

# THE JACKSON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



*“To develop and maintain an economic climate, which creates and retains jobs and enhances the quality of life for all citizens of Jackson/Madison County and West Tennessee.”*

**CONTACT**  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Chamber announces 2010 Leadership Jackson class participants**

Jackson, TN — The Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the nominees who were selected for its 2010 Leadership Jackson class. Leadership Jackson is a leadership program for those in our community who demonstrate leadership potential. Sponsored by the Chamber, the program is an opportunity for 30 local professionals to learn more about the community and the challenges it faces.

The class participated in a four-hour information session on Tuesday, Aug. 31 to get acquainted and learn more about what their Leadership Jackson experience will entail. The session was led by Leadership Jackson 2010 Chair Greg Parsons, Vice President of First Bank, and the program’s Vice Chair Dr. Beverly Absher, an Associate Professor of Educational Leadership and the chair of Department of Continuing Studies at Union University.

During the 12-week program, Leadership Jackson participants will go on a two-day retreat where they will complete a ropes course. Afterward, they will meet weekly for sessions on various topics including education, healthcare, government and the criminal justice system in Jackson. Participants are expected to complete community service hours, a group project, attend important community meetings, and write a short report on each meeting.

“Learning more about the many facets of Jackson-Madison County and how we work together to maximize the potential of our community is a focus in all of our sessions,” said Judy Renshaw, Vice President of Business and Community Services for the Chamber. “Each Leadership Jackson class is unique in its own way, whether it is their inquisitiveness to learn more from our program speakers or their combined talents in making a difference in our community through their class projects. Each year, we see the members of the class grow in many different ways. It is always exciting to see that metamorphosis in their journey as servant leaders.”

Below are the names of those selected to the 2010 Leadership Jackson class.

**Celia Allen**, Maddox Insurance Agency

**Demetry Allen**, H&M Company, Inc.

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**Ashley Anthony**, Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce

**Brad Biggs**, Merrill Lynch

**Darron Billings**, Jackson State Community College

**Regina Cooper**, Alexander Thompson Arnold, PLLC

**Ty Cowles**, Jackson Energy Authority

**Dennis Dix**, Madison Haywood Developmental Services

**Keith Donaldson**, City of Jackson

**Joel Durham**, Durham Chiropractic

**Chris Ervin**, Gerdau Ameristeel

**Ameera Graves**, Lane College

**Jim Halbrook**, HORNE LLP

**Wes Harris**, State Farm Insurance

**Melinda Hearn**, The American Cancer Society

**Gina Heathcott**, Chiropractic Associates of Jackson

**Dale Humphrey**, Regional Hospital of Jackson

**Lauren James**, Oasis Healthcare

**Dr. Victoria Lake**, West Tennessee Healthcare

**Paul Martin**, TLM Associates, Inc.

**Jennifer McCraw**, American Red Cross – Jackson Area Chapter

**Ronnie Morris**, Express Employment Professionals

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**Nathan O’Bryant**, O’Bryant & Associates, Inc.

**Anna Page**, Regions Bank

**Chris Rawdon**, BancorpSouth Bank

**Patrick Smith**, Smith Seckman Reid, Inc.

**Doug Stephenson**, Jackson Printers, Inc.

**Dana Stewart**, Personnel Placements, LLC

**Caroline Wells**, Jackson Downtown Development Corporation

**Doug Wilcoxson**, Union University

**Drew Yates**, Foundation Bank

**Kelly Yenawine**, West Tennessee Healthcare

## About the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce:

The Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1905 – seven years prior to the United States Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber consists of a diverse and talented staff, an executive committee, dedicated volunteers, and more than 1,350 business members – all committed to growing the economy and quality of life for everyone in Madison County and the region.

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