



NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2023



Jan Collins
MCBL & F
Executive Director

Happy 15th Anniversary!

Over the past 15 years the Madison County Business League & Foundation has worked tirelessly uniting business leaders with a focus on making Madison County even better – and over the 14 years as executive director, I've witnessed this collaborative effort between the public and private sectors gain recognition throughout the state as a unique economic development support organization.

When Madison County leaders come together great things happen. The 250+ members have a history of being the driving force behind positive change in our County. Throughout the 15 years, I attribute this success to our dedicated and committed membership, MCEDA's economic development wins, and strong leadership. Thank you for your company's support and involvement.

I hope you continue to utilize MCBL&F as a resource to develop business relations which benefit you and your company.

Please take a moment to review the many events and programs that have taken place over the past few months. The MCBL&F takes great pride in keeping all of us connected.

Here's to another 15 + years! One vision, one voice,

Sincerely,
Jan Collins, Executive Director



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BOARD BUSINESS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Seated (l-r): Sam Kelly, Brunini; Vice Chairman John Geary, Tellus Operating Group; Chairman Supt. Charlotte Seals, Madison County Schools; Secretary-Treasurer Katie Bryant Snell, Bryant, Songy, Snell; Immediate Past Chairman Ray Balentine, Michael Baker International.

Standing (l-r): Jan Collins, Executive Director Madison County Business League & Foundation; Alveno Castilla, Butler Snow; Doug Jones, MCEDA Appointee; Wint McGee, MCEDA Appointee; Gerard Gibert, MCEDA Appointee; Dr. Ronnie McGehee, McGehee, LLC; Chris Roberts, BankPlus; Stan Wright, Neel-Schaffer.

Not pictured: Carl Watts, Olde Towne Cleaners; Calvin Harris, MCEDA Appointee; Dr. Phyllis Johnson, MS Board of Nursing.



Pictured l to r: Phil Buffington, MDOT Executive Director Brad White, Superintendent Charlotte Seals, Supervisor Gerald Steen, and Commissioner Willie Simmons.

BOD MEETING

Central District Commissioner Willie Simmons and MDOT Executive Director Brad White spoke at the Madison County Business League & Foundations Board of Directors meeting on May 11, 2023 at Copeland, Cook, Taylor & Bush. The two discussed the 2023 Legislative Session, as well as projects specific to Madison County.



Pictured l to r: Madison County Supt. Of Schools Charlotte Seals, Madison County Community Trust Barney Daly, Velma Jackson High School Foundation Chairman George Cole, Tom Cook and Madison County Business League & Foundation Executive Director Jan Collins

VELMA JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL RECEIVES GRANT

The Madison County Community Trust presented a \$5,000.00 academic grant to the Velma Jackson High School Foundation.

THE MISSION OF THE MADISON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE & FOUNDATION

THE MISSION OF THE MADISON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE 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. AND, TO SERVE AS PRIVATE STAKEHOLDERS FOR THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY. SIMPLY PUT. ONE VISION, ONE VOICE.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS



Pictured l to r: Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann, Rep. Jill Ford, Senator Walter Michel, Rep. Shonda Yates, Senator Briggs Hopson, Jan Collins, Phil Buffington

THE MADISON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE & FOUNDATION GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HOSTED THE ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE RECAP BREAKFAST ON APRIL 18, 2023, IN THE HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE MCGOWAN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER.

Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann presented remarks about key legislation passed during the session. A panel of Madison County Legislators Senator Walter Michel, Representatives Jill Ford and Shanda Yates discussed legislation pertaining to Madison County and other key legislation that impacts the state. Chairman of the

Senate Appropriations Committee Senator Briggs Hopson also served on the panel. Tim Bryan, MC County Engineer, updated the attendees on the Reunion Parkway and Bozeman Road expansion projects.



LEAGUE AND LEGISLATURE LUNCHEON

On Wednesday, March 1, 2023 the Madison County Business League & Foundation hosted their annual League & Legislature Luncheon at the Old Capitol Inn. Lieutenant Governor Delbert Hosemann was the keynote speaker. With over 300 members and elected officials in attendance, it was a lively and exciting event to say the least!

Pictured l to r: Joey Deason, Phil Buffington, Rep. Jill Ford, Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann, Charlotte Seals, Senator Walter Michel, Jan Collins

COMMITTEE EVENTS



Pictured l to r: Jan Collins, Dr. Daniel Edney, Scott Kashman, David Henry, Sister Dorothea, Tim Moore, Chris Anderson, Gerard Gibert

HEALTH & WELL-BEING COMMITTEE FORUM

The Madison County Business League & Foundation Health & Well-Being Committee hosted a forum on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. An outstanding panel of professionals discussed the “MS Healthcare in Crisis.” The panelists included Dr. Daniel Edney, State

Health Officer at MS Department of Health; Tim Moore, President/CEO of MS Hospital Association; Chris Anderson, VP for MS Operations at Baptist Memorial Healthcare Corporation; David Henry, CEO of Merit Health Madison; and Scott Kashman,

CEO/Market President at St. Dominic Hospital. Health & Well-being Chair Dr. Phyllis Johnson was emcee and Gerard Gibert, member of MCEDA and MCBL&F Board of Directors, served as the moderator.



Pictured (l-r): MCBL&F Executive Director Jan Collins, MCBL&F Transportation Committee Chair Rodney Grogan, Commissioner Willie Simmons, MDOT Executive Director Brad White, Speaker Pro Tempore Jason White, Rep. Jill Ford, Madison Mayor Mary Hawkins Butler, Pastor Jason Dillon, MCBL&F Government Affairs Committee Chair Phil Buffington.

TRANSPORTATION BREAKFAST

The Madison County Business League & Foundation Transportation Committee held a Transportation Breakfast on January 12, 2023, with Keynote Speakers Central District Transportation Commissioner Willie Simmons and Brad White, Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Transportation. They updated the members and local elected officials on the Reunion Parkway Crossing and Bozeman Road projects.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION BREAKFAST

The MCBL&F Diversity and Inclusion Steering Committee hosted a breakfast on Friday, February 3, 2023, with Keynote Speaker Kassi Rushing. The topic of the breakfast was “Behaviors of Inclusive Leaders.” Kassi spoke on the importance of creating truly inclusive teams and how we often fail to train leaders in exactly how to create inclusiveness within their teams.



Pictured l to r: Diversity & Inclusion Chair Brian Johnson, Kassi Rushing

COMMITTEE EVENTS



BALLOON RELEASE CEREMONY

The Madison County Business League & Foundation hosted the annual Balloon Release Ceremony on May 17, 2023. We honor our law enforcement officers and pay tribute to those who have fallen in the line of duty. Thank you to Madison County Sheriff Randy Tucker and the Madison County Law Enforcement Officers who work diligently to protect and serve our county.

Pictured l to r: Jan Collins, Executive Director at MCBL&F; Jason Dillon, Pastor at Parkway Church; Sheriff Randy Tucker; Chief Deputy Sheriff Jeremy Williams; Staff Sergeant Joseph Handy



THE MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTED A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 14-20, 2023, AS MADISON COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION WEEK.

Front row (l to r): Supervisors Shelia Jones, Gerald Steen, President, and Karl Banks. Top row (l to r): Jan Collins, Executive Director at MCBL&F; Supervisors Trey Baxter and Paul Griffin; Jeremy Williams, Madison County Chief Deputy

FIRST QUARTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OUTLOOK BREAKFAST

The Madison County Business League & Foundation and the Madison County Economic Development Authority hosted the First Quarter Economic Development Outlook on March 21, 2023 at Mama Hamil's. Robin Parker, Workforce Director at CMPDD, gave an informative presentation on knowing where and how to connect with workforce professionals. Joey Deason, Executive Director at MCEDA, gave an update on recent economic development in Madison County.



Pictured l to r: Dr. Ronnie McGehee, Robin Parker, Joey Deason, Jan Collins, Dr. Dwight Luckett



MADISON COUNTY EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP



Top row (l-r): Jon-Michael Trimm, VP/Commercial Relationship Manager, Trustmark; Amy Cummins, ED Director, City of Madison; Richard Chisolm, Civil Engineer & Office Manager, Michael Baker International; Daniel Forde, Rate Analyst, Atmos Energy; Thomas Adams, Jr., Principal, Madison County Schools; Clate Holleman, Director of Financial Aid, Holmes Community College; Jason Arnold, Sr. Manager, Nissan North America-Canton; Will Robbins, VP, Renasant Bank.

Front row (l-r): Trae Sims, Attorney, Taggart, Rimes & Wiggins, PLLC; Martin Palomo, CEO & CIO Pinnacle Wealth; Katie Schipper, Director of Pharmacy St. Dominic Jackson Memorial Hospital; Coby Parker, Hederman Brothers Controller; Ben Lane, Sr. Account Manager C Spire; Ryan Florreich, Principal JBHM.



The 2023 Madison County Executive Leadership Class participated in Government Day on February 21, 2023. They spent the day touring the State Capitol, hearing from elected officials, and getting an in-depth look into our government's day-to-day operations.



The Madison County Executive Leadership Class took part in Economic Development Day on April 12, 2023. This day was dedicated to learning what economic development means and how Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA) works every day in improving the economic well-being and quality of life for our community. The class got to tour the new Amazon site, partake in an ATV ride tour of the Madison County Megasite, and visit existing industry DeBeukelaer Corporation.



The MCEL Class of 2023 participated in Law & Order Day on May 17, 2023. The day started with a panel of the Madison County Police Chiefs speaking on what it truly means to protect and serve their communities. Next, was a visit with the judges at the Madison County Circuit Courthouse. During lunch, representatives from the District Attorney's office spoke to the class on all the ends and outs of their job. A tour of the Madison County Detention Center & the Madison County Firing range concluded the day.

PROGRAM DATES	Government Day	February 22, 2023
	Economic Development Day	April 12, 2023
	Law Enforcement Day	May 17, 2023
	Health & Wellness Day	August 23, 2023
	Quality of Life Day	September 13, 2023
	Education Day	October 25, 2023
Graduation Reception	November 8, 2023	



MADISON COUNTY YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



Pictured l to r: Rep. Lee Yancey; Jason Fortenberry, Bradley Arant; Dr. Daniel Edney, MSDH; Gerard Gibert, MCEDA/MCBL&F Board of Directors; Justin Shannon, HUB International

SPRING FORUM

Madison County Business League & Foundation Young Professionals hosted the Spring Professional Development Forum Luncheon on May 4, 2023. We had an excellent panel with experts who discussed the technical aspects of the medical cannabis program in Mississippi.



STEERING COMMITTEE

Front row: Kyle Williams, Brunini; Krystal Minor, *bfac.com*; Vice Chair Pate DeMuth, *Southern Ag Credit*; Chair Melody Rosenbaum, *Citizens National Bank*; Secretary-Treasurer Katie Hutson, *Harper, Rains Knight & Company*; Immediate past Chair Hank Waterer, *First Commercial Bank*; Austin Stewart, *Adams and Reese*.
Middle Row: Athena Chapin, *Merit Health Madison*; William Bettis, *Butler Snow*; Anna Norris Jones, *Michael Baker International*; Sean Doran, *Phelps Dunbar*; Justin Bennett, *AT&T*; Peyton Brown, *Cadence Bank*; Carlee Walley, *Renasant Bank*; Andrew Harris, *Jones Walker*; Noelle Hunsinger, *4 Top Hospitality*; Landon McCaskill, *Brasfield Gorrie*; Jamie Lake, *BankPlus*.
Top Row: Jacob Garner, *Nissan North America-Canton*; Ben Lane, *C Spire*; Chamar McDonald, *Neel Schaffer*; Sasha Chukkappalli, *Amazon*; James Worthy, *Origin*; Ron Dixon, *Atmos Energy*.



CANTON HIGH SCHOOL REALITY FAIR

The Madison County Young Professionals participated in the Canton High School Reality Fair on February 23, 2023. Recognizing the importance of a well-educated and skilled workforce in the attraction of economic development in Madison County, the MCYP Committee, chose financial literacy as their philanthropy. For the Reality Fair, teachers assign occupations and monthly salaries for each student.

The students visit 14 stations including housing, transportation, utilities, food, health insurance, clothing, communications, credit union, among others. The objective is to have enough money to pay for their expenses which will afford them the lifestyles they desire.



MADISON COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER TOUR

The Madison County Young Professionals toured the Madison County Career & Tech Center to learn more about this hidden gem in our Madison County School District. MCCTC offers the students of Germantown High, Madison Central High, Ridgeland High, Rosa Scott High School, and Velma Jackson High a variety of Career Technical Education program options. MCCTC classes prepare and test students for certifications to be pharmacy techs, graphic designers, construction technology specialists, and automobile technicians, among other programs.

THE MISSION OF THE MADISON COUNTY YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

THE MISSION OF THE MADISON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE & FOUNDATION YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IS TO PROVIDE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS AND ENTREPRENEURS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS, SERVE THE COMMUNITY AND ENGAGE WITH BUSINESS, POLITICAL AND CIVIL LEADERS; THUS, INVESTING IN THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF MADISON COUNTY'S FUTURE LEADERS.



MADISON COUNTY YOUTH LEADERSHIP



MADISON COUNTY YOUTH LEADERSHIP CLASS

Front row l to r: Landry Lester, JJ Tice, Caitlin Nelson, Sims Jones. Middle row l to r: Alisha Davis, Anna Edgar, Anna Claire Mabry, Miriam Hoerman. Top row l to r: Raniya Fisher, Terrelle Smith, Justin Lindsay, Sarah Headley



GOVERNMENT DAY

The Madison County Youth Leadership Class had their Government Day on February 15, 2023. These students participated in a packed day learning about the value of having quality communication skills. Their day started off with a tour of the Mississippi State Capitol followed by introductions in the chambers. Next, the students listened to lobbyist Camp Murphy and Representative Jeramey Anderson give them insightful information as to what it is they do. They had an enlightening lunch where Representative Jill Ford spoke to them about the importance of having a good attitude, courage, and tenacity. After a fantastic lunch at Lou's Full-Serv, the students received a tour of the Mississippi Supreme Court by the Honorable Kenny Griffis. The day ended at the Old Historic Courthouse in Canton, topped off with ice cream from the Daily Scoop on the square!

CAREER DAYS



The Madison County Youth Leadership Class participated in Career Exploration Day on October 26, 2022. These students spent the day learning about the importance of networking and all the various jobs that are offered in companies. The class toured several businesses and listened to respected individuals from the community talk to them about the importance of making connections and working every day to make your community a better place!



The Madison County Youth Leadership Class participated in Career Exploration Day on January 18, 2023, where they learned about the importance of interpersonal skills in the workforce. These students spent the day listening to a variety of speakers talk on the significance and value of being able to communicate and interact with people in not only your respective careers but also in everyday life.



MADISON COUNTY YOUTH LEADERSHIP

MCYL SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS

Recognizing the importance of quality education and a well- educated workforce in the recruitment of industry, the Madison County Business League & Foundation and the Madison County Economic Development Authority are proud to sponsor the Madison County Youth Leadership

program. Two of the best and brightest all-around juniors from each of the Madison County public, private, and parochial high schools, plus Jackson Academy and Jackson Prep, were selected by their administration to represent their respective schools.

The Madison County Business League & Foundation and the Madison County Community Trust awarded \$500 dollar scholarships to Madison County students for their participation in 2022-23 MCYL program.



Canton Academy- *Jan Collins, Anna Claire Mabry, Chris Roberts*



Canton High School- *Caitlin Nelson, Jan Collins*



Germantown High School- *Dr. Don Burnham, Miriam Hoerman*



Jackson Academy- *Landry Lester*



Jackson Prep- *Sarah Headley, Jan Collins*



Madison Central High School- *Jan Collins, Anna Edgar, Pat McNulty*



Madison Ridgeland Academy- *Jan Collins, Sims Jones, Chris Roberts*



Ridgeland High School- *Dr. Mary Sims Johnson, Raniya Fisher, Rochelle Thompson*



St. Andrews- *Rochelle Thompson, Justin Lindsay, Jan Collins*



St. Joseph Catholic School- *Rochelle Thompson, JJ Tice, Jan Collins*



Tri County Academy- *Jan Collins, Alisha Davis*



Velma Jackson High School- *Dr. Mary Sims Johnson, Terrelle Smith, Krystal Minor*



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

In efforts to strengthen the pathway of career technical students to the workforce, Madison County Business League & Foundation partners with Canton Career Center and Madison County Career Tech Center to pair business leaders with star students enrolled in programs specific to their industries. Various business leaders present Career Tech Students of the Month with scholarships to award their outstanding performance in the class room.



MCCTC: Joshua Bell, Presented by Ahmad "Mo" Duais



MCCTC: Stratlan, Presented by ARCON General Contractors



CCC: Randy Lopez-Alfaro, Presented by Century Construction



MCCTC: Jai Patel, Presented by V2X



MCCTC: Jasmine Workman, Presented by MS Board of Nursing



CCC: Emily Sullivan; Presented by Rankin/Madison County DA



MCCTC: Marcus Watson, Presented by Raborn Media



MCCTC: Helen Claire Vance, Presented by Cadence Bank



CCC: Tyrese McElroy, Presented by Cadillac of Jackson



CCC: Keniah L. Strong, Presented by American Lung Association & NCADD



CCC: Regina Hardy, Presented by Mendrop Engineering



CCC: Kenneth Johnson, Presented by Hederman Brothers



MCCTC: Trevor Peters, Presented by BCI



CCC: Alexius Smith, Presented by Michael Baker International



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUG. 10, 2023	MCBL&F Board of Directors Meeting	4:00 – 5:00 Copeland Cook Taylor & Bush
AUG. 23, 2023	MCEL Health & Well-Being Program Day	7:45 – 4:00 PM MCEDA/MCBL&F Office
SEPT. 13, 2023	MCEL Quality of Life Program Day	7:45 – 4:00 MCEDA/MCBL&F Office
SEPT. 14, 2023	MCBL&F Board of Directors Meeting	4:00 – 5:00 Copeland Cook Taylor & Bush
SEPT. 25, 2023	MCYL Class Orientation	5:30 – 6:30 Holmes CC – McGowan Center
OCT. 17, 2023	2023 MCEDA/MCBL&F Vision Celebration Luncheon - ALL MEMBERS	11:30 – 1:00 Country Club of Jackson
OCT. 25, 2023	MCEL Education Program Day	7:45-4:00 MCEDA/MCBL&F Office
NOV. 8, 2023	MCEL Class Graduation	5:30 – 6:30 Anjou
DEC. 6, 2023	MCEDA/MCBL&F Board of Directors Luncheon	11:30 – 1:00 Anjou
DEC. 13, 2023	Annual Legislative Breakfast ALL MEMBERS	7:45 – 9:00 (<i>Tentative</i>) Butler Snow

TO BE ANNOUNCED

- Q3 MCEDA/MCBL&F Outlook Meeting
- Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting
- MCYP Fall Forum
- MCYP Steering Committee Meeting
- Q3 Pillar Dinner

Q2 OUTLOOK SUMMER CELEBRATION RECEPTION

The Madison County Business League & Foundation and the Madison County Economic Development Authority hosted their Q2 Outlook Summer Celebration Reception on June 6th at the Jackson Yacht Club! It was a lively night attended by all members full of socializing and networking.



Calvin Seals, Charlotte Seals, Robert Byrd, Ethan Veazey



Maggie Koury, Katie Hutson, Ellis Wise

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MORE EVENT PHOTOS CAN BE SEEN AT
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 Madison The City ED
 MS Baptist Medical Center *
 MS Sports Medicine & Orthopaedic
 Mississippi Hospital Association*
 MMC Materials, Inc.
 Morris Petroleum, Inc.

Olde Towne Cleaners
 Paramount Construction Group
 Parkway Church
 Partridge Development
 Pinelake Church – Madison Campus
 Pinnacle Wealth
 Regions
 RJ Young
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 Stegall Imagery
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 Thrash Commercial Contractors
 Tom Hixon
 Towne Place Suites by Marriott
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