

# MISSISSIPPI

OFFICIAL & STATISTICAL REGISTER

## *Blue Book*

2012-2016

PUBLISHED 2012  
BY



DELBERT HOSEMAN  
*Secretary of State*

REVISED AND UPDATED  
2014 EDITION

*This book was paid for by the taxpayers of the State of Mississippi  
and authorized by the Mississippi Legislature.*



DELBERT HOSEMANN  
*Secretary of State*

My fellow Mississippians:

Throughout the years, the face of Mississippi has changed. In many ways, we are not our fathers' fathers' Mississippi. While Mississippians have adapted to changes in our cultural, societal and economic environment, we maintain our strong heritage and core values. These values define who we are and enforce how the rest of the nation views our people—warm, generous, hardworking and irrepressible. In times of economic downfalls and natural disasters, our resilience pushes us past hardships. This spirit, strength and determination is seen in the faces of our citizens, our families and our neighbors.

In the 2012-2016 edition of the *Official and Statistical Register of the State of Mississippi*, my goal is to highlight some of those faces of Mississippi—the individuals who epitomize what it means to be a Mississippian. These individuals have built their businesses and devoted their lives to ideas and to tangible solutions for the benefit of our State and, often, our country. They are leaving a legacy not only to their children and grandchildren, but to the children and grandchildren of all Mississippians. The intellect, drive, dedication and determination in their faces mirrors our own, and we are pleased to highlight their hard work and accomplishments.



We have all heard the famous William Faulkner quote, “To understand the world, you must first understand a place like Mississippi.” I believe for the world to understand a place like Mississippi, it must first understand the stories of our people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Delbert".

Delbert Hosemann  
Secretary of State

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The next printed edition will be available in 2016.*

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## MISSISSIPPI'S TIME IS NOW

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A new era has begun in Mississippi. Optimism and determination are gaining momentum with each passing day. Now, as Mississippi approaches its bicentennial year in 2017, we are in a strong position to capitalize on our opportunities. It is truly our time to shine.

Mississippi has, without question, persevered through challenging times. Yet we have emerged stronger. Our tradition of conservative fiscal management, pro-business policies and a balanced budget mandated by the State Constitution have fueled small-business development and creative entrepreneurship. At the same time, our State's attractive business climate, abundant natural resources and enviable quality of life have captured the attention of many of the world's leading corporations.

When you consider our near-ideal geographic position in the Americas, it is no wonder Mississippi has become a magnet for transportation, distribution and logistics businesses. We are surrounded by 800 miles of navigable waterways—the Mississippi River, the Gulf of Mexico and the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. Rail systems cross the State offering 2,541 miles of track, and five interstate highways provide easy access to markets east and west, north and south.

Of course, we are not just shipping products; we are producing them. Mississippi is currently ranked as the fifth fastest-growing state for gross international exports. In 2011, we exported \$10.9 billion in shipments, a 33% increase over the previous year. Canada, Panama, Mexico, China and Columbia were our top trading partners.

Mississippi's resurging manufacturing sector deserves much of the credit. Our success story recently prompted *Forbes* to proclaim "Manufacturing Booms in Mississippi" in their online series *Reinventing America*.

### MISSISSIPPI IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Our pro-business climate, low tax burden and affordable utility rates have made our State a top destination for business.

- Lowest labor costs
- 3<sup>rd</sup> best labor climate
- 4<sup>th</sup> best corporate tax environment
- 4<sup>th</sup> lowest overall cost of doing business
- 9<sup>th</sup> most business-friendly overall
- Right-to-work status established by State constitution

Source: Area Development 2011 Top States For Doing Business Survey

Furniture manufacturers, centered in North Mississippi, are making a comeback. With demand for American-made products growing, and the increased efficiency of new manufacturing technologies, Mississippi furniture



“NOW IS THE TIME TO BUILD TOGETHER. WE HAVE ENDURED MANY CHALLENGES IN OUR HISTORY AND WE HAVE ENDURED THEM WITH GRACE AND STRENGTH. THESE CHALLENGES HAVE TEMPERED US FOR THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT LIE AHEAD.”

— GOVERNOR PHIL BRYANT  
State of the State Address, January 2012

manufacturers have modernized their plants and expanded into new facilities to meet rising demand.

Our State has also found considerable success in the energy sector. Mississippi was named the number one jurisdiction in the world for oil and gas investment in the 2011 Global Petroleum Survey conducted by The Fraser Institute, Canada's leading public policy think-tank. Our State has also emerged as a leader in the Green Revolution. In recent years, Mississippi has become a hotbed of activity for renewable energy projects, attracting cutting-edge biomass fuel projects and securing manufacturing operations for highly efficient solar energy panels.

Shipbuilding has a long tradition in Mississippi and it continues to be a vital industry for our State. Ingalls Shipbuilding, a division of Huntington Ingalls Industries, is the largest provider of surface combatants to the U.S. Navy and also the largest private



Construction of USS America at Ingalls Shipbuilding

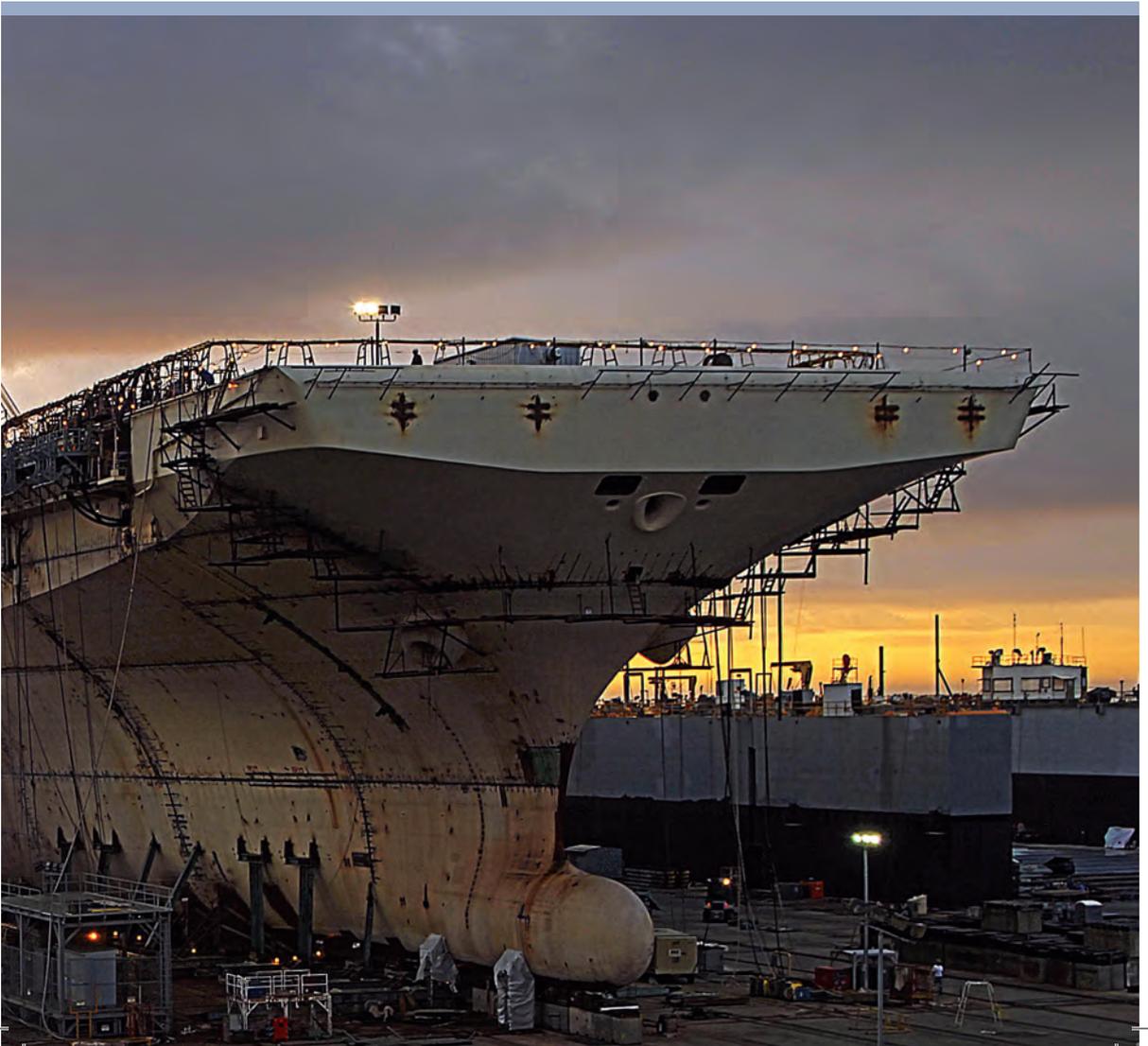
employer in Mississippi, with more than 9,000 workers employed at the company's Pascagoula shipyard.

The company recently launched the Navy's newest multi-purpose amphibious assault ship, the America, and has secured a \$2.38 billion contract to build the next ship in the America class, the Tripoli.

## MAJOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

• Mississippi Power Company	\$2.8 billion
• Huntington Ingalls	\$2.4 billion
• Chevron	\$1.4 billion
• Virdia (Formerly HCL CleanTech)	\$1.0 billion
• KiOR	\$500 million
• Stion	\$500 million

*Sources: Mississippi Development Authority, July 2012; Mississippi Business Journal*





Jorge Salazar, MD, with Batson Children's Hospital congenital heart surgery patient

## OUR FUTURE: HEALTHY, WEALTHY AND WISE

As Mississippi's population ages, the need for health care workers is expected to surge. Promoting growth in Mississippi's health care industry will increase access to quality care across the State. At the same time, it will create new opportunities for high-paying jobs, since health care jobs pay wages roughly 40% higher than the State average.

Recognizing these factors, Mississippi has announced incentives to attract development within Health Care Industry Zones across the State. Efforts are already underway in Jackson to position the city as a regional health care destination via the Mississippi Healthcare Corridor, a five-mile stretch in the heart of the capital city focusing on health care, research and support services.

Without question, education is a critical economic driver and it continues to be a high priority for elected officials and business leaders in Mississippi. In recent years, our K-12 schools have introduced new accountability standards with the goal of educating and equipping tomorrow's workforce. In 2011, our State achieved a 20% increase in the number of schools receiving the highest rating possible. To build upon these improvements, we are continuing implementation of the Common Core State Standards, a state-led initiative that establishes a rigorous set of benchmarks for K-12 education.

More Mississippians are attending college than ever before. System-wide enrollment at Mississippi's four-year colleges has increased annually since 1994 with a 5% gain between 2010-2011. Mississippi's community and junior colleges are also enrolling significantly more students and seeing a larger percentage graduate. Between 2006 and 2010, Mississippi's community colleges added more than 17,000 students to their rolls. Between 2010 and 2011, the system awarded 14,000 degrees, an increase of 15% over the previous year.

Mississippi's universities are engaged in advanced research projects to fuel tomorrow's innovations. These research institutions are now able to share massive amounts of complex data more quickly. MissiON, the Mississippi Optical Network, will provide 20 times the current broadband capacity. A collaboration with AT&T, this \$16 million project links the Mississippi Research Consortium, composed of the University of Mississippi, Mississippi State University, the University of Southern Mississippi, Jackson State University, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Mississippi Department of Information Technology, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Stennis Space Center.

The University of Southern Mississippi's Polymer Science Lab has turned the Hattiesburg area into a hotbed of development for advanced chemical products



B.B. King



International Ballet Competition



Mississippi Mass Choir

and materials. USM's technology-focused business incubator, The Accelerator, was launched in 2010 and currently supports 10 technology companies. In 2011, Hattiesburg was selected by three prominent technology companies as the site for their new manufacturing facilities.

The University of Mississippi opened its Insight Park in 2012 to serve as a catalyst for innovation in a variety of research areas. Researchers from the university contributed to groundbreaking projects including the discovery of the Higgs Boson particle, development of new drugs, and ongoing research to develop and investigate new cancer therapies.

In Starkville, former Mississippi State professors turned their materials research into a promising new company, propelling Mississippi's entry into the advanced semiconductor market. SemiSouth manufactures a silicon carbide semiconductor for high-power, high-efficiency, and harsh-environment power management and conversion applications. Following the company's initial success, SemiSouth has announced an \$18 million expansion to increase manufacturing capacity.

Jackson State University is conducting innovative research in a number of disciplines, such as biotechnology, nanomaterials, public health and drug discovery. JSU is classified as a high-research university and is ranked second in R&D expenditures among all Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

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## OUR LAND OF CREATIVITY, BEAUTY AND OPPORTUNITY

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Mississippi has a long, rich cultural heritage that touches the lives of people in every corner of the globe. Our ideas and the expression of our creativity have both lasting value and economic power. Our artists, architects, writers, filmmakers and other creative professionals represent a robust economic force, whose combined

### CREATIVE MISSISSIPPI

**Actors and Entertainers:** Cat Cora, Morgan Freeman, Jim Henson, James Earl Jones, Diane Ladd, Tom Lester, Gerald McRaney, Parker Posey, Stella Stevens, Ray Walston, Sela Ward, Oprah Winfrey

**Artists:** Walter Anderson, Marshall Bouldin, Bill Dunlap, Theora Hamblett, Marie Hull, Ethel Wright Mohamed, George Ohr, Mildred Nungester Wolfe, Wyatt Waters

**Musicians:** Lance Bass, Jimmy Buffett, Bo Diddley, Faith Hill, Robert Johnson, B.B. King, Guy Hovis, Pinetop Perkins, Elvis Presley, Leontyne Price, Charley Pride, LeAnn Rimes, Jimmie Rodgers, Marty Stuart, James "Son" Thomas, Conway Twitty, Muddy Waters, Tammy Wynette

**Writers:** Margaret Walker Alexander, Nevada Barr, Ellen Douglas, William Faulkner, Shelby Foote, Richard Ford, John Grisham, Beth Henley, Greg Iles, Willie Morris, Kathryn Stockett, Alice Walker, Eudora Welty, Tennessee Williams, Richard Wright

economic output adds up to more than \$2 billion in annual revenue, fueling more than 40,000 jobs across the State.

Recognizing these facts, the Mississippi Development Authority and the Mississippi Arts Commission are working together to promote the growth of our creative economy and stimulate arts-related entrepreneurship throughout the State.

Travel and tourism mean big business in Mississippi, generating nearly \$6 billion in revenue and attracting 20.8 million visitors to our unique places, events, cultural attractions, outdoor recreation, casinos, hotels and restaurants. The visibility of our State's attractions is at an all-time high, and tourism's impact on the State economy continues to increase.

Our festivals, events and cultural attractions are renowned. For more than 120 years, the Neshoba County Fair, dubbed Mississippi's Giant House Party, has been a quintessential annual tradition of colorful cabins, camaraderie and political stump speeches. The Canton Flea Market is one of the largest and most popular outdoor arts and crafts markets in the South. Mal's St. Paddy's Day Parade in Jackson is the second-largest of its kind in the U.S. and recently spun off a second parade, The Sweet Potato Queen's Zippity Doo Dah Parade. Another tradition, the Delta Blues and Heritage Festival, has attracted visitors from every continent since 1978.



Sparkle and Twang exhibit



Mississippi Craftsmen's Guild



Ground Zero Blues Club



Blessing of the Fleet



Natchez Balloon Races



St. Paddy's Day Parade



Bikers on the Natchez Trace Parkway



Gulf Coast at Sunset



Museum of Art Garden

Annual pilgrimages such as those in Natchez, Columbus and Holly Springs showcase historic homes, including many built during the antebellum and Victorian eras. Crystal Springs' Tomato Festival, Corinth's Slugburger Festival, Forest's Wing Dang Doodle festival, and the Watermelon Festival in Mize all delight visitors with the sights, sounds and flavors of our State. All told, more than 400 unique events are held in Mississippi each year.

Music lovers of all kinds flock to the Birthplace of America's Music to visit the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center, the Delta Blues Museum and other Blues landmarks along Mississippi Highway 61. The Mississippi Blues Trail provides information and insight to the journey through the storied Mississippi Delta and beyond via interpretive markers at 152 sites statewide. Mississippi recently launched a Country Music Trail, with 17 markers dedicated to-date. Plans for a new GRAMMY® museum in Cleveland are underway and, once completed, the museum will be the only GRAMMY museum outside of Los Angeles.

Visitors and locals alike enjoy Mardi Gras parades celebrated in several Mississippi Gulf Coast communities and the annual Blessing of the Fleet is a beloved Biloxi tradition since 1929. The Coast now boasts a \$30 million state-of-the-art science museum with the opening of the INFINITY Science Center at Stennis Space Center. Art lovers are drawn to the Coast, as well, visiting the Walter Anderson Museum of art and the quaint galleries and shops of Ocean Springs. The recently rebuilt Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art dazzles visitors with its pottery collections and the brushed-steel "pod" structures of internationally celebrated architect Frank Gehry.

Mississippi's scenic beauty offers abundant opportunities for outdoor recreation. The historic Natchez Trace Parkway, 310 miles of which lies within Mississippi's borders, is a popular route for bikers and sightseers. Hikers and other nature lovers can choose from 27 state parks and abundant lakes and waterways. Hunting and fishing are immensely popular. More than one million acres are available for hunting, including 31 state Wildlife Management Areas and seven National Wildlife Refuges. Twenty-one prime lakes are owned or leased by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks and are available for fishing. The Ross Barnett Reservoir and Sardis Lake are among the most popular.

Mississippi is also an emerging destination for golf travelers. Lauded as "Golf's Best-Kept Vacation Secret" in a recent *Forbes Magazine* article, Mississippi is home to spectacular world-class golf courses like the Tom Fazio-designed Fallen Oak in Biloxi and others designed by golf legends Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Davis Love III and Jerry Pate.



VIKING RANGE  
CORPORATION

Fred Carl  
Founder, Chairman,  
President, CEO

# TRAILBLAZERS



PEAVEY ELECTRONICS  
CORPORATION

Hartley Peavey  
CEO

## MISSISSIPPI'S ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

In every corner of our State, you will find Mississippians who, through their vision and passion, have profoundly impacted our State, our nation and the world.

In Greenwood, Fred Carl founded Viking Range Corporation after searching for a professional-style range for his wife and finding no such product existed. Carl went on to create the first professional-style range designed, engineered and certified for home use. Today, Viking Range Corporation makes a full line of kitchen appliances recognized worldwide as the industry's top standard.

While in high school, Hartley Peavey aspired to be a rock 'n' roll guitarist, not an entrepreneur. However, once he discovered his true talent for tinkering with guitar amplifiers, Peavey's hobby turned into a full-time business. His Meridian-based company, Peavey Electronics Corporation, is now one of the world's largest manufacturers of musical instruments, amplifiers and professional audio systems.

Booneville native, Augustus L. "Leon" Collins, distinguished himself in numerous staff and command positions before his promotion to Brigadier General, the first African-American General in the Mississippi Army National Guard. In 2012, Collins was appointed by Governor Bryant as Adjutant General of Mississippi. In that role, he commands 12,500 men and women serving in the Mississippi Air and Army National Guard.



A portrait of Major General Augustus L. "Leon" Collins, an African American man with short grey hair and glasses, smiling. He is wearing a white military uniform with a black collar and sleeve featuring three gold stars. The background is dark with an American flag visible.

### MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD

Major General Augustus L. "Leon" Collins  
*Adjutant General*

Ridgeland-based C Spire Wireless dates back to the 1960s. Brothers Wade and Jimmy Creekmore founded their company to introduce telephone service to rural Mississippi communities. As technology advanced, the Creekmores expanded into the wireless business under the name Cellular South. Today, under the leadership of CEO Hu Meena, their company is known as C Spire Wireless. They are the nation's largest privately-held wireless communications company, serving one million subscribers in four Southern states.

Another Mississippi innovator, Will Primos, is renowned among hunters and sportsmen. Will made his first duck call at the age of 11 and continued his hobby through the mid 1970s when he started selling his hunting calls to a small sporting goods store. Before long, Primos Hunting was receiving orders from across the country. The Flora-based business now manufactures more than 620 products, holds 26 patents and owns numerous trademarks.

A senior partner with Phelps Dunbar Law Firm, Reuben Anderson was Mississippi's first African-American Supreme Court Justice. Anderson has held numerous board positions (AT&T, Kroger, Trustmark) and served as President of the Mississippi Bar Association and President of the Mississippi Economic Council. His leadership and example has inspired and paved the way for countless entrepreneurs and civic leaders.





**PRIMOS HUNTING  
CALLS**

Will Primos  
*Founder, Director*



**PHELPS DUNBAR**

Reuben Anderson  
*Senior Partner*



**BOMGAR**

Joel Bomgar  
*Founder, CEO*

Nathan McNeil  
*Co-Founder,  
Chief Strategy Officer*

Patrick Norman  
*Co-Founder,  
VP of Product Marketing*



**McCARTY  
POTTERY**

Lee McCarty  
*Owner*

Joel Bomgar began his career providing IT support for a local company while working his way through college. Traveling across the State in an old car without air conditioning seemed like an inefficient way to work, so Joel set out to develop a way to manage his customers' computers across the Internet. Joel's company, Bomgar, now serves over 6,500 leading businesses in 65 countries. Bomgar has been recognized as a Deloitte Fast 500 Rising Star and included in the Inc. 500 and 5000.

Lee McCarty, and his late wife Pup, first began making pottery together in 1954 using native Mississippi clays. During their early years, the couple's friendship with William Faulkner afforded them unlimited access to clay from a ravine behind the author's Rowan Oak plantation. Working in a converted mule barn in Merigold, the pair developed their unique style and signature glazes. Over the years, the McCartys' artistic vision has inspired growing demand from collectors worldwide.

In Biloxi, the Mavar and McLendon names are synonymous with quality seafood, with a history dating back seven generations. That family tradition lives on with Mark Mavar and Jonathan McLendon, whose companies—M&M Processing, LLC and Biloxi Freezing & Processing—joined together to strengthen their competitive position. Together, the companies catch and inventory more than one million pounds of wild-caught Gulf shrimp, on average, per month.



**M&M  
PROCESSING, LLC.**

Jonathan S. McLendon  
*President*

**BILOXI FREEZING &  
PROCESSING, INC.**

Mark Mavar  
*President*



**INDIANOLA  
PECAN HOUSE**

Tim Timbs  
*President*



**FRANKLIN  
CORPORATION**

Mark Franklin  
*President, COO*

Hassell Franklin  
*Founder, CEO*



Pecans are a mainstay of Mississippi agriculture, and Indianola Pecan House is one of the biggest names in the business. Its founder Wheeler Timbs, Jr. got his start after buying the pecan company where he had worked for many years. Wheeler “Tim” Timbs, III, the current president of Indianola Pecan House, has expanded the company’s product lines, introducing new flavors and co-branding products through partnerships with Jack Daniel’s and Mossy Oak.

Furniture executive Hassell H. Franklin founded his company in 1970 with just 32 employees. As CEO of Houston-based Franklin Corporation, Hassell has led his company to become one of America’s largest privately-owned furniture manufacturers, employing more than 1,300 employees. His son Mark now serves as COO.

Success has been sweet for Madison’s Peter DeBeukelaer, a third-generation chocolatier whose grandfather founded Belgium’s first biscuit and wafer company in 1860. Peter moved his family from Belgium to Madison in 1984 and now carries on the family tradition with his creation, the Pirouline—the first rolled-wafer cookie of its kind and the only rolled wafer made in the U.S. The DeBeukelaer Baking Company distributes its cookies to loyal customers worldwide.



### WILDWOOD GIN

Lawson Gary  
*Co-Owner*

Tommy Gary  
*Co-Owner*

Tommy Gary and his Wildwood Gin are continuing Mississippi's long tradition of agricultural innovations. When Gary shut down his family's cotton gin and moved, instead, into the waste cotton processing business, few appreciated the wisdom of his decision. Now, 25 years later, Gary and his son Lawson are pioneering new techniques to clean and process the cotton by-product "mote," which is in demand for a variety of 100%-cotton absorbent products such as disposable wipes.

Jimmy Sanders, Inc. was founded in 1953 by the company's namesake and the father of Mike Sanders, who now leads the growing enterprise. Headquartered in Cleveland, the company has burgeoned into one of the top-five agricultural supply distributors in the Mid-South, serving growers through 70 locations in eight states. The company's operations include agricultural chemical distribution, seed production and sales, bulk handling of fertilizer and precision agricultural services.

The history of Taylor Machine Works dates back to 1927 when founder W.A. Taylor, Sr. opened a small automotive and machine shop in Louisville. The company has grown over the years to become one of the United States' leading manufacturers of industrial forklift and material handling equipment.



JIMMY  
SANDERS, INC.  
Mike Sanders  
*Chairman, President, CEO*



TAYLOR MACHINE  
WORKS, INC.  
William A. "Lex" Taylor, III  
*President*

Following the 2000 announcement of Nissan’s assembly plant in Canton, William “Bill” Cooley and his daughter Toni forged a relationship with the automaker which led to the creation of Systems Electro Coating. Their company applies an anti-corrosion primer to sheet-metal components and parts and is one of the largest non-OEM operations of its kind. In 2011, Toni launched Systems Automotive Interiors to assemble seats for Toyota’s new Blue Springs assembly plant.

Hol-Mac Corporation, based in Bay Springs, serves Original Equipment Manufacturers as a major supplier of steel fabrications, hydraulic cylinders and hydraulic fuel tanks. The company also manufactures three proprietary products: Pac-Mac Refuse Equipment, Hammerhead Off-Road Armor and BenchMark Tanks. Founded in 1963 by Charles B. Holder Jr., Hol-Mac is now managed by his sons, with Jamie serving as President and COO. A strong advocate of manufacturing careers, Charles Holder hosts “Tinker’s Camp” for youth in Jasper County and the surrounding area, and also participates in a number of initiatives to promote technical skills training throughout Mississippi.

For Joe Frank Sanderson, Jr., success is a family affair. His grandfather D.R. Sanderson operated a Hazlehurst farm supply store in the 1940s and later expanded into the poultry business, bringing in his sons to assist. Today, Laurel-based Sanderson Farms is the third-largest poultry producer in the United States, employing more than 11,000 people, with annual sales of more than \$2 billion.



**THE SYSTEMS  
COMPANIES**  
Toni Cooley  
*President*



**HOL-MAC**

Jamie Holder  
*President, COO*

Charles Holder  
*Founder*



**SANDERSON  
FARMS**

Joe Frank Sanderson, Jr.  
*CEO, Chairman of the  
Board of Directors*

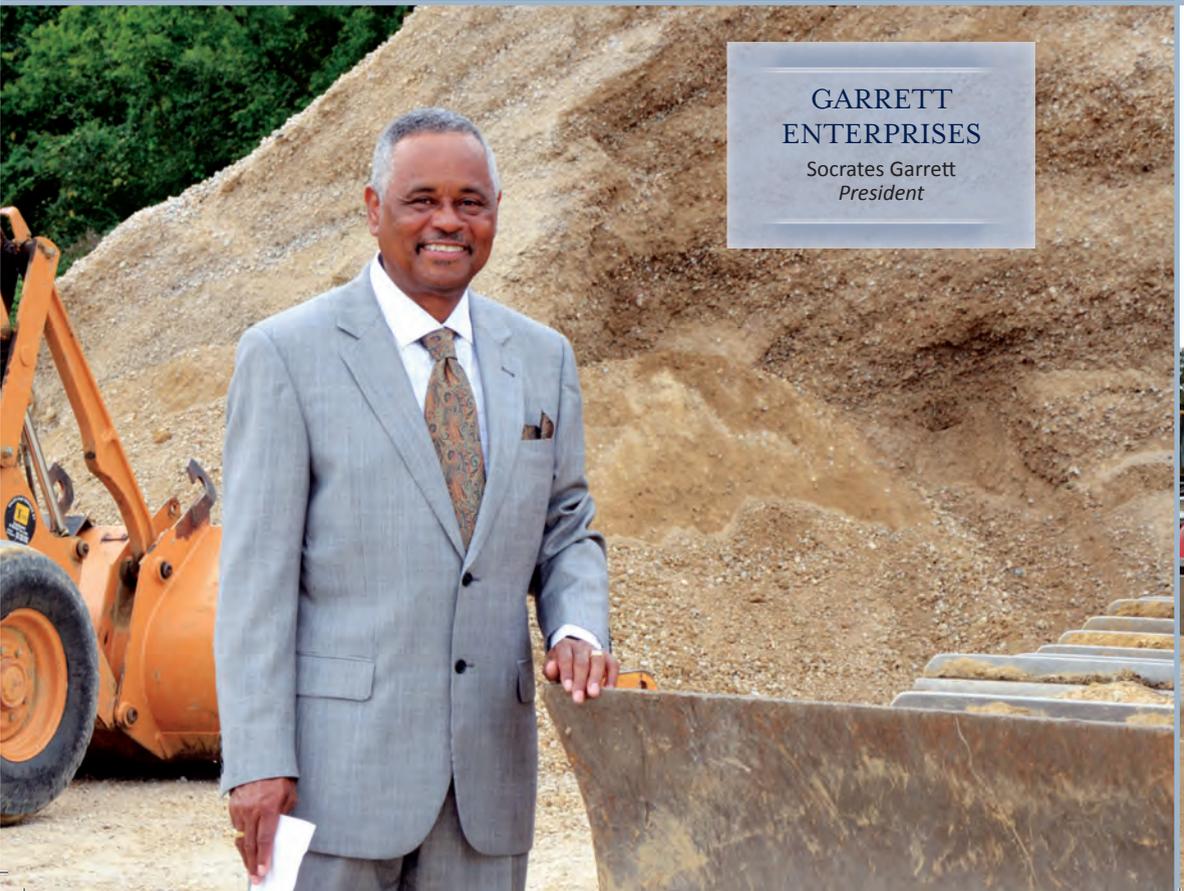


**W.G. YATES  
AND SONS**

William Yates, III  
*President, CEO*

**THE YATES  
COMPANIES**

Bill Yates, Jr.  
*President, CEO*



**GARRETT  
ENTERPRISES**

Socrates Garrett  
*President*

Under the leadership of Bill and William Yates, W.G. Yates & Sons Construction Company, along with its affiliated companies, has grown into one of the top construction service providers in the U.S. and internationally. Headquartered in Philadelphia since its incorporation in 1964, Yates has offices in eight states and in Mexico. One of the most vertically integrative and innovative construction firms in the U.S., Yates serves the commercial and industrial construction industries and provides services which include Construction Management, Design-Build, General Construction, Operations and Maintenance, Preconstruction, Program Management, Environmental, Disaster Response and Engineering/Construction/Construction Management.

Another successful construction company, Jackson-based Garrett Enterprises Consolidated, was founded in 1979 by Socrates Garrett, a former salesman with Xerox. Garret's company provides a broad range of services, including professional consulting and contracting services throughout the southeast United States. In 1993, Garrett founded the *Mississippi Link*, a weekly newspaper publishing stories of particular interest to the African-American community in Mississippi.

M.G. Dyess, Inc. was founded in 1992 to serve the nation's growing energy industry. Under the leadership of Glynn, Mike, Ricky, and Grant Dyess, the Bassfield-based company has grown to become a leader in the underground pipeline construction business.



**M.G. DYESS, INC.**

Glynn Dyess  
CEO

Mike Dyess  
Vice-President  
Construction

Ricky Dyess  
Vice-President  
Engineering



**McGOWAN  
WORKING PARTNERS**

John McGowan  
*Founder*



**B&P ENTERPRISES**

Josh Prewett

Kendall Prewett

Bruce Prewett  
*President, Owner*



## WARREN PAVING

Steven Warren  
*President*

Lawrence Warren  
*CEO*

Oil and gas industry pioneer John McGowan founded McGowan Working Partners, which now operates in five states and is considered a leading expert in extracting petroleum from dormant oil and gas locations. McGowan is a world-class innovator and has developed a flood-relief plan for the city of Jackson, incorporating a 1,500-acre lake that would provide economic and recreational development opportunities to the city.

B&P Enterprises was founded more than 34 years ago in Walls. Under the leadership of Bruce Prewett and his sons Josh and Kendall, B&P has become one of the Southeast's leading companies for disaster-related clean-up, recovery and response. The company specializes in environmental remediation, hazardous materials emergency response, derailment services, and transport and delivery.

Hattiesburg-based Warren Paving provides vital infrastructure-building services, producing more than a half-million tons of asphalt each year for heavy highway building, airport construction and high-tech site work construction. Warren operates asphalt facilities in Hattiesburg and Gulfport and the company has opened a limestone quarry in Kentucky which ships limestone aggregate via barge to the company's Gulfport facility and other customers. The company is now led by Lawrence Warren and his son Steven.



## ISLAND VIEW CASINO RESORT

Rick Carter  
Co-Owner

Gulfport entrepreneurs Rick Carter and Terry Green opened their Island View Casino Resort just one year after their first casino venture, Copa Casino, was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. Carter and Green purchased the Grand Casino Gulfport property from Harrah's and rebuilt their new 563-room hotel and casino on the property. The Island View, which remains Gulfport's only casino, has since expanded to offer a new 18-hole championship golf course and state-of-the-art gaming systems.

Former Mississippi Secretary of State Dick Molpus began his career at his family's business, Molpus Lumber Company. After completing his third term as Mississippi's Secretary of State in 1996, he founded Molpus Woodlands Group, a timberland investment management organization. The company currently manages approximately 1.5 million acres throughout 17 states on behalf of its clients. Molpus is the founding chairman of the United States Endowment for Forestry and Communities and is a 2005 inductee into the Mississippi Business Hall of Fame.

Golding Barge Company was founded in 1995 by Steve Golding, a tank-barge industry veteran who began his river career at the age of 15. The Golding family heritage in the barge business extends back almost 50 years to their previous company Ole Man River Towing. Golding's Vicksburg-based company specializes in the transportation of refined petroleum products, petrochemicals, chemical products and crude oil throughout the entire U.S. inland waterway system. The next generation has now entered into the inland barge business with the addition of Steve's sons, Austin and John Reid, to the business.

A man in a dark blue blazer and a striped shirt is standing in a forest, holding a large pine branch. The background is filled with tall, thin trees and green foliage. A large tree trunk is visible on the right side of the frame.

THE MOLPUS  
WOODLANDS GROUP

Dick Molpus  
*President*

Two men are standing on a riverbank. The man on the left is wearing a white short-sleeved button-down shirt with a logo and light-colored pants. The man on the right is wearing a white polo shirt with an Under Armour logo and white pants. In the background, there is a large steel truss bridge spanning the river, and a sandy beach is visible on the far bank under a blue sky.

GOLDING BARGE COMPANY

Steve Golding  
*President*

Austin Golding  
*Vice President of Sales*



**DUNLAP & KYLE**

Robert Dunlap  
CEO



**LUTER'S SUPPLY**

Chad Luter    Emmette Luter    Max Luter  
Senior VP    CEO    Executive VP

More than 80 years ago, Jack Dunlap of Batesville opened up a Chevrolet dealership and later sold International Harvester tractors before finding success in the tire business. Together with his son Robert, who joined the business in 1954, the Dunlaps turned their homegrown business into one of Mississippi's largest and most successful companies. The Batesville-based company now operates wholesale operations known as Dunlap & Kyle Company, Hesselbein Tire Company, and Gateway Tire Company. All retail operations are Gateway Tire & Service Centers in Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas and Ohio.

In 1944, Hosea Luter operated a plumbing and electrical store out of his home before moving to a new location to focus on kitchen and bath product lines. Years later, his son Emmette had the vision to create a kitchen and bath showroom impressive enough to attract customers from far outside their small rural community of Tylertown. Now CEO, Emmette Luter and his sons Chad and Max market the company as the world's largest single-location walk-in bath and Jacuzzi® brand dealer.

Emmerich Newspapers, Inc. was founded by John Oliver Emmerich, Sr. of McComb more than 90 years ago. Now under the leadership of the founder's grandson Wyatt Emmerich, the company has grown and prospered by focusing on great writing and superior local coverage. Emmerich currently publishes 25 community newspapers, most in Mississippi, with related community websites and magazines.



EMMERICH  
NEWSPAPERS, INC.

Wyatt Emmerich  
*President*

Former banking executive Jill Beneke founded her company PILEUM Corporation in 2002. Based in Jackson, the company offers management consulting and information technology services to clients in a broad range of business sectors. The company recently opened a location in Knoxville, enhancing its ability to provide services throughout Mississippi, Tennessee and Alabama markets.

Providing high-quality health care to rural locations is a priority for Joe McNulty and his Pioneer Health Services. McNulty founded the Magee-based company in 1996 after working as a respiratory therapist and later owning, managing and leasing health care companies and hospitals. Pioneer now owns, operates and manages eight rural critical access hospitals in the Southeast and also provides specialized management services to many other medical facilities throughout the United States.

Dr. Aaron Shirley is a nationally acclaimed health care pioneer, becoming the first African-American resident at the University Medical Center in 1965. Three decades later, he set out to convert Mississippi's first retail mall into a state-of-the-art ambulatory health care facility. The Jackson Medical Mall – Thad Cochran Center now provides high levels of care for under-served populations in Jackson and is restoring economic vitality to the community. Dr. Shirley was honored for his leadership in 1993 as a recipient of a “Genius Grant” from the MacArthur Fellows Program.



PILEUM  
CORPORATION

Jill Beneke  
*President, CEO*



**PIONEER HEALTH SERVICES**

Joe McNulty  
*Founder, President, CEO*



**JACKSON MEDICAL MALL  
THAD COCHRAN CENTER**

Dr. Aaron Shirley  
*Founder*



Nissan North America plant in Canton

## THE WORLD COMES TO MISSISSIPPI TO DO BUSINESS



The 100,000th Toyota Corolla produced at the Toyota Motor Manufacturing plant in Blue Springs

Mississippi has made job creation a priority by attracting new employers to the State and helping existing businesses expand their workforce. Our efforts are clearly paying off, judging by the billions of dollars companies are investing in our State and the thousands of high-value jobs that have resulted.

Global businesses and consultants are taking notice. In fact, our job creation efforts garnered Mississippi a Silver Shovel Award from the respected site planning publication *Area Development*, in recognition of our innovative policies, infrastructure improvements, processes and promotions to attract new businesses, and investments in new and expanded facilities.

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## MANUFACTURING

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### **Automotive**

With Toyota joining Nissan as the State's second major vehicle manufacturer, auto manufacturing is in high gear in Mississippi. Toyota's Blue Springs facility is the company's newest and most innovative assembly plant in the world. Opened in 2011, the \$800 million plant builds Corollas and employs 2,000 people. The 100,000th Corolla rolled off the assembly line in October 2012, less than one year after production began.

In 2013, Nissan is strengthening its investment in Mississippi by adding three new vehicles, made only at its Canton assembly plant. The addition of new assembly lines for the Frontier pickup, Xterra SUV and Sentra brings the Canton plant's total employment to 4,500. With the company shifting a greater share of its production from Japan to America, Nissan projects 85% of Nissan vehicles sold in the United States will be manufactured in North America by 2015.

### **Aviation and Aerospace**

Aerospace manufacturing is on the rise in Mississippi, particularly in Columbus where three major facilities are located at the GTR Global Industrial Aerospace Park. Stark Aerospace, a subsidiary of Israel's IAI North America, manufactures tactical unmanned aerial systems (UAS) used in U.S. military and counter-narcotics operations. Aurora Flight Sciences fabricates composite aerostructures and major subassemblies for unmanned aerial systems. American Eurocopter, the American subsidiary of the world's leading helicopter manufacturer, produces helicopters for the U.S. Army, National Guard and various civilian applications.

In Batesville, GE Aviation manufactures advanced composite components for jet engines and aircraft systems. The company, which is the world's leading producer of large and small jet engines for commercial and military aircraft, has announced plans to expand their operations with a second plant in Ellisville.

From their Marion County plant, Pioneer Aerospace manufactures state-of-the-art aerodynamic deceleration systems. The company has produced recovery systems

for numerous NASA missions, parafoils for the International Space Station, and also parachutes for troops and cargo.

### **Steel Production and Metal Fabrication**

A growing manufacturing industry demands affordable, high-quality steel. To meet the demand, Severstal came to Mississippi from Russia to open the first new U.S. steel mill in more than a decade. Severstal North America's Columbus facility is one of the most advanced mini-mill steel production facilities in the world. The facility recently completed a \$550 million expansion, doubling annual steel production capacity to meet increased demand.

A number of American manufacturing and fabricating companies have also chosen Mississippi. Olin Corporation recently relocated its Winchester Centerfire ammunition plant from Illinois to Oxford. Steel fabricator Dennen Steel of Grand Rapids, Michigan, opened a new facility in Iuka. The Cincinnati company Enerfab is preparing a site in Natchez to produce fabricated steel plate products for industry.

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## TRADITIONAL AND ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

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Ensuring an affordable supply of energy has become an increased national priority, and Mississippi is seeing considerable success in both the traditional and renewable energy sectors.

Denbury Resources came to Mississippi to tap into one of the nation's largest known carbon dioxide reserves, the Jackson Dome Complex. The company uses the gas as part of an innovative method to recover additional oil from depleted or near-depleted oil wells. The CO<sub>2</sub> is transported through underground pipelines to mature oil fields, where the gas is pumped into wells to recover oil that would otherwise be left underground. The carbon dioxide is then recovered and sequestered underground to prevent release into the atmosphere.

### **RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Mississippi has the sixth-largest amount of biomass in the nation, largely due to our sizeable forestry industry.

In Pascagoula, Chevron is constructing a new \$1.4 billion base oil facility capable of producing 25,000 barrels per day of base oil, the main ingredient in premium motor oils. The project is on schedule to go online in 2013.

Also in Pascagoula, Gulf LNG Energy recently opened a new \$1.1 billion terminal. The facility stores liquefied natural gas and distributes its gas form through pipelines to users, typically in the power generation industry. Natural gas is also stored in Mississippi salt domes by Louisiana-based D'Lo Gas Storage and the Texas-based companies PAA Natural Gas Storage LP and SGR Holdings.



Orion Unmanned Aircraft System manufactured by Aurora Flight Sciences



Mississippi State University Virtual Simulation laboratory



Viking manufacturing plant

Interest in green energy solutions has never been greater, and energy companies are investing in Mississippi at a record pace. There are more than 50 biomass-related, 32 solar and 82 energy efficiency projects in the State, according to the Mississippi Technology Alliance.

The Texas-based energy company KiOR has developed a process for manufacturing gasoline, diesel and fuel oil from a renewable resource—woody biomass, primarily from yellow pine. The company has gained EPA registration for its cellulosic gasoline product, which the company intends to market as an alternative to petroleum-based gasolines. KiOR entered the startup phase of production at its Columbus facility and began shipping product in 2012.

Two solar energy companies are now manufacturing solar panels and components in Mississippi. Stion, a San Jose-based company, opened a new factory in Hattiesburg, the first thin-film solar factory in the southeastern United States. Stion expects to create more than 1,000 jobs and make \$500 million in investments over the next six years. The second firm, Twin Creeks Technology, has opened its first full-scale manufacturing facility in Senatobia. The plant will produce 100 megawatts of crystalline silicon solar panels annually when it reaches full capacity.

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## LOGISTICS AND DISTRIBUTION

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Mississippi's favorable business climate has made our State even more attractive to global businesses who are setting up new logistics and distribution centers in Mississippi in rapid succession.

The trend towards Mississippi began with the launch of the FedEx Ground distribution center in Olive Branch. As the world's largest express transportation company, FedEx processes an average 3.7 million packages every day at the center. Many other global companies soon followed.

Olive Branch landed distribution centers from two Fortune 20 health care companies: McKesson Corporation, the world's largest pharmaceutical company and the 15th largest company in the U.S., as well as Cardinal Health, a global pharmaceuticals distributor and manufacturer of medical and surgical products. Olive Branch is home to Anda Distribution, a Florida-based distributor of generic pharmaceuticals, and Hamilton Beach, which relocated its distribution center from Memphis, signing a record-setting 10-year lease for 1.2 million square feet.

Southaven also saw its share of site wins with the announcements of a number of new distribution centers, including a \$2 million investment from Kimberly-Clark and a \$1.5 million center from the electronics distributor, WPG Americas.

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## OUR BEST DAYS ARE AHEAD

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More and more, people around the world are realizing the unique benefits of working and living in Mississippi. Certainly, we have been blessed with beautiful scenery—sugar-white Gulf Coast beaches, rolling hill country, breathtaking river vistas and endless acres of forestland.

But our State offers much more than scenic beauty. The spirit of our people makes our State truly great. We have forged together through the challenges of the past, and we are seizing the opportunities which lie ahead.

Mississippi is a racially and ethnically diverse state, and all of our citizens share in the State's future success. We have the highest percentage of African Americans elected to public office. People of Hispanic descent are finding success in Mississippi, as well. Hispanic buying power in Mississippi has increased 206% over the past decade. Native American buying power increased 111% over the same period.

We are united in our support for the men and women who serve in our country's armed forces. Our State is home to four federal military bases, two Army National Guard installations, three Air National Guard units and 85 National Guard Readiness Centers. Our State's military operations create thousands of direct and indirect jobs

and their economic impact generates an estimated \$2.5 billion each year.

We are a faithful people, charitable by nature. Our State has the highest rate of church attendance in the nation. According to the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, 60% of Mississippians attend church at least once a week, and 82% of Mississippians identify religion as being very important in their lives. Our State ranks second in the nation for charitable giving, with the average Mississippi household donating 7.2 percent of discretionary income to charity.

Mississippians know how to face the toughest challenges with grace and a shared determination to succeed. We have the desire and we have the ability. The future is ours to claim.



Old Biloxi Lighthouse