



Newsletter

SUMMER 2017

SAMUEL C. KELLY: 2017 MADISON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE & FOUNDATION CHAIRMAN



Samuel C. Kelly
2017 MCBL&F Chairman

The end of April, 2017 marked the half-way mark of my service as the 2017 Chair of the Madison County Business League and Foundation. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on some of the League and Foundation's activities. As noted in my initial article, my focus as your 2017 Chair has been on three areas. First, I wanted to improve the communication between the Business League and Foundation and the Madison County Economic Development Authority ("MCEDA"). I am pleased to report that our Executive Committee has met with the MCEDA Board on two occasions. Both meetings were very productive and allowed us to explore how each organization may help the other. The foundation has been set for future meetings of this nature which I believe will prove to benefit the Business League and Foundation and MCEDA as we both seek to contribute to a better community for all our citizens.

Our second goal for 2017 is to fully implement the new Young Professionals Committee. To date, the Young Professionals have gathered on two occasions with both meetings being an overwhelming success. These meetings have confirmed to me that the future of Madison County is bright and full of potential leaders. The Young Professionals are eager to continue the work of their Committee and to improve the quality of life throughout Madison County.

Our third and final goal for the year was to increase the activity and influence of our Government Relations Committee. This Committee continues to be one of the strengths of our organization and vital to fulfilling the Business League and Foundation's Mission. To date, we have worked to increase the participation within this Committee and to increase the activity of the Committee. We have developed a list of Committee members which enjoy close relationships with our federal, state and local officials and are willing to speak up for Madison County. We have also developed a targeted approach to assisting the Madison County Board of Supervisors with its number one infrastructure priority. I believe this Committee's work will continue to improve the League and Foundation and position our organization to make an impact on issues important to Madison County.

In closing I would like to thank each of you for your continued commitment to and involvement in the Madison County Business League and Foundation. I invite each of you to offer your suggestions as to how the Business League and Foundation may continue to serve our elected officials and the business community as we strive to make Madison County even better.

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MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REPORT



Ken Oilschlager
MCEDA
Interim Economic
Developer

In the fall of 2016, the Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA) determined that, in keeping with our business and industry partners, we needed to focus on the practice of continuous improvement. Pursuant to our commitment to being a highly effective organization, we commissioned a competitive economic development assessment designed to help identify our organizational strengths, weaknesses in addition to potential opportunities and threats to our goal of raising the standard of economic development in our area.

MCEDA selected VisionFirst Advisors to conduct a competitive review of economic development in Madison County. The Vi-

sionFirst team compiled an overview of the current conditions, ultimately addressing the question, “where is the community now and where does it want to go?” MCEDA received the competitiveness assessment in April 2017. There is an action plan for carrying out the strategic initiatives set forth in the report with the over-arching goal of MCEDA continually operating as a highly effective economic development organization. The strategic initiatives include: Competitiveness, Business Formation, Business Retention and Expansion, Education and Workforce, and the cross cutting automotive industry initiative.

On Wednesday, May 24th, the Madison County Economic Development Authority

hosted a joint meeting with the Madison County Supervisors to present the findings in the Competitive Economic Development Assessment Report prepared by VisionFirst Advisors. During the meeting Gray Swoope, President & CEO of VisionFirst Advisors, gave an overview of the report. During the overview, Mr.

Swoope provided best practices, recommended additional staff, outlined a program of work, and established baseline metrics for MCEDA. After the presentation, there was a question and answer portion of the meeting. Additionally, Griff Salmon, Principal of VisionFirst Advisors, discussed the steps in the executive search process leading to the selection of a new MCEDA Executive Director.



MCEDA'S EXISTING INDUSTRY BARBECUE



Bill Guion, Renasant Bank; Supervisor Paul Griffin, Madison County Board of Supervisors; Bert Jackson, Hederman Brothers; Coby Parker, Hederman Brothers. Photo by Linda Wilson.



Marcus Dufour, MDA; Andy Kilgore, University of Southern Mississippi; Chris Hinton, Entergy Mississippi; Billy Klauser, MDA; Greg Word, Greater Jackson Alliance. Photo by Linda Wilson.

The Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA) held its annual Business & Industry Appreciation BBQ on Thursday, May 4th as part of its existing industry outreach program. The event, honoring local business and industry, provided a great networking opportunity to connect business and industry leaders with each other, economic development partners, and elected officials in a casual setting. Approximately 120 attendees enjoyed BBQ by prepared by Two Rivers and music by Patrick Harkins at the MCEDA office in Canton.

MCBL&F MCYP KICK-OFF RECEPTION



Photos by
Amile Wilson

The Madison County Business League & Foundation hosted a kick-off reception for the Madison County Young Professionals (MCYP) on January 30, 2017, at Seafood Revolution. Over 100 MCYPs attended. Mr. Jim Barksdale addressed the group. Music was provided by Jesse Primer, III.

MCBL&F MCYP STEERING COMMITTEE LUNCHEON WITH STATE TREASURER LYNN FITCH



Pictured (l-r): State Treasurer Lynn Fitch; Allie Hudson, MCEE; Victoria Johnson and Superintendent Dr. Cassandra Williams, Canton Public Schools; Chris Roberts, MCYP Chairman; Barney Daly, Donna Sims, Renee Rice and Cecil Harper, MCCT. Photo by Sara Beth Wilson.

The Madison County Business League & Foundation hosted a Madison County Young Professional (MCYP) Steering Committee luncheon on April 12, 2017, at the MCEEDA office in Canton. Guest speaker was State Treasurer Lynn Fitch who presented a program on financial literacy.

The Madison County Young Professionals have chosen financial literacy as their signature philanthropic project for Madison County. The MCYPs received a grant from the Madison County Community Trust MCCT) to engage the Mississippi Council on Economic Education (MCEE) to train Canton Public Schools teachers for the upcoming year.

MCBL&F MCYP SPRING FORUM AT NISSAN



Photos by Amile Wilson

The Madison County Business League & Foundation (MCBL&F) hosted the Madison County Young Professionals (MCYP) Spring Forum on Friday, April 28, 2017, in the Murano Room at Nissan North America in Canton, MS.

Mississippi Development Authority Executive Director, Glenn McCullough, was the keynote speaker. 115 MCYPs attended the peer-to-peer networking and professional development event. Music was provided by the Raphael Semmes Jazz Ensemble. Floral arrangements designed by Green Oak Floral and garden Center. Membership in the MCYP is exclusive to young professional 39 and younger who work for companies that are members of the MCBL&F.

LINKS TO REPORTS/DOCUMENTS

★ 2017 MOMENTUM IN MADISON PREPARED BY
STATE ECONOMIST DARRIN WEBB ★

[http://madisoncountybusinessleague.com/
LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=145757](http://madisoncountybusinessleague.com/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=145757)

★ 2017 MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC INDICATORS PREPARED
BY THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI TRENT
LOTT NATIONAL CENTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP ★

[Madisoncountybusinessleague.com/_
literature_146954/2017_Madison_County_
Economic_Indicators](http://Madisoncountybusinessleague.com/literature_146954/2017_Madison_County_Economic_Indicators)

2017 LEAGUE AND LEGISLATURE



Governor Phil Bryant. Photo by Amile Wilson.



Speaker of The House Phillip Gunn. Photo by Amile Wilson.

The Madison County Business League & Foundation (MCBL&F) hosted the 9th annual League & Legislature Luncheon on Wednesday, February 22, 2017, at the Old Capitol Inn in Jackson. Over 400 MCBL&F Members, local elected officials and guests attended to honor the Mississippi State Legislature. Governor Phil Bryant and Speaker of the House, Phillip Gunn, addressed the crowd. The Madison County Youth Leadership Class also attended the luncheon as a part of their Government Day program. Vocalist Derrick Burt and the Raphael Semmes Ensemble entertained.

View the 2017 League & Legislature photos at:
madisoncountybusinessleague.com

ADULT LEADERSHIP MADISON COUNTY: GOVERNMENT DAY



Top Row (L to R): Jonathan Ashley, Doyle Hinson, Jonathan Varney. Second Row from Top (L to R): Danny Bolanos, Jess King, Casey Smith, Thomas Robb. Third Row from Top (L to R): Stephen Pruitt, Sheila Harkins, Mona Graham, Lindsey Herr, Jan Collins- LMC Government Day Program Chairman. Bottom Row (L to R): Vickie Miller, Kristy Daniels, Gov. Bryant, Mrs. Bryant, and Dana Marsalis

The Adult Leadership Madison County (LMC) Class was greeted by Governor Phil Bryant and First Lady Deborah Bryant at the Mississippi Governor's mansion as a part of the program for Government Day, chaired by MCBL&F Executive Director Jan Collins. The Class enjoyed a reception and tour of the mansion and grounds.

LMC also hosted a Mayors breakfast at Citizens National Bank in Madison, toured the MS State Capitol, visited the MS Supreme Court and met with the Madison County elected officials at the courthouse. LMC is sponsored by the Madison County Chamber of Commerce.

CHRISTIANS UNITED FOR ISRAEL

BUSINESS

SYMPOSIUM

"Peace for Israel means security, and we must stand with all our might to protect its right to exist"
 - Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Keynote Speaker:
Major Elliot Chodoff
Israel Defense Force, Political & Military Analyst

Elliot Chodoff is a political and military analyst specializing in the Middle East conflict and the global war on terrorists. Elliot is a major in the IDF reserves and is a graduate of the Home Front Command Senior Commanders Course. He presently serves as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Population for the Northern Region of Israel in Home Front Command. Major Chodoff served in the North during the Lebanon War of 2006, in Gush Katif during the Gaza Disengagement, and was a member of the rescue team in the aftermath of the bombing of the Taba Hilton. He is also an expert in infantry weapons and tactics, and teaches courses in field craft and small unit tactics.

Tuesday
July 11, 2017
Doors Open at 11:15
Event 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Buffet Lunch 11:30 - 12:00

Parkway Church
601 Reunion Parkway
Madison, MS 39110

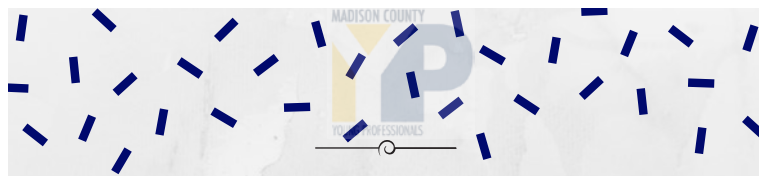
Event Host:
Pastor Jason Dillon

CLOSED MEETING:
 Event is invitation only, RSVP is required.
 To RSVP, please reply via email:
info@parkwaychurch.net

"With over 2 million members, CEI is the largest pro-Israel organization in the United States and one of the leading Christian grassroots movements in the world."

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."



SAVE THE DATE

Madison County Business League & Foundation
Young Professional Summer Celebration

FOR MEMBERS OF MCBL&F
 AGES 39 AND UNDER

JACKSON YACHT CLUB
 700 YACHT CLUB DRIVE
 RIDGELAND, MS 39157

Tuesday, July 18, 2017
 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

\$25
 Per Ticket

PAY ONLINE: MADISONCOUNTYBUSINESSLEAGUE.COM/APPLICATION RSPV BY WEDNESDAY JULY 12TH TO COLLINS,JAN01@GMAIL.COM



MCBL&F EDUCATION BREAKFAST



Left to right: Jan Collins, MCBL&F Executive Director; Trey Dellinger, MCBL&F Government Relations Committee Chairman; Sam Kelly, MCBL&F Chairman, Senator Gray Tollison; Dr. Rommie McGehee, Superintendent of Madison County Schools; and Dr. Don Burnham, MCBL&F Education Committee Vice Chairman. Photo by Amile Wilson.

The Madison County Business League & Foundation (MCBL&F) hosted an Education Breakfast at the Madison County Schools district office on Wednesday, March 29, 2017. State Senator Gary Tollison, Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, was the keynote speaker. Senator Tollison presented encouraging statistics on Mississippi students that are a result of education legislation passed over the last few years. 80 MCBL&F members, elected officials and special guests attended the event. Senator Tollison's power point presentation can be viewed at Madisoncountybusinessleague.com/literatureretreive.aspx?ID=145845

View Event Photos at: madisoncountybusinessleague.com

**MCBL&F HOSTS
 HEALTHCARE FORUM**



Pictured (l-r): Julie Mitchell, MCBL&F Health/Wellness Committee Chairman; Tim Moore, CEO Mississippi Hospital Association; Phyllis Johnson, Executive Director of the MS State Board of Nursing; Phil Buffington, MCBL&F Vice Chairman; Dr. John Hall, Executive Director of the MS State Board of Medical Licensure; and Jan Collins, Executive Director of the MCBL&F. Photo by Amile Wilson.

The Madison County Business League & Foundation (MCBL&F) hosted a Health & Wellness forum at the Mississippi Hospital Association in Madison. The topic of discussion was the opioid epidemic in Mississippi and its impact on the workforce. Panelists included Dr. John Hall, Executive Director of the MS State Board of Medical Licensure; Phyllis Johnson, Executive Director of the MS State Board of Nursing; and Cheri Atwood, Director of Compliance at the MS State Board of Pharmacy. Link to opioid report is Madisoncountybusinessleague.com/_literature_146124/The_Opioid_Crisis_-_Phyllis_Johnson

View Event Photos at:
madisoncountybusinessleague.com

MCBL&F TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE



The Madison County Business League & Foundation Transportation Committee hosted a breakfast on April 6, 2017, at the Embassy Suites Hotel. Transportation issues were discussed on the local, state and federal level by a panel of experts. Panelists included Rep. Charles Busby, Chairman of the House Transportation Committee; Craig Carter, MDOT; Scott Waller, MEC; Chris Richardson from the office of Senator Thad Cochran; and Dan Gaillet, Madison County Engineer.

Pictured (L-R): MCBL&F Transportation Committee Chairman Ray Balentine, MDOT Assistant to the Commissioner Craig Carter, MCBL&F Government Relations Committee Chairman Trey Dellinger, Representative Charles Busby, Chris Richardson from the office of Senator Thad Cochran, MEC Interim Executive Director Scott Waller, MCBL&F Chairman Sam Kelly. Not pictured: Madison County Engineer Dan Gaillet. Photo by Amile Wilson

View Event Photos at: madisoncountybusinessleague.com

LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION WEEK



Pictured (l-r): Toya Veals, Canton Chamber Main Street Association; Linda Bynum, Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce; Casey Holcomb, Flora Area Chamber of Commerce; Jodi Maughon and Betsy Nicholson, Madison County Chamber of Commerce; Jan Collins, Madison County Business League & Foundation; Elizabeth Fulcher, Madison the City Chamber; and Kristy Daniels, Ridgeland Chamber volunteer. Photo by Elwin Williams.

May 15-21, 2017, was designated the third annual Madison County Law Enforcement Appreciation Week. This coincides with National Law Enforcement Appreciation Month. Madison County wants to express our deepest appreciation and support for our municipal and county law enforcement officers who keep our communities safe and afford us the quality of life we all enjoy.

Law Enforcement Appreciation week was sponsored by the Canton Chamber Main Street, Flora Area Chamber of Commerce, Madison the City Chamber of Commerce, Madison County Chamber of Commerce, Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce, and the Madison County Business League & Foundation. Churches, schools, and other organizations/clubs are encouraged to participate. Each of the (4) Mayors (Flora, Canton, Ridgeland and Madison) and the President of the Madison County Board of Supervisors will sign proclamations declaring May 15-21, 2017, as Madison County Law Enforcement Appreciation Week.

LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION WEEK DESIGNATION SIGNED



Pictured standing (l-r): Supervisor Paul Griffin, Madison County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jodi Maughon, Madison County Business League & Foundation Executive Director Jan Collins, and Sheriff Randy Tucker *Pictured seated (l-r):* Supervisor Sheila Jones, Supervisor David Bishop, President of the Board Trey Baxter, Supervisor Gerald Steen. Photo by Elwin Williams.

The Madison County Board of Supervisors signed a proclamation designating May 15-21, 2017, as Madison County Law Enforcement Appreciation Week. The citizens of Madison County are extremely indebted to the committed, well-trained, hard-working members of the Sheriff's Department & staff. As a part of the commemoration of the outstanding work of the Madison County Sheriff's Department, the Board of Supervisors, as well as the citizens of Madison County, wish to commend and thank its loyal force for its commitment to the County, and its further commitment to providing a safe and secure county in which to live. The Board calls upon its residents to recognize and participate in this special observance to honor our law enforcement officials and first responders.

THE 2017 MADISON COUNTY CREATIVE ECONOMY COUNCIL



The Madison County Creative Economy Council is a convergence of organizations with a strong interest in seeking out and promoting all that is good in our County!

Please visit www.madisoncountycreativeeconomy.com for direct links to each organization and all events, festivals and attraction sin Madison County. If you would like to promote a Madison County event please contact me at collins.jan01@gmail.com.

Standing (l-r): Elizabeth Fulcher, Executive Director, Madison the City Chamber of Commerce Jodi Maughon, Executive Director, Madison County Chamber of Commerce Mary Beth Wilkerson, Executive Director of Ridgeland Tourism Commission. *Seated (l-r):* Betsy Nicholson, Director of Membership & Marketing, Madison County Chamber of Commerce Jan Collins, Executive Director, Madison County Business League & Foundation Linda Bynum, Executive Director, Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce Toya Veals, Executive Director, Canton Chamber of Commerce Main Street Association. *Not pictured:* Casey Holcomb, Executive Director, Flora Area Chamber of Commerce Susan Marquez, Susan Marquez Consulting Jana Padgett, Canton Convention & Visitors Bureau Nancy Perkins White, MS Craftsman's Guild. Photo by Elwin Williams.



MADISON COUNTY YOUTH LEADERSHIP

GOVERNMENT DAY



Madison County Youth Leadership: Government Day was held on Wednesday, February 22, 2017. Representative Cory Wilson was the keynote speaker at the breakfast sponsored by Jernigan, Copeland & Anderson and hosted at the law offices of Adams & Reese. The class traveled to the MS State Capitol where they toured the historic building and were recognized in the State Senate Gallery by Senator Walter Michel. Several state legislators and state-wide elected officials addressed the group while they were at the Capitol.

The class attended the Madison County Business League & Foundation's annual League & legislature luncheon at the Old Capitol Inn. Governor Phil Bryant and Speaker of the House Rep. Philip Gunn were the keynote speakers. After the luncheon, the class toured and enjoyed refreshments at the Governor's mansion as guests of First Lady Deborah Bryant. The final stop of the day was the Mississippi Supreme Court with a presentation by Supreme Court Justice Jim Kitchens.

MCYL SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS



(l-r): Jan Collins, John Martin Paczak, and Cedric Beal and Pat McNulty Madison Central High School MCYL participants

The 2016-17 Madison County Youth Leadership (MCYL) program concluded with scholarship presentations to all class participants at each of their recent awards day ceremonies. It was an outstanding class of 24 juniors from each of the Madison County public, private and parochial schools – plus, Jackson Academy and Jackson Prep. The leadership program has elevated to even greater heights through the efforts of the Madison County Business League & Foundation's MCYL Committee: Dr. Don Burnham, Holmes Community College; Dean Sherry Chance, Tulane University-Madison Campus; Rochelle Culp, MS Tobacco Free Coalition; Pat McNulty, Ballew Wealth; Monte Barton, Anderson, Jernigan & Copeland; and Amanda Fontaine, MS Burn Foundation. MCBL&F awarded \$6,000.00 in scholarships to MCYL class.

LIFESTYLE DAY



The Madison County Youth Leadership Class met for Lifestyles Day on Wednesday, January 18, 2017. Brad McMullan, CEO of bfac.com, was the keynote speaker for the breakfast hosted by Greg Centilli, Executive Director, of the Madison Healthplex Performance Center. Rochelle Culp and the MS Tobacco Free Coalition of Madison, Holmes and Yazoo Counties sponsored the breakfast.

Madison County Sheriff Chief Deputy, Jeremy Williams, addressed the group at the Madison County Detention Center. A tour of the jail was led by Major Chuck McNeal and his staff. At the conclusion of the tour, Sgt. Joe Mangino, demonstrated the procedure to “sniff out drugs” with his dog partner!

Karen Robison, Executive Director of the Madison Countians Allied Against Poverty (MadCaap), educated the class on the workings of the center and how they could get involved with community service projects. The students participated in a team effort to stock the food pantry, assist in the library, and pack toiletry bags.

The Class enjoyed a delicious lunch sponsored by First Commercial Bank at the County Seat Restaurant in the Town of Livingston. David Landrum presented the history of the Town of Livingston as Madison County's first county seat.

Before a tour of the Nissan North America- Canton plant, Steve Marsh, VP Manufacturing, shared his career and educational path at Nissan. He was joined by 3 young engineers who inspired the students to find their passion and turn their passion into a career.

Lifestyles Day concluded with a tour of the DeBeukelaer Corporation in Gluckstadt. The cookie factory produces over 260 million Pirouline cookies per year and ships them all over the world!

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