



Inside this issue:

- Natchez Trace Festival 2
- Miss NTF Pageant 2
- M&F Run 2
- June Jam 3

Calendar of Events

- July 14 - Ribbon Cutting
Anticipation Creations
- August 6 -9 - Central MS
Fair

Minor Visits Kosciusko

To determine our chance of improvements to both our rail and roads the KADC Transportation Committee invited Northern Highway Commissioner Bill Minor and Second District Highway Engineer Richard Allen here to give us an update on our highway improvement schedule and the status of the rail. This meeting held on June 4th was open to the public and attended by over 40 individuals. Hollis Cheek, KADC Chairman, set the tone for the meeting with his opening remarks. He stated "Just as we expand our infrastructure in energy, water and sewer, build a spec building, or make investments in local businesses and industries highways are economic development. It is not a secret that business and industry will locate where there is modern transportation. A four-lane highway in Attala County will reduce cost in con-

necting labor and supplies with customers and provide us with a much needed economic development tool. We can not wait 10 more years for a four-lane and sustain our economic base." This says it all and our time to act is now.

What we all learned from the meeting is that Highway 12 to Durant is the current project on the state's Vision 21 Plan or the immediate need lists. What Commissioner Minor told the group is if all remained as it is today that we could likely see a bid on this project in 2016? That is if all remains the same, funding and the necessary work to get to the construction phase goes as scheduled. The simple truth is that this very seldom happens so Mr. Cheeks commits about waiting 10 more years could be at least 10, maybe more. Kosciusko's



rail status is being reviewed and we know that we will not have an operator for any service after June 30th unless the lease is renewed or some other operator is found. This line is currently owned by MDOT and needs to be improved. It is extremely important that rail service be reestablished to serve Kosciusko from the main line of the CN Railroad at Aberdeen Junction in Holmes County to Kosciusko.

Rain Doesn't Stop Festival Goers



Bracelets being put on Moomba participants

Even with a little rain the 39th Natchez Trace Festival took place. Family Night was wonderful weather with "Lost Highway" playing to a crowded M & F Park. The Moomba was the happening place for the kids and food

was everywhere. Saturday, however, didn't have the perfect weather. The events for the day took place with just a little rain in the mix. This didn't stop the people from coming to downtown Kosciusko. The streets were filled with shoppers between showers and the merchants on the square were pleased with the turn-out inside their stores. Oscar the Robot even made it through the rain and talked with the children and families who came out.



Natchez Trace Festival Pageant Held

The Miss Natchez Trace Pageant was held at the Mary Ricks Thornton Cultural Center on April 18. Three young ladies were vying for the title of Miss Natchez Trace Festival Queen. The participants this year were Shea Rigby, Genea Tew and Mallory Myers. These young ladies competed in Business Wear, Evening gown and had one onstage question. The new

Miss Natchez Trace Festival Queen is Mallory Myers. She will hold this title until next year. Mallory will participate in local events and help with projects the KADC sponsors. Congratulations to Mallory and the other contestants for participating in this event.



Mallory Myers being crowned Miss NTF Queen

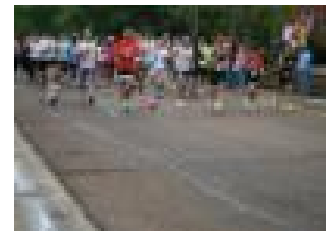
M&F Run has Record Year



The M & F Bank Run started with the perfect weather. Overcast and cool. The numbers for the race this year were in the upper 200's. These are the num-

bers we would like to keep and build on every year. The Mississippi Track Club were the official time keepers and that allows for this run to be sanctioned. The course was in good shape and the participants are always pleased with the scenery. The run could not have happened without our sponsors - M&F Bank, The Health

Club and Kosciusko Medical Clinic. We would like to thank everyone for doing a wonderful job of helping with the run.



Minor continued...

The conclusion reached by the KADC is that we must become more aggressive in seeking a solution to our stated transportation needs. We have begun looking at other highway routes as perhaps a quicker and less expensive alternative. We are also seeking assistance from our federal delegation in Washington D.C. This past January both Attala County and the City of Kosciusko requested a direct federal appropriation for Highway 35 south to be a four lane improved segment to Highway 25. We will also be seeking funding for the rail line to serve Kosciusko. This rail line must be maintained

and improved for future generations and existing and new businesses.

The bottom line is the individuals to champion these efforts must be the government and business leaders in Kosciusko and Attala County. All residents have a stake in this effort and need to remain informed of any developments. We must become the constant and consistent voice for funding to make these necessary infrastructure improvements. Economic development in a rural area like Attala County has a greater potential to proceed on a different, and larger scale if we can im-

prove our highway access and rail status. We are seeking to create a more rapid economic growth with greater investment and jobs. We desperately need to work together to create the environment to allow ourselves to be successful in the economic development process. Improved roads and rails are necessary for our successful future.

June Jam

This year's June Jam started with the Annual Sidewalk Sale from our Downtown Merchants. Bargains were out at 8:00 am and the square was filling with people. The Breezy 101 Bar-B-Que Battle was getting started with competitors setting up and the smell of Bar-b-que floating in the air. By noon the square was a hustle of activity and every parking space was taken. This year there were seven competitors vying for the title of Best Bar-b-que. (Sidney's of Kosciusko, Big S of Kosci-

usko, Cook's of Decatur, Deborah Reece of Kosciusko, Beehive BBQ of Kosciusko, Smokin Piglets of Kosciusko and Tommy Alston of Kosciusko). The Smokin Piglets were the big winners with Overall Bar-b-que, Ribs and Brisket. Big S came away with best Pulled Pork.

The evening entertainment hit the stage at 7:30. This year we had Adam's House Cat, a band from the Ethel area. We would like to thank our sponsors Ivey Mechanical, The

Citizens Bank, Entergy, M & F Bank and Dungan CPA.



We hope to grow this event into something the whole town can be proud to participate in.



Ribbon Cuttings



Home Hardware

June 6, 2008

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.

Contact Information:

Steve Zea (President) szea@kadcorp.org

Greg Cooper (VP of Economic Development) gcooper@kadcorp.org

Tonya Threet (VP of Community Development) tthreet@kadcorp.org

Gena Hill (Office Manager) ghill@kadcorp.org

KADC Board of Directors

Hollis Cheek— Chair

Andrew Frank— Vice Chair

Johnnie Tolleson— Secretary

Mark Jordan

Hugh Potts Jr.

Paul Powers

Larry Terrell

Kirk Dickerson

Mayor Jimmy Cockroft

Charles Fancher, Board of Supervisors President

Stephen Cheek

Rob Pickle

Jimmy Mullen



Kosciusko-Attala Development Corporation

124 North Jackson Street
Kosciusko, MS 39090

Phone: 662-289-2981

Fax: 662-289-2986

We're on the Web!

www.kadcorp.org