

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, in June 1903, Mr. Gregory M. Luce, a native of Grand Rapids, Michigan and pioneer citizen, organized a bank under the name of the Bank of Lucedale—he became the first president of the bank and was later elected the Chairman of the Board; and

WHEREAS, in 1905, the bank moved from its original modest structure and constructed the very first brick building in the town of Lucedale; and

WHEREAS, the bank celebrated its 25th anniversary by moving the institution to Main Street which served until 1989—the bank opened its current location in 1989 at the Marketplace Center in Lucedale; and

WHEREAS, in 1976 the bank began to expand into other areas of Mississippi when it opened an office in Hurley—the bank celebrated its 80th anniversary by opening an additional office in Escatawpa, Mississippi—in 1999 the bank opened its third office in Jackson County in the town of Vancleave; and

WHEREAS, the Luce family has managed the bank through four generations—Mr Gregory M. Luce was succeeded by his son Jex H. Luce who served until his death in 1958—he was succeeded by his son Douglas T. Luce, Sr. who served as president and Chairman of the Board until his death in 1997—today, the current President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board is his son Douglas T. Luce Jr.; and

WHEREAS, in 1999 the Bank of Lucedale celebrated 95 years of service to the community by revealing its new vision—Century Bank—the new vision also involved further expansion in the Mobile, Alabama area—the bank now has nine branches in Mississippi and Alabama; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of Century Bank's longstanding commitment to the citizens and communities that it serves, and in honor of its overarching mission of providing sound investment and banking opportunities for the people of Lucedale, South Mississippi, and surrounding areas, I, Governor Ronnie Musgrove, do hereby proclaim Friday, June 27th, as

Century Bank Day

in the State of Mississippi and invite all Mississippians to join with me in celebrating a century of service provided by the people of this outstanding institution

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, September 18, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR