

# DEVELOPMENTS

THE MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2011

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Committee Chairpersons:  
**Chamber Development - Barbara Smith**  
Community Development Foundation, Tupelo

**CEDA - Blake Wallace**  
Hinds County Economic Dev. District, Jackson

**Communications - Elizabeth Stanga**  
Mississippi Development Authority, Jackson

**Conferences - Tom Troxler**  
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**Legislative - David Rumbarger**  
Community Development Foundation, Tupelo

**Membership - Elizabeth Taylor**  
Mississippi Development Authority, Jackson

**Scholarships - Joy Foy**  
Mississippi Development Authority, Jackson

## Staff:

Executive Director and COO - Carol Hardwick  
Manager, Member Services/Admin. - Ashley Panara

## President's Notes



Christy Knapp  
MEDC President

Hey folks, it's SPRING... and along with spring comes signs of *re-energized* renewal. Our MEDC Winter Conference last February focused on economic and community development as a marathon, and the need for sustained perseverance in our efforts to create jobs, investment and growth in the communities we serve. Now that many of the businesses and industries in our state are beginning to see signs of *re-energized* economic recovery, it's time for us to gear up and power *Full Speed Ahead!*

Of course, that's the very appropriate theme for our upcoming 2011 Summer Conference at the IP Resort in Biloxi, July 13 - 15. Tom Troxler and his Conference Planning Committee are working hard to line up an outstanding group of speakers that will help to *re-energize* YOU and your organization's program of work. Keep an eye out for the registration brochure that will be coming soon and register early.

## Economic Development Headlines

*Congratulations to all involved with these successful projects. Read more about them at [www.medc.ms](http://www.medc.ms).*

**Blue Springs** – Officials with **Toyota** resumed hiring and installing equipment at its \$46 million parts plant in north Mississippi where it will manufacture seats and other interior materials for the 2012 Corolla. The company expected to hire more than 60 workers by the end of year and 250 more by the time production starts in the fall of 2011.

**DeKalb – Mississippi Power** is constructing a new Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) plant in Kemper County. The 582-megawatt, clean coal technology electric power plant represents an investment of \$2.4 billion by Mississippi Power and will create 260 permanent jobs and an additional 1,000 jobs during peak construction.

(continued on page 2)

To those of you who kindly supported MEDC's efforts to bring quality programming to our winter conference with your valued sponsorship, I thank you; and urge you to please continue your sustained support for our upcoming summer conference. Quality programming doesn't come cheap, and our state's ED and Chamber professionals deserve the best possible training and support MEDC can offer.

This spring is also a time of *re-energized* renewal for a dear friend to many of us and to MEDC. Gray Swoope has moved on to lead Florida's economic development team, and I know you will all join me in thanking him for the outstanding job he has done leading MDA's efforts to bring jobs and investment to Mississippi over the last seven years. Gray, we will all miss you, but will enjoy watching your career skyrocket along with your (*sorry, Gray...I can't resist this one*) *relentless* efforts to lead Florida's economic development team toward continued success. We all wish you God's Speed, my friend.

**Christy Knapp**  
MEDC President

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## MEDC Welcomes New Members:

### Charlotte Batson

Associate  
Tamerica Management Company  
Wiggins, MS

### Rebecca Bourgeois

Director  
Holly Springs Chamber of Commerce  
Holly Springs, MS

### Kimberly Compton

Economic Development Manager  
Hancock County Development Commission  
Bay St. Louis, MS

### Charles Coney

District Manager  
PPM Consultants, Inc.  
Ridgeland, MS

### R. Faith Cotton, M.D.

Trustee/Vice President  
Hinds County Economic Development  
Authority  
Jackson, MS

### Michael A. Davis

Acting Deputy Director  
City of Jackson  
Jackson, MS

### Joseph Donovan

Director, Entrepreneurial Development  
Millsaps College  
Jackson, MS

### Steve Dorough

President / CEO  
First Community Development  
Norcross, GA

### Tommy Green

Vice President  
Community Development Foundation  
Tupelo, MS

### David Greer

Business Development  
Forcum Lannom Contractors, LLC  
Dyersburg, TN

### Jay Paul Gumm

Executive Director  
Stone County Economic Development  
Partnership  
Wiggins, MS

### Gary B. Jackson

Director of Extension  
Mississippi State University  
MS State, MS

### Steve Jones

Business Development Manager  
Fisher & Arnold Environmental  
Memphis, TN

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## Letter from the Executive Director



Carol Hardwick  
Executive Director & COO

It's been talked about for years, and this year MEDC is actually doing it! We are moving all awards to the Winter Conference awards luncheon. That means that the Community Economic Development Awards (CEDA) recognizing Mississippi's outstanding communities will be held in February rather than this July. The call for nominations will go out in October.

This begs the question:

"What will we do Thursday night at summer conference if we don't have the awards banquet?"

"How about a casual Poolside Party!" you say.

"Yes!"



## Community Economic Development Awards

That is exactly what the MEDC Board decided! When you get back to the hotel from your strenuous afternoon activities, you can just put on your casual attire and join everyone for some great networking and drinks at the beautiful IP Pool before you head off to dinner at your favorite coast restaurant.

We will see you there!

### (Economic Development Headlines from page 1)

**Flora – Monsanto Company** opened its newest corn breeding facility in the Flora Industrial Park which will employ nine full-time and approximately 50 seasonal workers.

**Iuka – Ershings, Inc.** is expanding operations in Iuka with a \$1.62 million company investment with the construction of a new building that will house large diameter cylinders manufactured by the company until they are shipped out by barge. The expansion will create 52 new jobs.

**Hattiesburg – California-based Stion**, a venture-backed manufacturer of high-efficiency, low-cost thin film solar panels, will locate a 100-megawatt solar panel production facility in Hattiesburg at an initial investment of \$500 million. The operations will be located in the Sunbeam building and will create 1,000 new jobs over the next six years.

**Philadelphia – AlphaGen** formally announced that it will open a plant in the former U. S. Motors building, bringing up to 200 new jobs to Philadelphia initially and more as it expands in the future.

**Pascagoula – Chevron** plans to build a \$1.4B Base Oil plant in Pascagoula, Mississippi. The new plant will benefit the Coast with about 1,000 construction jobs and 20 permanent positions and also by purchasing products from local businesses.

**Pontotoc – Washington Furniture** bought a 370,000-square-foot plant that will allow the company to expand its production numbers and will allow them to grow to 400 workers in the next two years.

**Ridgeland – ACS**, a computer firm recently acquired by Xerox Corp. plans to expand its Ridgeland operation by adding 50 jobs and up to 200 jobs over the next two years. ACS provides services that help administer government health care programs like Medicaid.

**Southaven – Officials from WPG Americas**, a worldwide electronics distributor, announced the company is locating distribution operations at the Airways Distribution Center in Southaven. The project represents a \$1.5-million investment by the company and will create 60 jobs over the next three years.

**Tupelo – Universal Asset Management** has announced they will transfer its warehouses in Pochahontas and Walnut Ridge to a 453,600-square-foot facility in Tupelo and create 100 jobs over the next three years. The company is expected to recycle large Boeing jets in Mississippi.

**Tupelo – Officials from Cooper Tire and Rubber Company** announced that the company is expanding operations at its Tupelo plant in order to increase production and efficiency at the plant. The project represents a company investment of \$9 million and will create 35 new jobs at the facility.

## MEDC Congratulates Sandy Powlett, its 2011 Heidel Award Winner!



Sandy Powlett

Sandra M. Powlett, Community Development Manager of Entergy Mississippi, Inc. was awarded the Mississippi Economic and Development Council's Jimmy & Ray Heidel Economic Development Leadership Award. She will receive a scholarship to the first year of

the Economic Development Institute or Institute of Organization Management.

This award was established in 1995 by MEDC and is presented annually to a member who is employed in the business development field within the state of Mississippi. The recipient must be a participant in the New South Economic Development course at the University of Southern Mississippi and must exhibit fully developed or the potential for leadership skills.

MEDC Honorary Life Member Jimmy Heidel made the presentation at the recent MEDC Winter Conference. "I am very pleased to present this award to such a fine candidate. She exemplifies what this award is about."

Sandy Powlett joined Entergy Mississippi's economic development department in August 2010. In this

role, her responsibilities include partnering with local communities in assessing existing industrial sites and building and bringing community partners together to offer a marketable and competitive portfolio of assets and provide assistance with programs that improve a community's overall quality of place and competitiveness.

Sandy has been with Entergy Corporation for 14 years. She began her career with Entergy Services, Inc. in West Monroe, LA as a Customer Service Representative and served in several customer services roles. In 2000, she moved into the position of Assistant to the Director of Customer Service Centers and Credit & Collection. This included all entities under Entergy Corporation (Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas & Mississippi). She joined the Vice President of Customer Operations in 2003 and then from 2006 - 2010 served on the management team as an Analyst supporting the President and CEO of Entergy Mississippi.

Sandy attended Louisiana Tech University and holds a bachelor's degree in marketing. She is a graduate of Leadership Greater Jackson. She currently serves as the chair of Entergy Mississippi's Diversity & Inclusion Council. She is also a member and has served in numerous roles on the Board of Directors of Executive Women International Jackson Chapter.

## Alexis Brown Receives Honorary Life Membership



Alexis Brown

MEDC has made Alexis Brown an MEDC Honorary Life Membership upon her retirement from the Mississippi Development Authority.

Nominated by Gray Swoope, Alexis has been a faithful and active member of MEDC since 1993. Through her 35 years of service to the State

of Mississippi and her involvement in MEDC, she has been engaged in and committed to economic development in the state of Mississippi.

In her role as special assistant to the executive director of MDA, Alexis served from 1979 until her official retirement in 2010 as the liaison between MEDC's members and the past nine directors of MDA. She provided a continuity of direction and policy, along with wise advice and a wealth of acquired knowledge which she graciously shared as guidance, not only to MDAs executive directors, but to staff members and fellow MEDC members as well.

Alexis has been instrumental in the agency's economic development efforts around Mississippi. In this role, Alexis forged close relationships with

local economic development professionals in all corners of the state and served as a critical bridge between them, MDA and on many occasions, the Governor's office.

She was at the heart of the strong close relationship that MEDC has with MDA which in return has made all of our organizations more effective.

During her tenure, Alexis was involved in the creation and production of several events, one of which is the annual Mississippi Picnic held in Central Park in New York to showcase Mississippi's vibrant culture and warm hospitality. Each year various Mississippi community leaders attend this picnic to highlight the benefits of their communities, and Alexis has worked closely with these individuals. In addition, Alexis was an important contributor to the "Thanks Y'all" campaign in the months following Hurricane Katrina, another project that demonstrated to the world what makes Mississippians great.

Though she is now retired from "official" work, she is still at it, just finishing working with MDA on their 75th Anniversary Celebration. The relationships and precedents that she has forged will last long into the future. Her love of Mississippi and her commitment to economic development in this state and making Mississippi an even greater place in which to work and live – will all continue for years to come.

## New Members (continued)

### Marti Kauffman

Executive Secretary  
Noxubee Economic & Community  
Development Alliance  
Macon, MS

### Christi Kilroy

Executive Director  
Vicksburg-Warren County Chamber of  
Commerce  
Vicksburg, MS

### Amonzo Kincaid

External Research Associate  
Delta Council  
Stoneville, MS

### Kay H. Mortimer

Senior Manager  
HORNE LLP  
Ridgeland, MS

### Michael Muench

State of Miss Representative for Germany  
ExperConsult Wirtschaftsforderung &  
Investitionen GmbH & Co. KG  
Dortmund Germany

### Chad Pippin

Vice President  
White Construction  
Ridgeland, MS

### Meredith Rea

Public Relations Coordinator  
East Mississippi Business Development  
Corporation  
Meridian, MS

### Jan Sims

Staff Development Officer  
Mississippi Development Authority  
Jackson, MS

### Leland Speed

Executive Director  
Mississippi Development Authority  
Jackson, MS

### Michele Thames

Manager  
East Mississippi Business Development Corp.  
Meridian, MS

### Pete Walley

Analyst  
Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning  
Jackson, MS

### Valencia Williamson

Vice President  
Area Development Partnership  
Hattiesburg, MS

## 75TH ANNIVERSARY SPONSORS

### DIAMOND

- Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC
- Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens & Cannada PLLC
- CDM, Inc.
- Cellular South
- Delta Economic Development Center / Port of Greenville
- East Mississippi Business Development Corporation
- Electric Power Associations of Mississippi
- Entergy Mississippi
- Chris Gouras
- Jimmy G. Gouras Urban Planning Consultants
- Government Consultants, Inc.
- Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership
- Harrison County Development Commission
- Hinds County Economic Development Authority
- HORNE LLP
- Island View Casino Resort
- Jackson County Economic Development Foundation, Inc.
- Mendrop Wages, LLC
- Mid-Delta Community Development Corporation
- Mississippi Manufacturers Association
- The Ramey Agency
- Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District
- Tennessee Valley Authority
- Tunica Chamber & Economic Development Foundation
- USM Dept. of Ec. and Workforce Dev./Trent Lott Center for Excellence
- Watkins Ludlam Winter & Stennis, P.A.
- Yates Construction / JESCO, Inc.
- Yazoo County Economic Development District

### PLATINUM

- Area Development Partnership
- Atmos Energy
- CH2M HILL
- Community Development Foundation
- Delta Business Journal
- Eco-Systems, Inc.
- The Gibbes Company
- Greater Starkville Development Partnership
- Harper, Rains, Knight & Company, P.A.
- Mississippi Power
- Neel-Schaffer, Inc.
- North American Coal Corporation
- TL Wallace Construction, Inc.

## MDA 75th Anniversary Celebration Reception Draws Many!

MEDC hosted a celebration reception for MDA's 75th Anniversary on Thursday night, March 24, the eve of the agency's anniversary, at the Marriott in Jackson. The over 700 in attendance included two former governors, eight former Mississippi Development Authority directors, current and former employees of MDA, MEDC members and others involved in economic development in Mississippi.

Governor Haley Barbour was on hand to speak and to announce he had proclaimed March 25 as Economic Development Day in Mississippi "to honor MDA on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary and to recognize all those in the state who work in this demanding, but incredibly fulfilling, field."

Gray Swoope introduced a video produced for the event which shows the history of the state's economic development agency from its early days

as the Mississippi Industrial Commission and its transition to the multifunctional entity it is today. A link to the video is on the MEDC website [www.medic.ms](http://www.medic.ms).

MEDC thanks Senator John Horhn for serving as an entertaining and gracious Master of Ceremonies. They also thank the MDA 75th Anniversary planning committee led by Alexis Brown, for its tremendous work and attention to the details that made this such a great event. The committee included Melissa Medley, Elizabeth Stanga, Stacey Gaines, Daniel Ethridge, Whitney Jenkins, Paula Travis, Mary Beth Wilkerson, Sally Williams and Carol Hardwick.

"Last but certainly not least, this event could not have been the grand event it was without the sponsors who all showed their support of the Mississippi Development Authority and all they have done over the years," said Carol Hardwick, Executive Director of MEDC.

## MDA 75th Anniversary Celebration Photos



## MDA 75th Anniversary Celebration Photos



### SPONSORS (continued)

#### GOLD

- AT&T
- The Big 3 Advertising Agency
- CN
- Columbus-Lowndes Development LINK
- Economic Development Authority of Jones County
- H & M Company, Inc.
- Mississippi Business Finance Corp.
- Mississippi Economic Council
- MSU Office of Research and Economic Development
- Oxford-Lafayette County Economic Development Foundation
- Stion
- Waggoner Engineering, Inc.

#### SILVER

- Adams & Reese, LLP
- The Alliance
- Burns Cooley Dennis, Inc.
- Choctaw County Economic Development Foundation
- Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce
- Community Development Partnership/ Neshoba County
- Covington County Chamber of Commerce
- Delta Council
- DeSoto County Economic Development Council
- Economic Development Authority of Coahoma County
- Forcum Lannom Contractors
- Frontier Strategies
- GodwinGroup
- Grantham Poole CPAs
- Grenada Economic Development District
- Hancock County Development Commission
- JBHM Architects
- Mississippi Delta Developers Association
- The Montgomery Institute
- Natchez, Inc.
- Norfolk Southern Corporation
- North Mississippi Industrial Development Association
- Panola Partnership, Inc.
- Pearl Chamber of Commerce
- Rankin First Economic Development Authority
- Rosedale-Bolivar County Port Commission
- Roy Anderson Corp
- Simpson County Development Foundation
- Southwest Mississippi Partnership
- Terracon
- Winston County Economic Partnership

## GOVERNOR'S CUP AWARDS DISCONTINUED



Initiated in 2003, the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), in partnership with the Office of the Governor and the Mississippi Economic Development Council (MEDC), began recognizing private sector businesses that had made a significant impact within their local community through the Governor's Cup Awards. This award was given to honor local businesses, both big and small, for their contributions during the past calendar year, raise general awareness about their successful efforts, and showcase their results.

Through this program, over 200 businesses were nominated for their outstanding contributions to their communities in the areas of Community Involvement, Economic Impact and Human Resources. Cash awards totaling \$51,000 were given to enhance local existing industry programs, with an additional \$245,000 in marketing grants going back into communities statewide.

As this program comes to a close, we will be looking for new and creative ways to partner with local developers in enhancing their existing industry and business programs. The list of District and Statewide Winners, along with the Photo Gallery from the 2010 MEDC Awards Banquet is still available on the MDA website at [www.mississippi.org/ExistingMSBusiness](http://www.mississippi.org/ExistingMSBusiness).

## DEVELOPMENTS

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[WWW.MEDC.MS](http://WWW.MEDC.MS)  
601-352-1909  
Fax 601-352-2061

## Message from the Staff of the Mississippi Development Authority

On the evening of March 24th, MEDC hosted a reception in honor of the Mississippi Development Authority's (MDA's) 75th anniversary. What a special occasion! Many MEDC members were in attendance, along with current and former MDA employees, past governors and MDA executive directors, other state officials, and organizations and companies that have worked with MDA over the years. We at MDA are deeply appreciative of all who attended this event as a sign of their support for the agency and the work that we do. We are also sincerely grateful to the many MEDC member organizations and businesses that generously sponsored this event in our honor.

While MDA has had a number of different names throughout the years, and the scope of the agency's work has broadened considerably since it was first established as the Mississippi Industrial Commission in 1936, we have remained committed to creating jobs and economic opportunities for the people of Mississippi for seven and a half decades. We are joined by economic development professionals around the state who share this vision for their communities and for the state.

The work done at the local level is critical to the success we have been able to achieve at the state level. As we look at other states and their

economic development efforts, we at MDA realize that one of the things that make Mississippi competitive is the strong working relationship we have with our local economic developers. Economic development truly is a team sport in Mississippi, and the results we have seen in business recruitment, retention and expansion demonstrate the success of this approach.

Our state would not be nearly as vibrant a place in which to live, work or do business, and our agency would be much less effective, if it weren't for the hard work of MEDC members and local economic development organizations in communities around the state, and for the fact that we are able to work together. We value our working relationship with MEDC members and we are grateful for your support. We are proud of what we have achieved together over the years and we are confident that Mississippi has a bright future as a result of our combined efforts and our shared vision.

With great appreciation,  
**The MDA Staff**



## Selected EIB Programs



*Skip Skaggs, Director,  
MDA Existing Industry  
& Business Division*

In the search for improved profits, some companies make the mistake of only looking at the traditional bottom line when considering ways to maintain sustainability. Other companies with more foresight may also look to the top line for opportunities to increase revenue on the other side of the ledger sheet. Successful companies find a way to strike a balance between cost cutting and increasing sales without negative consequences for the future.

Like businesses, economic developers cannot afford to simply consider "one side of the ledger" when trying to achieve sustained development. The traditional perception of economic development is industrial recruitment, and while recruitment will remain an important aspect of our strategies, organizations that embrace other means of creating wealth are becoming more prevalent and are achieving real results.

The Existing Industry and Business Division is one of several divisions within the Mississippi Development Authority that offers tools for local developers interested in discovering new opportunities for wealth creation. The Entrepreneur Center and PriorityOne are just two branded programs which MDA is interested in further establishing across the state to benefit and support the businesses that already operate in the state.

While based in MDA's Jackson offices, The Entrepreneur Center is available to provide business assistance to business owners and managers across the state at every stage of the business cycle, whether they are budding entrepreneurs or well-established businessmen and women. In addition to one-on-one technical assistance, the Entrepreneur Center staff provides community seminars that strengthen local economic development programs of work.

Another program implemented by MDA in partnership with local developers, utility partners and MDA's regional offices is the PriorityOne industry visitation initiative. Through this program,

**(continued on page 7)**

Welcome Ashley Panara



**MEDC's new Manager, Member Services and Administration**

MEDC would like to welcome Ashley Panara to the staff. Ashley, originally from Buffalo, New York, received a Bachelor's of Art from the University of Buffalo,

State University of New York and her Master's of Business Administration from Rollins College Crummer Graduate School of Business in Winter Park, Florida, where she was in the Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society and graduated with honors. She worked as Special Assistant to the President of the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo before moving to Jackson.

Her email at MEDC is Ashley@medc.ms and she is excited about being a part of the MEDC family.

Thank you Dianna!



MEDC would like to thank Dianna Eaton for filling in at MEDC temporarily while the Manager, Member Services and Administration was being filled after Chris Hinton's departure to work with Chandler Russ as Project Manager at Natchez, Inc. "Dianna came along at

precisely the right time to help with the MDA 75th Anniversary reception, and I am most appreciative of her willingness to step in and do such a great job," said Carol Hardwick, Executive Director of MEDC. We wish her the best as she begins a new job in the Tourism Division of the Mississippi Development Authority.

**(Selected EIB Programs continued from page 6)**

which includes a survey component, we are collectively working with existing employers to better understand the opportunities and challenges facing those companies that already call Mississippi home.

During MDA's anniversary celebration week in March, the EIB Division hosted a series of seminars on PriorityOne and the reporting tools that are available to local developers via their respective MDA regional offices. The reporting feature is a vital component of the program, as it can become a means of communicating aggregate survey results to organizational and

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**MEDC 2011 Summer Conference**

**"FULL SPEED AHEAD"**

**July 13 - 15 at the IP Resort in Biloxi**

**Get ready to head to the newly remodeled IP Resort on the beautiful Mississippi coast!**

**What can you expect?**

**Golf at Shell Landing, other networking activities, inspiring and informative speakers on topics that will help you be the best that you can be in your profession. Details will be available soon! Watch the MEDC website [www.medc.ms](http://www.medc.ms) and your mailbox!**

political stakeholders to provide them with a snapshot of the business climate in their areas. The additional benefit for local developers is to showcase themselves as a source of useful and relevant data for their community.

The rate at which our profession is changing increases yearly. While traditions will remain, the expectations of our constituents will only grow, as well. As you work to meet these demands, MDA remains a partner that is here to support your local program of work. The EIB Division invites your input and your questions. Please let us know what we can do to assist you and to work with you in the months ahead.

**MEDC 2011 Scholarship Recipients Named**

MEDC's Scholarships were fully funded this year by: Electric Power Associations of Mississippi Entergy Mississippi, Inc. Mississippi Development Authority Mississippi Power Company Tennessee Valley Authority Mississippi Economic Development Council

Thirty recipients were approved for a total of \$32,590 in scholarship. Those who received scholarships to attend courses in 2011 were:

**True South Basic Economic Development Course, USM**  
Mary Ealey, Jackson

**Institute of Organization Management (Chamber Institute)**

- Lela Bryan, Bay Springs
- Ling Burch, Pascagoula
- DeAnna Dillard, Clinton
- Christen Hartley, Gulfport
- Sherrell Hinkel, Pascagoula
- Michelle Lombas, McComb
- Allison P. Matthews, Starkville
- T. J. McSparrin, Clinton
- Samantha Minga Pepper, Oxford
- Kasey Perry, Ridgeland
- Emily B. Pickering, Gulfport
- Larkin Simpson, Laurel
- Judson A. Thigpen, Cleveland
- Brittany Wilson, Clinton
- Brad Batson, Gulfport

**Community Development Institute**

- LaSheba Boren, Purvis
- Joseph N. Fratesi, Mississippi State
- Jennifer Gregory, Starkville
- Joseph E. Kenna, Forest
- Leon N. Hays, Booneville
- Jeannie Waller, Jackson

**Economic Development Institute**

- Jared Clay, Gulfport
- Tony Green, Aberdeen
- Justin Hall, Holly Springs
- Kristen Holley, Ocean Springs
- Danielle Winningham, Meridian

**National Development Council Economic Development Finance Professional**

- Jon Maynard, Starkville
- Mitch Stringer, Ridgeland
- Kim Richardson, West Point

Congratulations to all!



Join the MEDC group on Linked In. Members can initiate and participate in discussion forums on this site. Chamber of commerce members can also join the special MEDC Chamber group.

Go to the MEDC website and click on the LinkedIn icon. Membership will be limited to MEDC members only.



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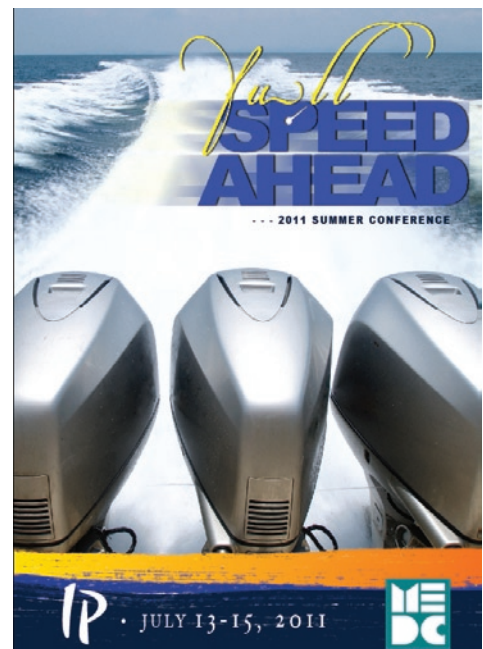
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THE MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

**Calendar of Events**

- April 28 MS World Trade Center  
Global Entrepreneur Seminar, Gulfport, MS
- June 2 MS World Trade Center 10th Anniversary  
Celebration Luncheon, Jackson, MS
- June 8-9 MS World Trade Center Global Entrepreneur  
Training Program, Jackson, MS
- July 13-15 MEDC 2011 Summer Conference**  
**"FULL SPEED AHEAD"**  
**IP Resort, Biloxi, MS**



For more information on these and other events go to [www.medic.ms](http://www.medic.ms)