

2017 TCDF PARTNERS

1st Franklin Financial
A & B Distributing Company
Ables Real Estate
Aero Studio Aerial Photography
Aqua Yacht Harbor Marina
A. V. Littrell Lumber Co.
B & J Grocery
Belmont City
Belmont Hotel
Belmont Pharmacy
Robert Belue
Best Way, Inc.
James Bethay
Big Star of Belmont
Alvia Blakney
Larry Bonds
Richard Bowen
Bow T's Catering
Bowen Carmen Attorneys
Jackie Bryant
Burnsville City
Carnathan Heating & Air
Clark Law Firm
Coca Cola
Comfort Revolution
Community Spirit Bank
Cook Coggin Engineers
Cooper Marine & Timberlands
Cornerstone Insurance & Financial
Country Squire Restaurant
Cutshall & Sons Logging
Cutshall Funeral Home
Neil Davis
Ted Day
Leroy Dean
Dean McRae Engineering
Deaton Funeral Home
Eagle's Eye Videography
Eastport Marina & Resort
Eddie Bobo Gunsmithing
Donathan Enlow
Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions
Fairless Hardware
Dorothy Farr
Ralph Farr
FerrouSouth
Fidelity National Loans
First American National Bank
Fite Building Company
G & G Steel
Gatlin's Pharmacy
Harold Gist
Golden City
Golden Forest Managers
Don Grant
Mary Ann Grant
Dr. Phillip Gray
Hamilton-Ryker Group
Harbin Heating & Air, Inc.
Tom Hester
High Point Timber Management
Boyce Hollingsworth State Farm
Hometown Pizza Belmont
Industrial Electronics Repair
Iuka City
Iuka Animal Clinic
Iuka Discount Drugs
Iuka Family Clinic
Iuka Family Dental

Tishomingo County Update

*40th Anniversary
Celebration*
June 16th, 2017
12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Door Prizes Every 15 Minutes
Company Tours
Hotdogs and Soda
Largest Safety Vest in the USA
Barrel Man
Largest Stop Paddle in the USA
Kudzu 104.9 from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Bounce House for Kids






FREE T-Shirts


MTS Safety Products Inc
150 2nd Street
Belmont, MS 38873

2017 THE YEAR OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM. The United Nations has named 2017 the "Year of Sustainable Tourism."

Tourism accounts for one out of every 11 jobs in the world making tourism employment greater than energy, food, and the automotive sectors. 42% of USA citizens plan to take a vacation in 2017.

Travel is booming. Hotel occupancy rates and airline passenger numbers are at record highs. The hottest trend is "experience based tourism".

The *2016 Economic Contribution Report* from the Mississippi Development Authority reveals local and statewide tourism spending. In 2016, tourists spent \$15,831,626 in Tishomingo County, accounting for 210 jobs, and paying \$1,228,413 in state and local taxes. J. P. Coleman State Park had a visitor count of 51,627 in 2016 while Tishomingo State Park had a visitor count of 63,123, significant increases for both state parks.

2017 TCDF PARTNERS

Iuka Hardware
Iuka Hospital Wellness Center
John's Garage
Jourdan Lumber Company
King Creek Farm-
Jeremy Funderburk
KX Technologies LLC
Lambert Building Supply
Liberty National Insurance
Little Properties
Harold Lomenick
Long Financial Services
MAX HOME
MaxxSouth
Steve McAnally
McDonald's of Iuka
Dennie McRee
Mike McRee
Mike Montgomery
Mike Nelson Construction
Mill Creek Marina & Resort
Mississippi Silicon
Toney Mobley
Moore's Automotive Supply
MTS Safety Products
David L. Nichols, CPA
Nunley Trucking
Ole Country Store
Orbital ATK
Charlotte Orick
Paden City
Peden's Prop Shop
Pickwick Premier Properties
Piggly Wiggly Iuka & Belmont
Plant Process Support
Billy Rainey
Redmont Heating & Cooling
Renasant Bank
Jimmie Seago
Segars Clinic
Dr. Kelly Segars
Martha Segars
Mark Segars
Dr. Scott Segars
Sid's Trading Company
Silver Dollar Sales
Sonic Drive In of Tishomingo
Southern Forestry
Sunflower Antique Mall and Flea Market
Tennessee Valley Authority
TIMCO, Inc., Fred Gillham
Tishomingo City
Tishomingo County Board of Supervisors
Tishomingo County Electric Power Association
Tishomingo Health Services--
NMMC Iuka Hospital
Tri-State Educational Foundation
Tri-State Insurance
Tri-State Recycling
Truck Bodies & Equipment Int.
Union Harbor Resort & Marina
Wayne Voyles
John R. White
Wiley Discount Tobacco & Beverage
Quaye Yarber
Betty Young
Dan Young

**TISHOMINGO COUNTY
DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Alvia Blakney
Jackie Bryant, Chairman
Mayor John Castleberry, Iuka
Greg Collier, President
Board of Supervisors
Ken Cooley
Tommy Crane
Peyton Cummings
Dale Curtis, Secretary-Treasurer
Neil Davis
Ted Day
Eric Daniel
Ralph Farr
Mayor Davy Ginn, Golden
Harold Gist
Beth Hudson
Steve McAnally
Mike Montgomery, Past Chairman
Mayor David Nixon, Burnsville
Charlotte Orick
Mayor Pam Oswald, Paden
Terrell Pearson
Jimmy Ramsey, Chairman
Economic Development Authority
Mayor James Tennyson, Tishomingo
Fred Truesdale
Butler Whitehead, First VC
Sidney Whitehurst, Chairman Elect
Mayor Buddy Wiltshire, Belmont

**TISHOMINGO COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Daryl Chambers
Charles Emmons, Vice Chairman
Max Ray Hutcheson
Mike Lee
Toney Mobley
Charlotte Orick, Secretary-Treasurer
Jimmy Ramsey, Chairman
Jimmie Seago
Butler Whitehead
Tommy Williams

**TISHOMINGO COUNTY
TOURISM COUNCIL:**

Ellen Ayers, Vice Chair
Barbara Blakney, Secretary-Treasurer
Jim Gibson
Mary Ann Grant, Chair
Sandra Medlin
Cindy Nelson
Leigh Ann Robertson
Buddy Wiltshire
Theresa Cutshall, Administrator



NORTHEAST
MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FREE JOB TRAINING PROGRAM. A partnership of Northeast Mississippi Community College, Mississippi Silicon, Rural Development Partners, Appalachian Regional Commission, and Tennessee Valley Authority has committed \$237,033 to a new job training program at Northeast Mississippi Community College Iuka Campus. The Iuka campus is located in Building 1000 at Tri-State Commerce Park located approximately ten miles north of Iuka. The funds will be used to provide specialized job training and for gas cards for unemployed and underemployed persons to attend the training. The job training program starts June 5 and is free to qualified learners.

Mississippi Silicon Human Resource Director Mark Ivey stated that “we are pleased to partner with Rural Development Partners, Appalachian Regional Commission, Tennessee Valley Authority, and Northeast Mississippi Community College to help prepare workers for jobs in modern manufacturing. Mississippi Silicon will offer internships and apprenticeships to successful NEMCC program participants.”

Northeast Mississippi Community College President Ricky Ford reported that “we are proud to be able to offer enhanced knowledge, skills, and expertise to unemployed and underemployed citizens. Our partnership with Mississippi Silicon, Rural Development Partners, Appalachian Regional Commission, and Tennessee Valley Authority will open opportunities for workers and their families to improve quality of life.”

NEMCC Vice President of Economic Development and Workforce Training Nadara Cole noted that “we will be offering remediation courses, the Smart Start course, and the Manufacturing Skills Basic Certification course combined with a number of testing programs. Training will consist of online, classroom, and hands on learning. Participants may qualify for gas cards to help them pay for transportation to and from Tri-State Commerce Park. Successful participants will be guaranteed an interview at Mississippi Silicon although there is no guarantee that the company will hire the applicant. Participants can also apply for a number of internships at Mississippi Silicon.”

Colleen Davis, Asset Management Specialist with Rural Development Partners, said that “one of the goals of the New Markets Tax Credit Program is to encourage the employment of disadvantaged and low income residents. The remarkable partnership between the parties involved in this project will bear fruit for generations.”

Tishomingo County guarantees tuition to Northeast Mississippi Community College for qualified graduates of Tishomingo County and Belmont High Schools. Tri-State Educational Foundation also funds college, graduate school, and law or medical school for qualified high school graduates in the area.

For more information or to register for the new job training program, call 662-696-2352 or email goodskills@nemcc.edu. Classes start June 5.

Tishomingo County Development Foundation, Tishomingo County's public/private economic development team:

- 1,825 jobs & over \$340 million in private investment over the past 10 years.
- 4th highest increase in retail sales in the state between 2008 and 2012.
- Rated TOP TEN industrial sites in the southern USA in 2012.
- Rated TOP TEN rural sites in the southern USA for reshored industry in 2013.
- National Economic Development INNOVATION AWARDS in 2012, 2013 & 2014.
- Rated TOP TEN "Comeback Kids" in the southern USA in 2015.
- TCDF rated one of the best economic development agencies in the southern USA in 2015.
- Tishomingo County rated among the top three counties in the USA in cost efficient government in 2015, 2016, and 2017.
- In 2017 Tishomingo County rated 3rd in the Dixie Dozen in Mississippi and 1st in the south for new manufacturing jobs per capita.

We still have a lot of work to do, but just about every citizen has family or friends working at one of the companies that have been recruited to, or has expanded in, Tishomingo County. Most businesses have customers that get their paychecks from these companies, or sell products or services to these companies.

Everyone benefits directly or indirectly from economic development, including the school system that receives significant new tax revenue from economic development projects.

Be sure to thank our TCDF Partners in Progress and do business with those businesses that support economic development. A listing of these partners is on the front page of this update. You can learn more about these community minded businesses at http://www.tishomingo.org/pdf_docs/Partners%20in%20Progress.pdf.



DOING BUSINESS WITH WALMART. Registration is Open for WalMart's "Open Call" Event. WalMart is continuing its commitment to purchasing an additional \$250 billion in products made, grown or sourced in the U.S. by the year 2023.

Innovate Mississippi will be taking a delegation to the event which will be held June 28 at WalMart headquarters in Bentonville, Arkansas. Innovate Mississippi will connect interested suppliers with Walmart and/or current WalMart suppliers.

If you are a Mississippi-based business that would like to be a supplier for Walmart or Walmart suppliers, register online at the WalMart registration at <http://engage.walmart-jump.com/app/opencall> and then contact Tasha Bibb at tbibb@innovate.ms or Tony Jeff at tjeff@innovate.ms so that Innovate Mississippi can connect with you and help facilitate the process.

JOB LISTINGS. Go to <http://mdes.ms.gov/> and click on "Need a Job" to see the listing of available jobs within your zip code and driving distance.

HARDEST TO FILL JOBS IN THE USA. There are few living wage unskilled jobs left in the USA. Further, the lack of skilled labor is a national crisis.

The majority of living wage jobs in demand do not require a college degree. A one or two year community college certificate is sufficient.

Ranked by growth outlook through 2024 by the US Department of Labor, here are the hardest to fill jobs:

- Home Health Aide
Annual Median Salary: \$21,920
Growth Outlook: 38%
- Physical Therapist
Annual Median Salary: \$84,020
Growth Outlook: 34%
- Financial Advisor
Annual Median Salary: \$89,160
Growth Outlook: 30%
- Information Security Analyst
Annual Median Salary: \$90,120
Growth Outlook: 18%
- Medical Services Manager
Annual Median Salary: \$94,500
Growth Outlook: 17%
- Software Engineer
Annual Median Salary: \$100,690
Growth Outlook: 17%
- Data Scientist
Annual Median Salary: \$128,240
Growth Outlook: 16%
- Registered Nurse
Annual Median Salary: \$67,490
Growth Outlook: 16%
- Operations Manager
Annual Median Salary: \$97,730
Growth Outlook: 7%
- Truck Driver
Annual Median Salary: \$40,260
Growth Outlook: 5%

Source: US Department of Labor



ISRAELI COMPANY ZAHAL VISITS THE USA. Representatives from Israeli company ZAHAL Israeli Tactical Gear visited Burnsville, Mississippi, USA, on May 19 and 20 for a training session on the company's popular Tavor shooting system. Shooters from Pennsylvania, Missouri, Texas, Tennessee, and Mississippi attended the training sessions.

Shooting Instructor Lovie Malespin reported that "she is enjoying her visit to the United States. I have met so many interesting people who are excited about the Zahal Tavor shooting system. The Zahal Tavor shooting system has been adopted as the official weapon of the Israeli armed forces. The gun is light weight, highly accurate, and dependable. For these reasons, this gun is increasingly popular in the United States and Canada with shooters and law enforcement agencies."

Hosted by Eddie E. Bobo Gunsmithing, the intensive training course took place at Eddie's shooting ranges near Burnsville. Eddie Bobo reported that "he was honored to be selected by ZAHAL for this training among all the gun dealers in the USA. We look forward to working with our friends in Israel to make ZAHAL a well known and respected name in the USA. This first event was an outstanding success and we appreciate our sponsors luka Discount Drugs, First American National Bank, luka Piggly Wiggly and Ace Hardware, and Jim Gearren as well as the assistance we received from Heavener Lawn Service, Bow-T's Catering, Steve's Septic Service, Liberty Security, Hampton Inn Corinth, and the Tishomingo County Development Foundation."

Eddie E. Bobo Gunsmithing LLC has many years of experience in selling, servicing, and repairing tactical firearms for the law enforcement community, as well as the general public. Bobo Gunsmithing is one of the few CLASS 3 dealers in the Mid-South. Eddie can be contacted at 662-427-0374, cell phone 662-279-9415, or e-mail 9mm-bobo@bellsouth.net. Visit by appointment only.



MSGRADJOBS WEB SITE. The Mississippi Grad Jobs web site brings together Mississippi employers with job-seekers nationwide, especially Mississippi college graduates who may be willing to move back to Mississippi for the right job.

The website enables Mississippi companies to search for college graduates for specialized positions.

The site is open to anyone, but the job search results are tailored to display positions that require higher education.

To learn more go to www.msgradjobs.com.home.

BEST OF THE NEW **Tishomingo County**  **BEST OF THE OLD**

"Award Winning Public Private Partnership"

**Tishomingo County Development Authority
Tishomingo County Development Foundation
Tishomingo County Tourism Council**

www.tishomingo.org | www.tishomingofunhere.org

1001 Battleground Drive | Iuka, Mississippi 38852 USA | 662-423-9933 | 662-423-0051 | info@tishomingo.org

