

In This Issue

FROM THE DIRECTOR

AGING

- *Alzheimer's Association*
- *Farmers Market*

LOANS

- *Featured Business*

MEDICAID WAIVER

PLANNING

- *Eupora Sewage Lagoon*
- *HOME*
- *FY2015 CDBG Public Fac.*
- *2015 County Adv. Meetings*
- *MS Small Municipalities*

SR. ENRICHMENT

WIA

- *No Progress*
- *Urban Youth Corp Funded*

GTPDD Anniversaries

From the Director..



Rupert L. "Rudy" Johnson
Executive Director

West Point Clinics. . . and then there were two!

Dr. William Mullendore is practicing at the
411 Griffin Street location, 662-494-4656.



Mary Brett Miller, CFNP is practicing at the
328 High Street Clinic, 662-854-0915.



*The GTPDD office is centrally located in
Oktibbeha County in the Starkville
Industrial Park.*

For an appointment, please give them a call!

Aging. . .

It is time for planning the Alzheimer's Walk. We are proud to say that in 2014 the Golden Triangle Planning and Development District again led the way and raised \$2,000 for the local area walk to end Alzheimer's.

Cindy Brown, who was the Chairperson of the walk for 2014, did such a remarkable job that she was asked and agreed to once again serve as the Chairperson for the 2015 Walk. There are a total of 8 walks held in the State of Mississippi. Of all the Mississippi walks, only the Golden Triangle Walk met or exceeded the goals set by the state-wide organizers.

Because of the excellence exhibited by the Golden Triangle Walk this past year, Cindy was also chosen to attend the Alzheimer's Association Leadership summit held in Orlando, Florida, in January. This was a particular honor since only one volunteer from each state is invited to attend.

Cindy attended many seminars while at the Orlando Summit. She was quick to say how inspiring it was to be at the summit with volunteers from around the country. She came home with a renewed enthusiasm and commitment to make the Golden Triangle Walk once again the best it can be.

This year's goals are \$40,000; 40 teams and 400 participants. The Committee has had its first meeting and is planning fundraising events throughout the year with the hope of once again exceeding the goals.

Alzheimer's remains the most expensive of all the health care issues facing our nation. It is the 6th leading cause of death, and its impact goes well beyond those who are afflicted with the disease. The awareness about the disease was heightened this year when Julianne Moore, who was portraying an adult experiencing alzheimers in the movie "Still Alice", won an academy award for best actress.

GTPDD is committed to the needs of Alzheimer's victims and their caregivers as a part of our role in the programs we offer. It will be a testament to our purpose for our staff and Board members to participate and help once again. If anyone has ideas or wants to volunteer, please contact Cindy Brown and she will definitely put you to work.

This year has the potential to be an exceptional year for the walk. It will be held in downtown Starkville on October 31, Halloween day, and the plans will be geared to take advantage of the fun and excitement that surround this festive occasion.

For more information regarding the walk or how you can donate, you can contact Cindy Brown at 662-386-9247.



Farmers Market Nutrition Program



Seniors, 60 years of age and older, with certain income qualifications are eligible to receive a one-time benefit in the form of vouchers from the Golden Triangle Area Agency on Aging to shop at authorized local farmers markets. The vouchers are used to buy fresh fruits and vegetables grown by local farmers.

The purpose of the project is to increase the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetable by senior adults and increase the awareness of farmers markets. When buying local produce, you are supporting the local economy and your local farmer.

Local authorized farmers markets are located in Columbus, Starkville and West Point. Program participants will be able to redeem vouchers at an authorized farmers market through November.



Golden Triangle Planning &
Development District Staff
celebrated 25 years of service
with

Mr. Rupert L. "Rudy" Johnson
as Executive Director.

Thanks Mr. Johnson
for your service and dedication
to the citizens in the
GTPDD area!

We appreciate YOU!

Loans. . .

Feature Business. . . .

BeeHive Homes of Starkville, Mississippi, are a quality senior living home in a residential setting. Uniquely designed, our assisted living services offer residents more access to personal care. By keeping our home smaller with professional, skilled caregivers, our residents can have their needs addressed personally. We truly believe that in order to provide the very best care for our residents, we must get to know them well and discover what their individual needs are - and that's exactly what we do!



We offer 24/7, 365-day care by a trained, caring staff. BeeHive Homes of Starkville offer the very best of assisted living care. Home-cooked meals, meaningful relationship, and healthy and rejuvenating activities are a way of life at BeeHive Homes. Our low resident-to-staff ratio allows us to provide the highest level of care, and the residents love the home-like environment.

Our Services

Our residents enjoy the following amenities and services:

- A furnished private room with an attached bathroom
- Cable TV and telephone hookups
- An emergency call system
- Assistance with activities of daily living
- Compassionate and experienced caregivers
- Medication reminders and documentation
- Homemade nutritious meals (dietitian approved) served in the central dining area
- Housekeeping and laundry services
- Recreational and social activities
- 24-hour access to caregivers and emergency assistance

BeeHive Homes of Starkville
2156 Old West Point Road
Starkville, MS 39759-6683
662-323-2883

Call us today! Your loved one deserves the BeeHive Homes experience!



BeeHive Homes of Starkville



Medicaid Waiver...

The Division of Medicaid is authorized by state legislation and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to administer the Elderly and Disabled waiver program. The GTPDD is allocated to serve 1,500 clients.

The Medicaid Waiver Program provides home and community-based services that assist Medicaid clients to remain in their homes and avoid institutionalization. Eligibility is determined through a comprehensive preadmission screening instrument encompassing activities of daily living, sensory deficits, cognitive deficits, behaviors and medical conditions.

Fourteen teams currently serve the GTPDD. Each case management team consists of a registered nurse and a licensed social worker who visit the client on a monthly basis to provide, monitor and coordinate the services that are offered through this program. These services may include: Home-Delivered Meals, Personal Care Services, In-Home Respite, and Adult Day Care.

Personal Care Services are non-medical support services to assist the client in meeting daily living needs and ensure optimal functioning at home and/or in the community. Services must be provided in accordance with the participant's plan of care. PCS includes assistance with eating, bathing, dressing, personal hygiene, and activities of daily living. Meal preparation may be provided, however, the cost of meals is not covered. Housekeeping chores may be provided if the care is essential to the health and welfare of the individual, rather than the individual's family. PCS may also involve hands-on assistance or cuing/prompting the participant to perform a task; accompanying and assisting the participant in accessing community resources and participating in community activities; supervision and monitoring in the participant's home, during transportation, and in the community setting. The PCS may accompany, when medically justified, participants during transport with transportation provided by the Medicaid NET provider.

Michelle Harris is the RN Supervisor for the Medicaid Waiver Program. Current team members are:

Choctaw

Tina Gill, RN
Rachel Embry, LSW

Clay

Mitzi Phelps, RN
Stephanie Cannon, LSW

Lowndes #1

Libby Wansley, RN
Audie Strain, LSW

Lowndes #2

Cindy Reese, RN
Janice Miller, LSW

Lowndes #3

Lindsey Marsh, RN
Angelia Sansing, LSW

Lowndes #4

Christy Massey, RN
Leah Hill, LSW

Noxubee #1

Jana Peterson, RN
Jessica Henry, LSW

Noxubee #2

Tammy Castle, RN
Jennifer Bridges, LSW

Oktibbeha #1

Tina McWhorter, RN
Lynn Herndon, LSW

Oktibbeha #2

Stacy Elkins, RN
Jenny Grantham, LSW

Oktibbeha #3

Helen Smith, RN
Beverly Baker, LSW

Oktibbeha #4

Amanda McCrary, RN
Suzy Winstead, LSW

Webster

Lynette Hunt, RN
Lesa Wilson, LSW

Winston

Kim Mills, RN
Lauren Smith, LSW

Anyone interested in this program or would like additional information should contact the Medicaid Waiver office at 662-324-7860, option #3.

Planning...

EUPORA SEWAGE LAGOON STABILIZATION IS COMPLETE



The City of Eupora received a *COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT* through the Mississippi Development Authority in the amount of \$450,000 to stabilize the banks of the city sewage lagoon system. Anderson Contracting, LLC received the contract for completing the project, which consist of placing rip-rap along the banks of the lagoons and stabilizing the top levels with a slag material. The pictures show the completed work on one of the lagoon cells, the CDBG project signs and the participants in the final inspection of the completed contractual work (pictured from left, George Crawford, GTPDD, Inc., Stanley Spradling, Calvert-Spradling Engineers, Dan Burchfield, Mayor of Eupora, and Anderson Contracting Representative), as conducted by Calvert-Spradling Engineers of West Point, Mississippi. All work on the project is complete and



has been monitored by the Mississippi Development Authority and closed out. The City of Eupora has submitted another application for continued funding of work to complete the second lagoon. If this project is funded, the City of Eupora will have the funding to complete all required work to bring the wastewater treatment facilities up to the standards as required by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. The Golden Triangle Planning and Development District was responsible for grant application preparation and administration.

HOME projects completed!



Lenwood Gladney, with Gladney Construction, turns over the keys to Ms. Augusta Ferguson



Lowndes County Supervisor Jeff Smith congratulates Mr. & Mrs. Willie Hill



Planning cont' . . .

FY2015 CDBG Public Facilities Applications Submitted

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) has received, from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), an allocation of \$23,051,271 for the FY2015 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This CDBG program provides funding for public infrastructure improvements with water and sewer needs having the greatest priority. The minimum threshold requirements are that at least 51% of the project beneficiaries are of low and moderate income and applicants must have no open Public Facility (Regular or Small Government), Emergency/Urgent Needs or Self Help grants. Recently GTPDD staff prepared and submitted ten (10) Public Facilities applications that are currently under review. MDA received 30 applications in the Regular Public Facilities competition requesting \$11,863,943 from an allocation of \$5,000,000. Seventy-six applications were received in the Small Government category, requesting \$37,484,216 from an allocation of \$6,291,271.

CDBG PUBLIC FACILITIES APPLICATIONS

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>
Town of Artesia	Sewer & Drainage Impr.	\$450,000	
Town of Brooksville	Sewer Improvements	\$428,700	
Town of Maben	Sewer Improvements	\$450,000	
Town of Mathiston	Sewer Improvements	\$450,000	
Town of Shuqualak	Sewer Improvements	\$450,000	
Town of Sturgis	Wastewater Improvements	\$450,000	
City of Eupora	Lagoon Stabilization	\$444,000	
City of West Point	ADA Improvements	\$100,000	\$79,000-local

County Advisory Committee Meetings

Choctaw	July 13 th	08:15 am	Choctaw Library
Clay	July 9 th	10:00 am	Clay County Courthouse
Lowndes	July 10 th	09:00 am	GTPDD Bingo
Noxubee	July 7 th	04:00 pm	Noxubee Co. Civic Center
Oktibbeha	July 6 th	08:15 am	Oktibbeha County Courthouse
Webster	June 30 th	10:30 am	Doss Building
Winston	July 6 th	01:00 pm	Annex Building

Planning cont' . . .

Mississippi Small Municipalities and Limited Population Counties Grant Program

The Mississippi Legislature authorized \$4,000,000 in general obligation bonds to be issued for the 2015 Small Municipalities and Limited Population Counties Grant program. Municipalities with a maximum population of 10,000 and counties with a maximum population of 30,000 are eligible applicants. The maximum grant award is \$150,000 and requires a 10% - 20% match which must be in place at the time of application submittal. Eligible projects must be publicly-owned. GTPDD staff met the June 18, 2015 submission deadline, preparing twelve (12) applications:

- Town of Ackerman Park Improvements
- Town of Brooksville Street Improvements
- Town of Maben Public Building Improvements
- Town of Mantee Public Building Improvements
- Town of Mathiston Public Building Improvements
- Town of Noxapater Sewer Improvements
- Town of Sturgis Park Improvements to Promote Tourism
- Clay County Downtown Parking Improvements
- Choctaw County Industrial Road Improvements
- Noxubee County Downtown Courthouse Parking Improvements
- Winston County Medical Center Infrastructure Improvements
- Caledonia Natural Gas District Public Building

The Mississippi Development Authority received 132 applications requesting \$17,987,775 for Program Year 2015.

Sr. Enrichment . . .

Columbus Senior Center News....Coming Attractions

If there are any senior adult men out there who would like to learn a little or a lot about Line Dancing, this is your lucky day! If you are interested, please contact Carla Guyton @ 662-386-0001. The class will be one hour per week for 4-6 weeks.

Friday, July 31, 2015...CPR class will be taught from 9 am until 12 pm at the Senior Center in Columbus. This is a hands-on class for teaching the latest techniques in CPR. You never know when an emergency could arise. It is best to always be prepared.

Monday, November 2, 2015 from 11 am until 6 pm, the Senior Center will be holding their 3rd annual Show and Sale. This show will include items from the jewelry, knitting, and crochet classes and hopefully some crafts, art work, and "goodies" will be offered as well.

Watch the newsletters for more information on the above and other opportunities because there are lots of things in "the works".

WIA ***(Workforce Investment Act)*** . . .

Without Change There Is No Progress!

The Workforce Investment Act was signed into law in 1998, and since 2000 Golden Triangle PDD has administered a variety of youth-base work programs under the guidance of that law. Last year the WIA law was reauthorized. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, WIOA, (Public Law 113-128) was passed in Congress and signed into law on July 22, 2014 by President Obama. On July 1, 2015 the Golden Triangle WIA staff will begin operating under this new law which will require some changes from prior regulations:

WIA Regulations:

Served youth 14 – 21 years of age

Youth had to meet income guidelines

Program success was based on participant status during 1st and 3rd quarters after exit

WIOA Regulations:

Will serve youth 16 – 24 years of age

No income guidelines under certain situations

Program success will be based on participant status during 2nd and 4th quarters after exit

People often avoid change but when change involves providing for youth in the Golden Triangle area in a beneficial way, it is positive and improves the entire community. The WIA staff, now the WIOA staff, will continue to serve the youth in Choctaw, Oktibbeha, Webster and Winston counties.

Out-of-school youth interested in WIOA participation may contact Mitzi Lawrence @ 662-324-7860 ext. 1128.

(EMCC will continue to serve the youth of Clay, Lowndes and Noxubee.)

URBAN YOUTH CORPS FUNDED 2015

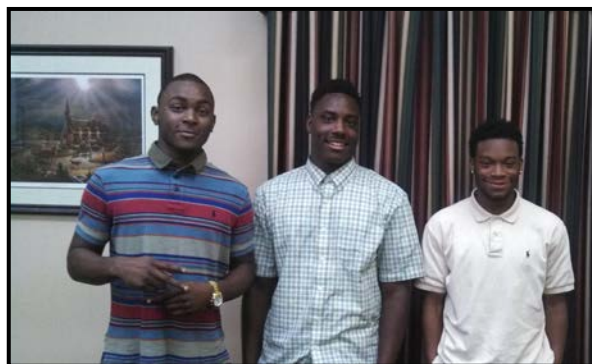
For the second year the Golden Triangle WIA Department is administering the Urban Youth Corps Program for the City of Starkville. In early April the Golden Triangle Planning Department submitted an application to the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) on behalf of the City of Starkville. In April, the Mississippi Transportation Commission (MTC) approved up to \$35,000 in Federal SAFETEA-LU Funds. The WIA department immediately began working with city officials to administer this work program.

Interest in the program is overwhelming as 179 youth applied for 16 positions available through the City of Starkville. After careful consideration, 27 youth were interviewed, 16 were invited to attend work ethics training, and all 16 started to work June 1st.

Training was held Tuesday, May 26th through Friday, May 29th in the Golden Triangle Conference Room. Participants received work ethics training including topics such as appearance and dress, worksite expectations, problem solving, conflict resolution, time management, interview skills, CPR and first aid. Mitzi Lawrence, WIA Programs Director stated, "The WIA staff was impressed with this group of young people. They

presented themselves in a professional manner and evidenced positive attitudes. I think this is just a first step in very successful careers for most of these individuals.”

Upon completion of training, the youth met with their worksite supervisors for orientation on their individual jobs. They began work on Monday, June 1. Work is planned to continue through the end of July, so as you venture out into the Starkville area, take note of these young people. Whether they are sprucing up the landscape, painting curbs and handicap parking places, picking up litter to beautify the city, clearing ditch banks, identifying blockages in the sewer system or manning a desk in an office, tell them how much you appreciate the job they are doing to make the community a better place to live. Starkville, these young people represent the future!



Staff Anniversaries

Staff members that have served at least 5 years
at the GTPDD.

APRIL

Sherri Fowler	10 Years
Rupert L. "Rudy" Johnson	25 Years
Janet Macon	13 Years
Keisha Warren	11 Years
Wendy Williams	10 Years

MAY

Queenzella Gibson	10 Years
Katie Gray	07 Years
Shirley Jones	08 Years
Shantita Robertson	06 Years
Earnestine Robinson	14 Years
Toby Sanford	11 Years
Kishina Shirley	06 Years
Teshia Taylor	08 Years
Clara Tippet	06 Years
Lesa Wilson	11 Years

JUNE

Mary Cox	08 Years
Lena Davis	09 Years
Sharon Duke	09 Years
Phyllis Flake	09 Years
Minnie Lindsey	11 Years
Tina McWhorter	15 Years
Kenny Orr	13 Years
Debra Prishmont	06 Years
Judy Trantum	06 Years
Shirley Welch	07 Years



Golden Triangle Planning & Development District, Inc.

*Post office Box 828
Starkville, MS 39760*