABYTE A DAY KEEP THE DOCTOR AWAY?

BIG DATA MAY HOLD THE KEY TO PERSONALIZED HEALTHCARE



Hu Meena

Technology likes to show off. It's easy to notice when the latest innovation has arrived because when technology gets better, we notice. In education-tech, we heralded the arrival of the SMART

Board and interactive learning. Government-tech showed off its ability with advanced NSA surveillance. Every time you see a stunning new Pixar movie, you're experiencing some of the best of entertainment-tech.

But how far have we advanced in the health-tech sector? Think about the last time you visited your doctor. It probably looked pretty similar to the way it looked back when you were excited to get that sick day home from school. You signed in on a clipboard chained to the front desk, filled out your brick of paperwork on another clipboard, and followed the nurse down the hall to the room where she hung the clipboard on the door. The world must have been lawless chaos before the clipboard was invented.

So aside from a few extra computers and iPads at your doctor's office, where are we seeing technology affect positive change in health care? The changes I'm excited about are a little behind the scenes. Let's talk about a couple of them.

Big Data and Personalized Medicine

Everyone knows the marketing world loves to collect data about us. They love to know our preferences and our patterns. It helps them sell the right stuff to the right people. By drawing from a huge pool of data, marketers are able to make very informed decisions. This is Big Data in the commercial world.

Big Data in healthcare is trying to improve your health with that same kind of insight—but with less pop-up ads. For a long time, the

problem was the data on that clipboard needed to be converted into digital information. In the past 6 years, widespread adoption of electronic medical records (EMR) has provided enough digital medical data to benefit from data analysis. It went from data to Big Data.

It's easy to see how evidence-based medicine is immediately bolstered by Big Data: the pool of available evidence instantly becomes much larger. Doctors now can electronically compare patients' conditions to similar patients and their respective health outcomes. This leads to better diagnoses and better treatment plans because you're working with better intel. Your doctor's perspective is no longer limited to what they're most familiar with. Medical decisions can be more tailored and less standardized. This is the gateway to personalized medicine.

Personalized medicine is still taking shape but has the capacity to really change healthcare delivery. A key tenant of personalized medicine is that the genetic information inside each of us maps out our susceptibility to most diseases. Researchers have begun recording the specific genes of their patients, aka "sequencing their genomes." Combine this genetic info with a personal narrative (diet, behaviors, health history, traumas) and a map legend begins to be formed.

What exactly do all these patients with this very specific type of cancer have in common? What drugs do they respond best to? Big Data could answer this.

But is data analysis really the highest level of general development for health-tech? Is this really state-of-the-art? You'd be surprised. These are huge amounts of data we're talking about.

Petabytes

The Washington Post estimates that the current amount of human genomic data in

existence is around 25 petabytes. That's 2,500 times more data than every piece of text in the Library of Congress. Within the next decade, it's estimated that genomic data will take up more data space than every video currently stored on YouTube. This is all raw data that has to be extracted, curated, compressed, stored, and ultimately made sense of. Only recently has the technology—the algorithms, the processors, the bandwidth—reached a benchmark that could carry such a weight.

It isn't cheap either. But innovation has dramatically lowered the cost. During his battle with pancreatic cancer, Steve Jobs had the genome of his tumor sequenced multiple times to help decide which drug therapy to use. According to the New York Times, each sequence cost him \$100,000. A decade earlier, in 2001, it would have cost \$100 million.

Now, just 4 years after his death, it costs barely over \$1,000. That is a remarkable cost reduction resulting purely from an improvement in technology.

Not only is DNA sequencing more efficient and cost-effective than ever before, but it's also becoming more share-friendly. Fast Company reports that just last month the FDA released a website, precision.fda.org, that makes it easier for researchers to explore the existing community-based genomic information. This DNA library makes it easy for scientists to collaborate with each other, share genomes they've sequenced, and build off of each other's discoveries. This socialization of genomic research, combined with the power of Big Data, is important. Some experts believe it's the way we're going to cure the big diseases.

So, we know Big Data analytics has the power to radically personalize medicine. But how are these broad concept macro-innovations being fueled on the ground level?

Sensors

In the past five years, we've seen a huge rise in the popularity of activity trackers. There's a good chance you use something like a Fitbit, and if not you definitely know ten people who do. Such rapid adoption has encouraged companies and their engineers to innovate and make products that give us more and more insight on our health metrics and help us live healthier lives.

But what about the really chronically sick? Sensor technology has an even bigger opportunity to help these individuals. In August, Y Combinator—a Silicon Valley incubator for startup companies—released their “Request for Startups” report. In their healthcare section they state:

“Healthcare in the United States is badly broken. We are getting close to spending 20% of our GDP on healthcare; this is unsustainable.

We're interested in ways to make healthcare better for less money, not in companies that are able to exploit the system by overcharging. We're especially interested in preventative healthcare, as this is probably the highest-leverage way to improve health. Sensors and data are interesting in lots of different areas, but especially for healthcare.”

This is the most prestigious startup accelerator in the country. Only 3 percent of the companies that apply to participate in their program are accepted and they've made an explicit request for innovators to explore the possibilities and the promise through use of sensors and data in healthcare. They see a gap and an opportunity.

In 2014, C Spire partnered with the University of Mississippi Medical Center in a pilot program to improve healthcare in rural Mississippi through remote monitoring and data analytics involving individuals with diabetes. Thousands of people in our state suffer from more than one chronic disease and live outside the reach of consistent quality health care. Our plan combined the power and

ubiquity of our high-speed mobile broadband communications network with Intel-GE sensors that link UMMC specialists to patients in their homes to deliver more connected, collaborative and cost-effective care. Patients are issued tablets and sensors equipped to monitor metrics like glucose levels, provide educational health information, and transmit a seamless stream of data to specialists at UMMC.

UMMC estimates \$339,000 in combined savings for the 100 patients in the diabetes pilot program, resulting from the elimination of hospital stays and emergency room visits. Assuming 20 percent of Mississippi's diabetic population enrolls, this could add up to \$189 million in Medicare savings for our state every year.

In fact, that pilot was so successful that C Spire, UMMC and Intel-GE Care Innovations have agreed to partner together on a five-year program that promises to dramatically lower the cost of care and improve the health of thousands of chronically ill and underserved consumers in the southeastern U.S.

This approach helps to close the gap between the medically underserved and everyone else. This saves our state a significant amount of money. This even promises better health outcomes for the many individuals who struggle with chronic diseases every day. This is the medical equivalent of Fitbit, but with much higher stakes.

So as far as health-tech goes, with Big Data and sensors, we're in a pretty good place. And if history is any indicator, we'll soon be heading to an even better one.

Editor's Note

Hu Meena is president and CEO of C Spire, a Mississippi-based diversified telecommunications and technology services company. C Spire is a Pillar Sponsor of the MCBL&F.

2015 GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST



Speaker of the House Rep. Philip Gunn, Joseph Moss, and Senator Will Longwitz.

County Business League & Foundation Government Relations Committee hosted the 2015 Legislative breakfast on Wednesday, December 16, 2015, at Butler Snow Law Firm office in Ridgeland. Madison County Legislators were the honored guests. 90 members, guests and local elected officials attended the event. Legislators, local elected officials and MCBL&F Committee Chairmen expressed their views on legislation for the upcoming session.

View photos from the event at
www.madisoncountybusinessleague.com

THE MISSION OF THE MADISON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE & FOUNDATION

“The mission of the Madison County Business League & Foundation is to bring together, under one organization, the voice of numerous entities in order to establish a clear and concise message for the future. This organization, which is comprised of elected, appointed, business, and individual leaders of Madison County, will enable all partners in business and economic development to participate collectively in bringing together the overall vision for Madison County. Simply put... one vision, one voice.”

SECOND OF TWO PART SERIES ON PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS 42 AND 42A

The Madison County Business League & Foundation hosted the second in a two part series on the proposed Constitutional Amendments 42 and 42A on Wednesday, September 30, 2015, at Ruth's Chris Steakhouse in Ridgeland.

Over 75 Education Committee and Government Relations Committee members were in attendance along with numerous local elected officials and state legislators. Speaker of the House Representative Philip Gunn gave a presentation on Initiative 42A. Madison County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ronnie McGehee and Madison County School Board Attorney Jim Keith presented a program on Initiative 42 on August 12, 2015, in the McGowan Center on the campus of Holmes Community College in Ridgeland.

Both power point presentations and photos of the events can be viewed at
www.madisoncountybusinessleague.com

Photos from the event:

Education and Government Relations Committee Luncheon with Speaker Philip Gunn

Resources from the event:

Presentation: The Dangers of Initiative 42
 Initiative 42 Sample Ballot (Against)

MCBL&F HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE LUNCHEON



Shown is Deidra Bell,
 St. Dominic Health Services

The Madison County Business League & Foundation Health & Wellness Committee held a luncheon meeting on Monday, August 3, 2015, at the Mississippi Hospital Association.

MS Hospital Association CEO Tim Moore welcomed the committee and MCBL&F Health & Wellness Committee Chairman Julie Mitchell updated the group on the status of Madison County Strategic Plan Health Task Force efforts. St. Dominic Health Services CFO Deidra Bell, Merit Health

Madison Marketing Director Renee Cotton, and Whit Hughes with Baptist Health Systems Foundation presented updates on each hospital's workplace wellness for their employees and healthy lifestyle programs for the community. Baptist Healthplex Performance Center Director, Greg Centilli, assisted in Mr. Hughes presentation.

View photos from the luncheon.

Presentations from the luncheon:

- ★ 2015 Health & Wellness Committee Presentation
- ★ Transforming Care Presentation by Deidra Bell
- ★ Introducing Merit Health

EDUCATION & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE LUNCHEON



Shown left to right: DR. Don Burnham, VP Holmes CC - Ridgeland Campus; Dr. Nancy New, Chairman of the MCBL&F Education Committee; Supt. Of Madison County Schools Dr. Ronnie McGehee; Jim Keith, attorney for Madison County School District Board of Directors; and Jan Collins, MCBL&F Executive Director

The Madison County Business League & Foundation (MCBL&F) Education and Government Relations Committees hosted a luncheon meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2015, at The McGowan Center located on the Ridgeland Campus of Holmes Community College.

Madison County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Ronnie McGehee, gave an update on the academic performance of the county public schools. Jim Keith, attorney for the Madison County School Board, gave a presentation to educate and inform members of the business community on Initiative 42, a proposed MS Constitutional Amendment that will be on the November 3 ballot. The MCBL&F will host another Education & Government Relations Committee luncheon on Wednesday, September 30, 2015. Speaker of the House, Rep. Philip Gunn, will present his perspective on Initiative 42A.

Through partnership with the Madison County Economic Development Authority, the Madison County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution creating the Business League in March 2008. The mission of the Madison County Business League & Foundation is to bring together, under one organization, the voice of numerous entities in order to establish a clear and concise message for the future. This is accomplished by uniting the leading business decision makers with the elected officials on all levels to educate, inform, and facilitate discussion of topics that affect economic development in Madison County.

View photos from the event.

Download presentation:

Education in Madison County Schools: Providing Unlimited Opportunities

Download presentation:

Initiative 42: Fact or Fiction?

For more information about the MCBL&F, please contact Executive Director Jan Collins at collins.jan01@gmail.com or visit www.madisoncountybusinessleague.com.

2015-16 MADISON COUNTY YOUTH LEADERSHIP CLASS/COLLEGE MENTORS



The Madison County Business League & Foundation and MCEDA proudly announce the Madison County Youth Leadership Class for 2015-16. Also pictured are the college/university mentors for this year's program.

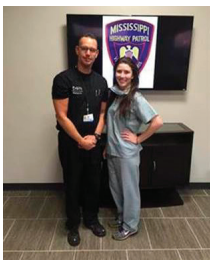
Kneeling (L-R): College/University mentors Alex Milstead, USM; Kierstan Knaus, USM; Caitlyn Mizelle, Holmes Community College – Ridgeland Campus; Rachael Ring, Tulane University.

Seated (L-R): Bradley Reynolds, St. Joe; Blythe Blackwell, RHS; Anshul Anugu, RHS; Meg Rice, JA; Miles Murphy, GHS; Catherine Burford, JA; Andrew Speetjens, St. Andrew's; Kelvin So, RHS

Standing (L-R) Rachel Cole, Tri County; Brandon Porter, New Summit; Mary Kate Shearer, RHS; Savanna Tillman, MRA; Anna Shepard, GHS; Mekhi Ross, VJHS; Caroline Doherty, St. Joe; Clay Chance, MRA; Kentesa Linn, VJHS; Joseph Smith, CA; Mary Breiten Webb, CA; Jamarius Brown, CHS; Emily Zhang, MCHS; Harrison McKinnis, MCHS; Makayla Garrett, CHS; Lauren Ousby, St. Andrew's; Lelia Higgs, New Summit.

Not Pictured: Swayze Bozeman, Tri County

MADISON COUNTY YOUTH LEADERSHIP CLASS MEMBER SHADOWS AT GLOBAL TRAINING INSTITUTE



2015-16 Madison County Youth Leadership Class member Savannah Tillman, a Junior at Madison Ridgeland Academy, wants to be a Cardiovascular Surgeon.

She was allowed to shadow and assist Dr. Chris Powe yesterday in training 75 MS Highway Patrol Special Operations Troopers at the Global Training Institute (GTI). Savannah toured the GTI along with her classmates on Career Day in October. She was thrilled to have this opportunity!

Photo: Dr. Chris Powe, Global Training Institute, is shown with Savannah Tillman, Madison County Youth Leadership Class Member representing MRA.

MADISON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE & FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN



Ray Balentine, office executive for Michael Baker International's Alabama and Mississippi operations, recently took on additional leadership duties in his home community to help make a difference.

The board of directors of the Madison County Business League & Foundation named Balentine chairman of its newly formed transportation committee. The organization partners with the Madison County Economic Development Authority to unite the public and private sectors, thereby encouraging proper planning for future growth and development.

Balentine joined Michael Baker in 2015 to lead our offices in Ridgeland and Ocean Springs, Mississippi and Mobile, Alabama. He brought nearly 40 years of engineering and planning experience to his new role with the company. Prior to joining the company, Balentine served as director of intermodal planning for the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT). While at MDOT, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials recognized his teams with several awards of excellence.

Balentine currently serves as the president of the Mississippi Transportation Institute. He also is a member of the Mississippi Water Resources Association and the Mississippi Intermodal Council.

The mission of the Madison County Business League & Foundation Transportation Committee is to work closely with elected officials on the flow of traffic into, out of, and within the County to ensure that Madison County benefits from an expanded and improved transportation system that includes increased transportation choices. Transportation decisions are coordinated with the land use plan and support the County's strategic plan to encourage economic growth.

For more information about the MCBL&F, please contact Executive Director Jan Collins at collins.jan01@gmail.com or visit www.madisoncountybussinesleague.com.

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JOHN I. RUCKER COMMUNITY INNOVATION LEADERSHIP AWARD PRESENTED TO THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



The 2015 John I. Rucker Community Innovation Leadership Award was presented to the Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA) for their development of the Mississippi Bio-Medical Business Collaboratory.

The Collaboratory is the first healthcare focused entrepreneurial-based facility of its kind in Mississippi, housing a variety of healthcare technology companies and a state-of-the-art advanced surgical simulation laboratory. The overall goals of the facility are to foster the development of the bio-medical business sector in Mississippi as well as to help improve and advance the practice of healthcare through technology and training. The project will create significant job opportunities in Madison County and beyond as a result of both the ongoing operations at the Collaboratory and from companies that spin off from the Collaboratory.

"The reason the Collaboratory is so impressive is inclusion of all of the critical elements from the beginning – synergistic companies, facilities, support organizations and the right vision," said Tony Jeff, president and CEO of Innovate Mississippi. "Innovate Mississippi is proud to be a partner and to have already seen the success MCEDA and the Mississippi Bio-Medical Business Collaboratory have had in job creation and creating new companies."

Tim Coursey, executive director of the Madison County Economic Development Authority, accepted the award during Innovate Mississippi's 16th Annual Conference on Technology Innovation luncheon held November 11 at the Jackson Marriott.

"MCEDA is thrilled and humbled to have received the John I. Rucker Community Innovation Leadership Award for the Mississippi Bio-Medical Business Collaboratory," said Coursey. "Innovate Mississippi has been involved as a consulting partner for the development of the Collaboratory since we began the construction and renovation phase of it well over a year ago. Innovate Mississippi is therefore very familiar with our mission and goals for the facility and understands the possibilities we have to accelerate the growth of the bio-medical sector in Mississippi. We very much appreciate them as a partner in this unique project."

The first Mississippi Community Technology Leadership Award was presented to John I. Rucker in 2002. In 2008, the award was renamed the John I. Rucker Community Innovation Leadership Award in honor of Rucker for his outstanding role as a visionary and economic developer.

Innovate Mississippi is a nonprofit organization with the mission to drive innovation and technology-based economic development for the State of Mississippi. Visit www.innovate.ms for more information.

Innovate MS is a School/Government Member of the MCBL&F



From left to right: Bubba Weir, vice president of Innovate Mississippi; Tim Coursey, executive director of the Madison County Economic Development Authority; Tony Jeff, president and CEO of Innovate Mississippi

2015 VISION CELEBRATION



MCEDA Executive Director Tim Coursey presents the 2016 VISION Award to Merit Health Madison CEO Brit Phelps.

The Madison County Business League & Foundation and the Madison County Economic Development Authority hosted the 8th annual VISION Celebration luncheon on Tuesday, November 17th at the Country Club of Jackson. Over 400 members, elected officials and guests were in attendance. The 112th Military Police Battalion of Canton presented the colors and Miss Mississippi and 1st Alternate to Miss America, Hannah Roberts, played the National Anthem on her violin. Pastor Jason Dillon offered the invocation and Flora Mayor Les Childress led the pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Out Going Chairman Bob Williams gave an annual MCBL&F report for 2014-15 and passed the gavel to incoming Chairman Tina Lakey who presented her platform for 2015-16.

Innovate MS CEO and Founder Tony Jeff announced that Executive Director Tim Coursey and MCEDA were presented the John I. Rucker Community Innovation Leadership Award at their annual Conference last week. This was awarded due to MCEDA's work

on the development of the Mississippi Bio-Medical Business Collaboratory in Canton, MS. MCBL&F Advisory Board Member Gail Pittman awarded the 2015 Visionary Leadership Award to David Landrum. MCEDA and MCBL&F created the VISIONARY Leadership Award in 2011 as a means of recognizing...and thanking... certain stand out Madison County individuals for their visionary leadership contributions to the community. By contributions we mean their unique or remarkable accomplishments, their investments in people and the resulting impact that their operations have on the local area economy. Past winners include Mike Kent, JoAnn Gordon, Joel Bomgar and Dr. David Powe.

MCEDA Executive Director Tim Coursey presented the 2015 VISION Award to Merit Health Madison. The award was accepted by Merit Health Madison's CEO Brit Phelps. MCEDA and MCBL&F created the VISION award in 2010 as a means of recognizing and thanking certain stand out Madison County businesses for their contributions to the community. By contributions we mean their unique or remarkable accomplishments, their investments in people and the resulting impact that their operations have on the local area economy

Keynote Speaker was Dr. Lance Nail, Ph.D, CFA, Dean of the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University.

Download the **MCEDA Annual Report**

View all photos from the 2015 Vision Celebration at

www.madisoncountybusinessleague.com

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