

MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

FRIDAY FACTS

Volume 6, Number 1

January

GOVERNOR MUSGROVE ANNOUNCES GRANTS FOR CITY OF COLUMBIA AND MARION COUNTY

Governor Ronnie Musgrove presented the City of Columbia and Marion County with grants totaling over \$1.4 million this week.

“For our towns and cities to grow and prosper, we have to invest in them and in their infrastructure,” Musgrove said. “These investments in new roads, sewer lines and water systems will improve the quality of life in the area, while helping to attract new businesses and retain existing companies.”

The City of Columbia received a Small Municipalities and Limited Population County Grant in the amount of \$250,000 to construct an access road for an existing industry. The city also received a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for \$650,000 to assist in road construction, as well as water and sewer improvements.

Marion County received a CDBG totaling \$521,160. The funding will be used to assist in the construction of an access road for industries.

The grants were made through the Mississippi Development Authority.

MEC SPONSORS “A CAPITAL DAY”

The Mississippi Economic Council (MEC) will host “A Capital Day” on January 10, 2002 in Jackson. The event provides the business community the opportunity to hear from and meet legislative leaders, local legislators and other state officials while enjoying an informal lunch.

Registration will begin at 8:30 am at Denney’s Restaurant followed by a special briefing from Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., Executive Director of the Mississippi Development Authority. Shuttle service will be provided to the State Capitol where Lieutenant Governor Amy Tuck and other legislative leaders will provide insight into the 2002 Legislative Session.

More than 600 participants are expected for the event. Sponsorship opportunities include: Leadership Level - \$900; Supporter Level; Rank & File Level - \$300; and Individual Level - \$60.

For more information or to register, contact MEC at 10800-748-7626 or 601-969-0022.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE PLANNED

Members of the public and private sector have joined forces to present the first annual “Sustainability: Smart Business, Smart Growth” conference February 21-22, 2002 at the Beau Rivage in Biloxi.

Governor Ronnie Musgrove and Secretary of State Eric Clark will welcome various state, regional, and national speakers, including smart growth expert Governor Parris Glendening of Maryland; Ray Anderson of Interface Corporation and the President’s Council on Sustainable Development; Paul Tebo of Dupont; and Jane Hague of National Association of Counties. United States EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman has also been invited. Afternoon sessions will feature workshops on best practices.

This conference is being presented by the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and the Harrison County Development Commission, in association with 21 state and local associations and business members.

The cost is \$155 with a special rate of \$80 for nonprofit and governmental officials. For more information, call 601-266-4186 or visit www.cice.usm.edu/ce/prodev/smart.

RICHER SELECTED AS PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL TOURISM ALLIANCE

Stephen B. Richer, CTP, Executive Director of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Convention & Visitors Bureau, has been selected as president of SouthCoast USA, a regional tourism alliance, which promotes travel along the Gulf South from the Florida Panhandle to Southwest Louisiana. East to west, SCUSA represents 11 destinations including the Beaches of South Walton and Pensacola in Florida., Gulf Shores, the Eastern Shore, and Mobile in Alabama., Mississippi's Gulf Coast, and New Orleans Northshore, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, and Lake Charles in Louisiana.



"I am excited to represent such a wonderful group of destinations along the beautiful SouthCoast," Richer said. "As president I look forward to serving this organization and bringing even more recognition to an already highly regarded region."

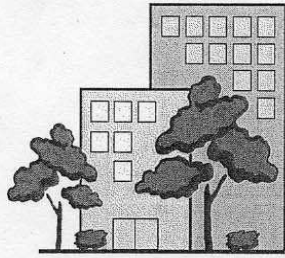
Richer is a member of several tourism industry associations, including ASAE, ATME, IAEM, IACVB, ISTA, NCDO, NTA, RSA, STS, TIA and USTOA. State affiliations include: Mississippi Tourism Association, Mississippi Society of Association Executives and Mississippi Hotel & Motel Association.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE AND THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- ❖ ***Cathy Box of Bobcat Caramel Company in Jackson...***on much success in the specialty food industry.
- ❖ ***Randall Wigginton of ITT Engineered Valves-Amory in Amory...***on 27 years of high-tech success at FabriValve-Amory.
- ❖ ***Kathy Shook of Legendary Lighting, LLC in Flowood...***on the successful partnership with Galaxy Gas Products of Ontario.
- ❖ ***Jimmy Green of PeopLoungers, Inc. in Nettleton...***on expanding the PeopLoungers operations into the former Reed Manufacturing facility in Nettleton, creating up to 100 new jobs.
- ❖ ***Ed Marshall of Orleans Furniture, Inc. in Columbia...***on beginning construction of a 100,000-square-foot warehouse for Orleans Furniture. The company's doubling of sales during the past five years bodes well for the Marion County economic base.
- ❖ ***Larry Homan of American Cellulose Corporation in Fulton...***on the buy-out of Packaging Corporation of America's interests by American Cellulose of Fulton and a new 10-year contract for hardwood chips with International Paper.
- ❖ ***Kazumi Sato of Yorozu America Corporation in Farmington Hills...***on the recent groundbreaking of the Yorozu Automotive Mississippi plant in Vicksburg that will create 120 new jobs.

The Mississippi Development Authority's *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. Visit us on the World Wide Web at www.mississippi.org.

Mark Your Calendar!



Sustainability

CONFERENCE

Smart Business, Smart Growth

February 21-22, 2002 • Beau Rivage Resort
Biloxi, Mississippi

A Snapshot of the Future of Development

Economically Feasible, Environmentally Compatible, Socially Responsible

FEATURING

State, Regional, and National Speakers

Governor Ronnie Musgrove, Mississippi
Secretary of State Eric Clark, Mississippi
Governor Parris Glendening, Maryland
Ray Anderson, Interface Corporation
Paul Tebo, DuPont

Jane Hague, National Association of Counties
and

Administrator Christine Todd Whitman, U.S.E.P.A. (invited)

Plus Informative Workshops on Best Practices

\$155 Registration Fee

\$80 for Nonprofit/Governmental Affiliates

For more information or to register, please call: (601) 266-4186
or visit our website: <www.cice.usm.edu/ce/prodev/smart/>

Supported by a grant from the Mississippi Coastal Impact Assistance Program

MEC's A Capital Day

January 10, 2002

*Denney's Restaurant
Mississippi State Capitol - Jackson*



Mississippi Economic Council
The State Chamber of Commerce
www.mec.ms

Sponsorship Opportunities

LEADERSHIP • \$900

- Banner with your logo displayed at luncheon
- Company logo displayed in meeting program
- Company name listed on placard at registration desk
- 4 attendees

SUPPORTER • \$500

- Company name listed on placard at registration desk
- Company name listed in bold type in meeting program
- 2 attendees

RANK & FILE • \$300

- Company listed in meeting program
- 1 attendee

INDIVIDUAL • \$60

- 1 attendee

YES. Please register my company.

Name _____ Title _____

Company _____ # of Employees _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Our other attendees will be:

Name _____ Title _____ Company _____

Name _____ Title _____ Company _____

Name _____ Title _____ Company _____

Total \$ _____ Bill Me _____ Check Enclosed _____ Make checks payable to Mississippi Economic Council.

No cancellations will be accepted 3 business days prior to the event.

Please complete this form and return to Central Reservations.

Fax to 1-888-717-2809 or 601-353-0247 in Central Mississippi.

Mail to Mississippi Economic Council • P.O. Box 23276 • Jackson, MS 39225-3276

Questions? Call 1-800-748-7626 or 601-969-0022 in Central Mississippi.

NOTE: MEC does not sell addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers, or e-mail addresses to any person, organization or institution.