



Kosciusko-Attala Development Corporation



## Small Town

By: Hollis Cheek

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Sometimes we overlook the advantages and benefits of living in a small town. A place where neighbors and the grocery clerk call one by name; a store owner will open after hours to furnish a part for the sink; a school teacher will accept a call at night to discuss a student's progress; where the whole community will join together to help when help is needed. A place with fresh air and where on a late summer evening one can smell the aroma of newly cut grass and watch the lighting bugs dance in the silhouette of darkness.

Kosciusko is such a place, but we do find ourselves concerned about lack of jobs, taxes, maintaining re-

tail business, shortage of entertainment and need for a four-lane highway. These are legitimate concerns and present a challenge. A challenge the KADC has accepted and is working to build a foundation for sustainable economic growth.

The benefits of economic growth do not flow equally to all communities. They come instead as rewards to those communities striving to build a strong economic base.

We cannot expect a business or an industry to take a chance on Attala County if we, as citizens, are not willing to take a chance on ourselves. The first step in taking that chance is when community members come together and act strategically to change their fortunes.

With the formation of

KADC in 2006 from the roots of the Chamber, ADIC, Main Street and EDA we have taken the first step.

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### Calendar of Events

- January 17 – MLK Banquet
- January 28 – Existing Industry Meeting
- February 4 – 6, MEDC Winter Conference
- February 9 – 12, Washington Trip
- February 15 – 17, Governor's Conference on Tourism
- March 7 – Bluegrass Concert Attala County Coliseum

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## Holiday Events



### Holiday Open House

This year the holiday shopping got started on a wonderful Sunday afternoon with Holiday Open House. Christmas music played and the merchants served a magical mixture of cider and goodies.



### Christmas Parade

This year the streets were filled with laughter and music as the Kosciusko Christmas Parade got underway. Always a highlight of the year the citizens of Kosciusko and Attala were ready to bring in the Christmas Season.



### Sunday Shopping w/ Santa

#### Pictures

The Downtown merchants opened their doors this year to extend the shopping hours. This allowed all citizens time to "Shop at Home" this holiday season. There was even a special guest in the Courthouse. Santa came every Sunday for the children to have pictures made with him.



### Moonlight Madness

With Christmas close by the Court Square became an evening of shopping. This event draws those last minute shoppers for the best specials in Central Mississippi.



## Annual Meeting



The night started with a wonderful meal provided by Wanda's Catering that had the taste of fall. Steve Zea welcomed everyone and the Program was turned over to Andre Frank. Mr. Frank presented the Golden Shovel Awards (these go to the outstanding volunteers). This year's winners were Jennie Cook, Michael Edwards and Debbie Coleman. The evening continued with the an-

nouncement of the Lion's Club Citizen of the Year Award. This award was presented by incoming president Greg Cooper.

The featured speaker for the evening was Haley Fisackerly with Entergy. Mr. Fisakerly gave an informative talk on the impact that all energy sources have on each other. The evening came to a close with Chair

Hollis Cheek giving a overview of the past year and passing the gavel to the incoming chair Andrew Frank.



## Small Town cont..

The road to successful economic development is not short, smooth, or straight. It takes diligence to bring all the resources and entities together in an effort of cooperation to overcome the obstacles. A journey measured daily by making new contacts, grant applications, phone calls, event planning, volunteers, and numerous meetings. I'm proud to report your KADC staff, along with civic-minded citizens, is working everyday to move our community further along this road.

Progress has been impacted during the last two years by changes occurring at a higher or global scale. For example, fuel prices have impacted every segment of business and private life, but we have continued to move forward.

A few of the KADC ongoing programs are:

1. Establishing funding avenue and support group for "Highway 35 in 5" four-lane.
2. Planning reuse of the Milwaukee Tool facility to provide education, training and workforce opportunities.
3. Enhancing our educational opportunities with Holmes Community College.
4. Bringing together leadership groups to plan and fund a master healthcare plan for Attala County.
5. Grant application for the Attala County Emergency Operation Center.
6. Establishment of a new retail recruitment program through TVA.

KADC is turning needs into an action plan and the action plan into reality.

As the outgoing KADC Chairman, I wish to thank the volunteers and staff for being a vital part during the past two years in developing our economic programs.

Positioned Attala County for funding for a new jail facility.

These are evidence our





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**We're on the Web!**

**[www.kadcorp.org](http://www.kadcorp.org)**

## Ribbon Cuttings



September 25, 2008  
Traditions & Trends



September 26, 2008  
Town Pump



December 15, 2008  
Mon & Pops  
Sports Bar & Grill

The Kosciusko Attala Development Corporation was founded in October 2007. The purpose of the KADC is to aid, assist and promote the development and expansion of the business, employment, and cultural opportunities in Attala County, Mississippi, by such means as the Board of Directors may deem best, including but not limited to providing assistance to the economic development of Attala County, Mississippi.

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