

HERE AT HOME, WE'RE ALL FAMILIAR WITH THE BEAUTY OF MAGNOLIA BLOSSOMS. WE SEE THE MAGNOLIA ALL OVER OUR STATE, AND NOW WE'RE GOING TO BE SEEING IT ON THE CURRENCY OF OUR NATION.

BEGINNING OCTOBER 22, MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WILL BE CARRYING, SPENDING, COLLECTING AND ADMIRING AN IMAGE OF MISSISSIPPI, AS OUR BEAUTIFUL STATE QUARTER IS OFFICIALLY PUT INTO CIRCULATION BY THE UNITED STATES MINT.

WE ARE THE 20TH STATE TO BE REPRESENTED ON THE QUARTER THROUGH A PROGRAM COORDINATED BY THE MINT. COINS ARE PRODUCED FOR ONLY FIVE STATES EACH YEAR, AND MISSISSIPPI IS THE LAST STATE TO HAVE A COIN MINTED IN 2002.

THE DOUBLE MAGNOLIA DESIGN OF OUR STATE QUARTER HAS RECEIVED GREAT PRAISE FOR ITS BEAUTY.

HERE AT HOME, WE'RE ALL FAMILIAR WITH THE BEAUTY OF MAGNOLIA BLOSSOMS. THE MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE OFFICIALLY ADOPTED THE MAGNOLIA TREE AS OUR STATE TREE IN 1938, AND THE BLOSSOM AS THE STATE FLOWER IN 1952.

ACROSS THE NATION AND AROUND THE WORLD, PEOPLE RECOGNIZE US AS THE MAGNOLIA STATE. WITH THE RELEASE OF OUR QUARTER, WE HAVE ANOTHER MEANS OF SHARING THIS BEAUTIFUL IMAGE OF MISSISSIPPI.

I'M RONNIE MUSGROVE, AND THIS HAS BEEN THE MISSISSIPPI MINUTE. THANKS FOR LISTENING.