

# ***Mississippi Development Authority***

## ***FRIDAY FACTS***

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*"To become successful you must be a person of action. Merely to "know" is not sufficient. It is necessary both to know and do."*

*-- Napoleon Hill*

### **CALVIN NAMED ENERGY DIRECTOR FOR MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Kenneth Calvin has been named the new Director of the Energy Division of the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA). Calvin previously served as Interim Director of the Division. As Director, Calvin will manage operational and support programs impacting energy efficiency activities and monitoring a variety of energy resources statewide.

"The experience that Kenneth offers MDA will be invaluable as we strive to effectively manage all of Mississippi's resources," said J.C. Burns, Executive Director of MDA.

Calvin, a lifelong resident of Jackson, earned his B.A. Degree in Economics/Business from Tougaloo College. He is a member of the 1994-1995 class of Leadership Jackson, the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE), and the National Association of State Energy Officials. Calvin is also a graduate of the Economic Development Institute.

As a leader in the Economic Development field, Calvin serves as a member of the Mississippi Economic Development Council, the Southern Industrial Development Research Council, the National Association of Corporate Real Estate, and the Industrial Development Research Council. Additionally, Calvin is one of only ten people across the nation selected for the Federal Energy Management Advisory Committee.

The mission of the Energy Division is to foster and secure a reliable energy system that is environmentally sound and economically sustainable. The Division oversees state and federally mandated programs which address energy efficiency activities and renewable energy resources.

## **MDA RELEASES NEW AND EXPANDED FACILITIES REPORT FOR JANUARY**

The Mississippi Development Authority's Existing Industry and Business Division has released its "Summary of New and Expanded Facilities Announced in Mississippi" for January 2001.

The report stated that six facilities were announced during the month, representing an estimated 350 new jobs and an estimated capital investment of \$65.872 million. The largest individual projects, ranked by estimated capital investment, were:

- Walnut Grove Youth Correctional Facility (Walnut Grove) – Correctional facility - \$29 million
- Naval Small Craft Training School (Stennis Space Center, Hancock County) – Navel training facility - \$25 million
- Beau Rivage Casino and Hotel (Biloxi) – Casino, hotel and resort - \$8 million

There were also six expanded facilities announced in January with an estimated capital investment of \$180.33 million. The largest individual expansions were:

- Mississippi State Port (Gulfport) – Port facility - \$160.8 million
- Wayne Farms, LLC (Laurel) – Poultry processing - \$9.6 million
- Westland Plaza Shopping Center (Jackson) – Shopping complex - \$9.155 million

## **GOVERNOR'S AWARDS RECOGNIZE STATE'S TOURISM CHAMPIONS**

The Governor's Conference on Tourism recently marked the recognition of several organizations and individuals for their work to promote tourism across the state. The Governor's Awards, presented Tuesday, February 6, 2001 at the Hilton Jackson, honor community leaders for their outstanding contributions to the Mississippi travel industry. Governor Ronnie Musgrove, Ray Phillips, President of the Mississippi Tourism Association, and Darienne Wilson, Director of the Mississippi Division of Tourism, were on hand for the presentations.

Governor Musgrove shared his vision for tourism and economic development prior to the awards presentation. J.C. Burns, Executive Director of the Mississippi Development Authority, was also present to introduce the Governor and make remarks.

In the category of Travel Media Awards, the winners were as follows:

- Broadcast - "Mississippi Outdoors"
- Newspaper – *The Times Picayune*, New Orleans
- Consumer Magazine – *Southern Living*
- Travel Trade Publication – *Recommend Magazine*
- Travel Writer – Stacy Kunstel, *Southern Living*

Chevis Swetman was named the 2000 Community Volunteer of the Year. Swetman served as chairman of "Cruisin' the Coast," an award-winning event on the Mississippi Gulf Coast that garnered national television and print coverage.

The 2000 Governor's Award for Tourism Achievement was presented to Fred L. Johnson of the Walthall County Chamber of Commerce. Under Johnson's guidance as a chamber Board member, Tylertown's "Christmas in the Park" has become a regional event receiving recognition across the state and in Louisiana.

"Winners of these achievement awards are leaders in the tourism industry whose outstanding accomplishments deserve this special recognition," said Phillips.

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) Division of Tourism and the Mississippi Tourism Association (MTA) hosted the Governor's Conference on Tourism from February 4-7, 2001. Established in 1987, the Mississippi Tourism Association strives to create an industry-wide force focused on promoting and advocating tourism, educating the public, and providing services to its members. MTA seeks increased economic vitality and a positive image for the Mississippi throughout partnerships with state government and every segment of the tourism/hospitality industry.

## **NATCHEZ ACCEPTING RESUMES FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION**

The Natchez-Adams County Economic Development Authority seeks an experienced, aggressive, results-oriented professional to plan, direct, and implement the community's economic development strategies. Natchez/Adams County is a community of 35,000 residents in Southwest Mississippi. Requirements include a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited four-year college or university; an economic development certificate from a credentialing agency or equivalent work experience; at least five-years experience managing a staff and office operations; demonstrated grant-writing skills; a willingness to travel at least 25% of the time. Competitive salary and benefit package. Application deadline is March 20,2001. Interested and qualified candidates send resumes to: EDA Search Committee, Natchez-Adams County Economic Development Authority, P.O. Box 700, Natchez, MS 39121. No telephone calls please.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SOUGHT FOR SUNFLOWER COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION**

Director sought to supervise all foundation activities, including staff, respective to the mission of the organization and represents the Sunflower County EDF's Board of Directors to the general public and to the media regarding economic development activities. Send resume, cover letter and salary requirements by March 9, 2001, to Barbara Travis/MarketLynx Consulting – P.O. Box 5976 – Brandon, MS 39047-5976 ([mktlynx@bellsouth.net](mailto:mktlynx@bellsouth.net)).

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The Mississippi Development Authority *Friday Facts* is distributed to MDA staff, economic and community development professionals, legislators and other interested parties. Inquiries regarding this publication or information should be submitted to Stephen Martin, Communications Office, telephone 601.359.3555; fax 601.359.3596; email [smartin@mississippi.org](mailto:smartin@mississippi.org). Visit us on the World Wide Web at [www.mississippi.org](http://www.mississippi.org).