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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MAY/JUNE 2009

From the Director's Chair

For the first time in many months, we are beginning to see a little ray of sunshine peeping through the dark clouds of economic uncertainty in Panola County. Several companies that are located here are now looking at expansion opportunities that have been put on hold over the past year due to the tough economic times. The decline in sales tax revenues in our cities is also beginning to subside, and as the economy strengthens, we will see growth in this sector once again. Even though we still have a lot of challenges facing us, we have a lot of positive things to look forward too. What we do now to prepare for the growth we anticipate is extremely important. We must continue to market our county aggressively through

various means such as our web-site, the Mississippi Development Authority, our utility service providers, and others. We have to keep focused on our goals and objectives and not become complacent. Our goal is to stay one step ahead of our competition and be ready when opportunity comes knocking. We are going to do all we can to encourage investment in Panola County and to provide the resources that are needed when companies or businesses are trying to make the decision on where to locate that new business. We are very optimistic about the growth potential and the future of our county and we will continue to do all we can to make sure we are successful.

Sponsor Spotlight



Clark Insurance Agency was formed in 1953 by Bill Clark to service the businesses and individuals of North Mississippi. Brad Clark, representing the third generation in the family business, came to Batesville to open this office in 1997.

Focusing on business insurance, Clark Insurance has the experience and knowledge to develop sound insurance programs for most any business. Currently employing eight people, all of

whom are licensed, we are committed to the education and training of our employees, which provide our customers with an experienced and knowledgeable staff to assist them quickly and accurately. You can receive coverage on a broad array of products such as workers' compensation, general liability, business auto, commercial property, and group health.

Representing many of the top-rated companies in America allows Clark Insurance to shop multiple companies for most of your insurance needs to find competitive products and competitive prices. Individuals and families can also benefit from the Independent Agency System.

Contact Brad Clark, Susan Turner or Susan Cook in our Batesville office today and let Clark Insurance go to work for you.

Existing Industry Series scheduled for June 18

The Panola Partnership will continue its Quarterly Existing Industry Luncheon Series on Thursday, June 18.

Speakers for this quarter's luncheon will include representatives from Mississippi Development Authority's Existing Industry Division in Jackson. They will discuss new and exciting programs just passed by the State to support existing industry.

Sonny Simmons, Panola Partnership CEO, will speak about Panola County's ad valorem taxes and other incentives specific to Panola County.

Please mark your calendar and make arrangements to attend the luncheon on June 18 at 12 noon at Panola Country Club located at 225 Country Club Road in Batesville.

RSVP to Meredith Fleming at 662.563.3126 or meredithfleming@cableone.net by Monday, June 8th to reserve your seat. This series is free to all existing industries in Panola County.

You will NOT want to miss this event!

Como's Blues Trail Marker ceremony honoring Mississippi Fred



Dick Waterman & Bonnie Raitt pose with members of the McDowell Family.



The Mississippi Blues Trail Marker sits proudly on Como's Main Street across from City Hall.



Special Thanks to SpringFest Sponsors & Volunteers

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Monthly After Hours Mixer @ Garden District successful

We had great attendance at May's After Hours Business Mixer at The Garden District in Batesville. Some folks even showed up with their pots and green thumbs to shop Joanna Patton's wide selection in her nursery. The food was fantastic! Door prizes were donated by The Garden District, Flint's Hardware & Tango's BBQ. We encourage you to join us on the third Tuesday of each month for great networking and fellowship!

Check out additional pictures at www.panolacounty.com > Chamber of Commerce > Membership > After Hours Business Mixers.



Debbie Williams shows off her array of food to Belinda Morris, Ambassador & Joanna Patton, Owner.



Laura Lee Gann & Laura Hendrix both of Mendrop Wages did not go home empty handed from this mixer!

Partnership Coming Events

June 16: After Hours Business Mixer @ Hampton Inn from 5-7 pm

June 18: Existing Industry Luncheon @ Panola Country Club from 12 noon-1:30 pm

July 21: After Hours Business Mixer-TBA



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