



Tishomingo County  
Development Foundation

# FY 2023 Annual Report

## TISHOMINGO COUNTY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Alvia Blakney;  
Michael Busby, President,  
Tishomingo County  
Board of Supervisors;  
Darrin Caldwell;  
Ken Cooley;  
Peyton Cummings,  
Chancery Clerk,  
Tishomingo County;  
Dale Curtis;  
Eric Daniel;  
Neil Davis;  
Ralph Farr;  
Harold Gist;  
Robert Grisham;  
Don Hall, Past Chair;  
Brenda Kennedy;  
Malcolm Kuykendall;  
Vice Chair  
Steve McAnally;  
Jena McNatt;  
Mike Montgomery;  
Mayor David Nixon,  
Burnsville, Second Vice Chair;  
Mayor Pam Oswalt, Paden;  
Jimmy Ramsey, Chairman,  
Tishomingo County  
Economic Development  
Authority;  
Mayor Joel Robertson, Iuka;  
Mayor Sherry Shook, Golden;  
Mayor James Tennyson,  
Tishomingo;  
Donald R. Thomas;  
Fred Truesdale, Chair;  
Butler Whitehead;  
Sid Whitehurst; and  
Mayor Buddy Wiltshire,  
Belmont.

### Staff:

Gary Matthews,  
Executive Director; and  
Ferrin Rainey-Calvert,  
Tourism Administrator &  
Administrative Assistant.

We thank our economic development partners listed here and on the next two pages. None of the projects in this report would be possible without their help.





#### FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Representative Trent Kelly  
 Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith  
 Senator Roger Wicker



#### STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Representative Lester Carpenter  
 Representative Tracy Arnold  
 Senator Daniel Sparks

## Tishomingo County

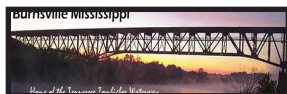
#### TISHOMINGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Eric Booker, District 1  
 Nicky McRae, District 2  
 Michael Busby, District 3  
 Jeff Holt, District 4  
 Greg Collier, District 5  
 Peyton Cummings, Chancery Clerk  
 Pattie Cook, Board Secretary  
 Phillip Whitehead, Board Attorney  
 Sean Bullard, Site Manager,  
 Tri-State Commerce Park



#### TOWN OF BELMONT:

Buddy Wiltshire, Mayor  
 Board of Aldermen:  
 Steve Smith  
 Ken Dulaney  
 Mike Harris  
 Sonya Harris  
 Brandon Pharr



#### TOWN OF BURNVILLE:

David Nixon, Mayor  
 Board of Aldermen:  
 Jason Blakney  
 Niesha Carpenter  
 Robert Davis  
 Billy Don Hamm  
 Denise Timbes



#### TOWN OF GOLDEN:

Sherry Shook, Mayor  
 Board of Aldermen:  
 Sandra Collums  
 Linda Epps  
 Myra George  
 Dixie Honeycutt  
 Brian Thompson



#### CITY OF IUKA:

Joel Robertson, Mayor  
 Board of Aldermen:  
 Emily Bell  
 Kenny Carson  
 Sandra Perkins  
 Johnny Southward  
 Nancy Stripling

#### Village of Paden

#### VILLAGE OF PADEN:

Pam Oswalt, Mayor  
 Board of Aldermen:  
 Kristy Deaton  
 Anthony Falkner  
 Jean Luttrell  
 James Murphy  
 Carl Whitehead



#### TOWN OF TISHOMINGO:

James Tennyson, Mayor  
 Board of Aldermen:  
 Gary Harlan  
 Barbara Oakes  
 Hal Southward  
 John Savoy  
 Anne Taylor



#### TISHOMINGO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

Charles Emmons, Vice Chair  
 Harold Gist  
 Malcolm Kuykendall  
 Toney Mobley  
 Charlotte Orick, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Jimmy Ramsey, Chair  
 Donald Ray Thomas  
 Butler Whitehead  
 Tommy Williams



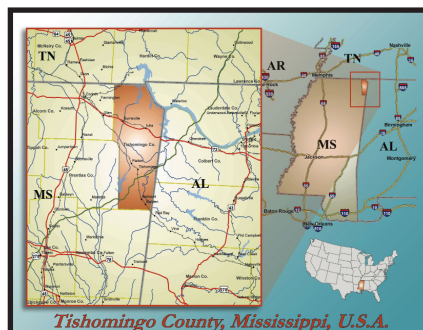
#### TISHOMINGO COUNTY TOURISM COUNCIL:

Ellen Ayers, Vice Chair  
 Kayleigh Bode  
 Natalie Coker  
 Theresa Cutshall  
 Deb Daniel  
 Mary Ann Grant, Chair  
 Lee Ann Robertson  
 Jenny Lynn Smith  
 Denise Timbes  
 Buddy Wiltshire  
 Shae'a Wilson  
 Ferrin Rainey-Calvert, Administrator



#### TISHOMINGO COUNTY ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Gerald Barnes, Chair  
 Erik McDonald  
 Josh Clark  
 Colton Sims  
 John Castleberry  
 Janie Cummings  
 Richard Davis  
 Jeff Holt, Vice Chair  
 Jimmy Hughes  
 Brett Malone, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Steve Ratliff  
 Harold W. Turner  
 Cody Durham, CEO &  
 General Manager



# PARTNERS IN PROGRESS:

## 2023 Members of the Tishomingo County Development Foundation

20th Century Club  
A&B Distributing Company  
American Legion  
American Red Cross  
An American Locksmith  
ARTbone Creative Design & Print  
Avalon Medical Clinic  
B&B Concrete  
B&G Equipment of Iuka  
Belmont Parts Supply  
Belmont Pharmacy  
Belmont Promotional Association  
Belmont-Tishomingo Journal  
Big Star of Belmont  
Boyce Hollingsworth State Farm  
BMSI, Inc.  
Eddie Bobo Gunsmithing  
Boys & Girls Club of Iuka  
Bridge House  
Brooks Grocery, Inc.  
Burnsville Chamber of Commerce  
Burnsville City  
Burnsville Tire  
CADENCE BANK  
Carly Carman, Attorney at Law  
John Castleberry  
Thomas E. Childs, Jr.  
Comfort Revolution/Tempur Sealy  
Community Spirit Bank  
Cook Coggin Engineers, Inc.  
Ken & Sheila Cooley  
Cooper Marine & Timberlands Corp.  
Corinth Coca-Cola Bottling  
Cornerstone Insurance & Financial  
Curated Cottage  
Cutshall & Sons Logging Company  
Cutshall Funeral Home  
Daughters of the American Revolution  
Neil Davis  
Dean McRae Engineering  
Deaton Funeral Home  
DHP, LLC  
Ken & Toni Dulaney  
Ronnie Eaton  
Elite Physical Therapy  
Ralph Farr  
Fellowship Christian Retreat  
at Crows Neck  
First American National Bank  
Paul Fisher Oil Company  
Fite Building Company  
Forest Resource Advisors  
Friends of Tishomingo State Park  
G&G Steel  
Gatlin's Pharmacy  
Gigi's Station  
Harold Gist  
Golden City  
James Grisham  
HAGO Automotive

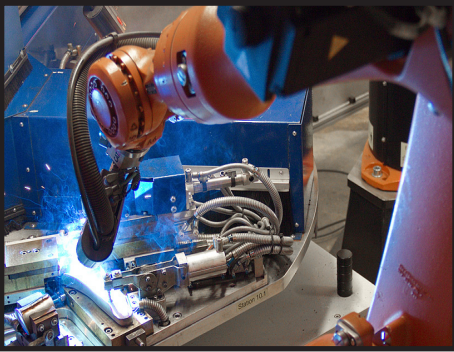
Hampton Inn Corinth  
Happy Hounds Cottage  
Boarding & Grooming  
Harbin Heating & Air, Inc.  
Heritage Place Hotel  
High Point Timber Management LLC  
Hodge Antiques  
Boyce Hollingsworth State Farm  
Hometown Pizza Belmont  
Huckleberry Hill RV Park  
IDEA Group  
Industrial Electronic Repair, Inc.  
Iuka Animal Clinic  
Iuka City  
Iuka Development & Economic  
Association (IDEA)  
Iuka Discount Drugs  
Iuka Family Dental PLLC  
Iuka Heritage Festival  
Nelson & Bess Johnson  
J. P. Coleman State Park  
John's Garage  
Jourdan Lumber Company  
Junior Auxilliary  
Keep Iuka Beautiful  
Brenda Kennedy  
Dr. Ben Kitchens  
Malcolm Kuykendall  
Littrell Lumber Mill, Inc.  
Harold Lomenick State Farm  
MaxxSouth Broadband  
Steve McNally  
Jena McNatt  
McWright Insurance Group LLC  
Meeks Roofing & Home Services  
Mill Creek Marina & Resort  
Mississippi Silicon  
Toney & Amanda Mobley  
Mike Montgomery  
Dr. Chris Moss  
MTS Safety Products, Inc.  
Jena McNatt  
Dennie & Mike McRee  
Mill Creek Marina & Resort  
Mississippi Silicon  
Toney & Amanda Mobley  
Mike Montgomery  
Moore Automotive/NAPA Auto Parts  
MTS Safety Products, Inc.  
Mike Nelson Contractors, Inc.  
Moore's Jewelers, Inc.  
Dr. Chris Moss  
Northeast Mississippi  
Community Services  
Northrop Grumman Innovation Systems  
Scott & Lisa Nunley  
Office Pro  
Old Courthouse Museum  
Charlotte Orick  
Painted Lady Venue

Pickwick Pines Resort  
Piggly Wiggly/ACE Hardware Iuka  
Piggly Wiggly/ACE Hardware Belmont  
Pilot Club  
Plant Process Support, Inc.  
Jimmy & Donna Ramsey  
Reconnect 4 Autism  
Redmont Heating & Cooling  
Renasant Bank  
Rising Willow Farms  
Riverhills Bingo/Tri-State  
Educational Foundation  
Rotary Club  
RWF Roll Off Dumpster Service  
Schnitzer Steel Iuka/Radius Recycling  
Segars Clinic  
Sid's Trading Company  
Silver Dollar Sales, Inc.  
Sonic Drive In of Belmont  
Sonic Drive In of Iuka  
South Tishomingo County Museum &  
Jerry Martin Research Center  
Southeast Auto Direct  
Sparks CPA Firm PC  
Sun-air Products, Inc.  
TBEI/Duraclass  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Thea Boone Insurance/Farm Bureau  
Third Base Liquor and Wine  
Donald Ray Thomas  
Dr. Don Thompson  
Kaila Timbs  
Timbes Tire & Wrecker Service  
Tishomingo Arts Council  
Tishomingo City  
Tishomingo Chamber of Commerce  
Tishomingo Connect  
Tishomingo County Board of Supervisors  
Tishomingo County  
Community Coalition  
Tishomingo County Electric  
Power Association  
Tishomingo County Foster Care  
Tishomingo County Historical &  
Genealogical Society  
Tishomingo County Master Gardeners  
Tishomingo County Youth Services  
Tishomingo Health Services, Inc.--  
Iuka Hospital  
Tishomingo State Park  
Toltec Company  
Train Station  
Tri-State Educational Foundation/  
Riverhills Bingo  
Tri-State Profile LLC  
Fred Truesdale, Jr.  
VESTA Homes  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Wiley Discount Tobacco & Beverages  
Yellow Creek Coating Service



# hago

Automotive



**HAGO AUTOMOTIVE.** hago Automotive has received additional contract work from BMW. Tishomingo County received a \$1,250,000 loan from the Mississippi Development Authority to finance a building expansion at hago Automotive. The loan will be repaid via lease payments from the company.

The building expansion will include \$5,000,000 for new equipment, primarily stamping equipment and robotic work cells. Building construction is underway.

The company has a number of career openings. hago Automotive also offers apprenticeship positions to local and area students each year.

More information about hago Automotive can be found at [www.hagoautomotive.com](http://www.hagoautomotive.com).



**RADIUS RECYCLING/SCHNITZER IUKA.** Columbus Scrap sold the Iuka ferrous and nonferrous metal scrap operation to Radius Recycling, a division of Schnitzer Steel Industries. With over 100 locations, Radius Recycling is North America's largest manufacturer of recycled metal products. The Tishomingo County operation serves industrial clients and is not open to the public.

Learn more about Radius Recycling at [www.radiusrecycling.com](http://www.radiusrecycling.com).

# NORTHROP GRUMMAN



**NORTHROP GRUMMAN INNOVATION SYSTEMS.** Northrop Grumman is investing \$38,000,000 and creating a significant number of new jobs in Tishomingo County. The Mississippi Development Authority awarded Tishomingo County a \$2,500,000 grant to expand the main assembly plant at Tri-State Commerce Park.

Two more buildings, one is 169,000 SF and the other is 121,800 SF, are being renovated by Northrop Grumman for the additional work.

For more information on Northrop Grumman or to apply for one of the new jobs, go to [www.northropgrumman.com](http://www.northropgrumman.com). Job applications are only accepted online but interviews are conducted at the Iuka facility.



**PATRICK INDUSTRIES, dba, BAYMONT COMPOSITES.** Local officials and company management gathered in Burnsville to cut the ribbon for Baymont Composites on August 15, 2023. Mayor David Nixon said "we welcome Baymont Composites to our community. Baymont Composites is a subsidiary of Patrick Industries of Elkhart, Indiana. Patrick Industries is a leading manufacturer of component parts for recreational vehicles, marine applications, manufactured housing, and various industrial markets. Mayor Nixon read a letter from Governor Tate Reeves and presented the letter to Patrick VP Clint Decker."

The company employs 60. Vice President Clint Decker reported that "we are delighted to be a part of the community and we plan to grow the company substantially over time." Learn more about Patrick Industries at <https://patrickind.com/>.





**HERITAGE PLACE HOTEL.** Local officials, friends, and owners and management cut the ribbon on the long awaited Heritage Place Hotel in Iuka. Henry Harris is the hotel manager and James Joiner is the owner and developer.

The renovated hotel has 53 rooms with four handicapped rooms. Upstairs rooms are available for long-term rentals for new hires at the new and expanding industries in Tishomingo County. Occupancy ratios have exceeded expectations and the hotel has received consistently high ratings from visitors. The hotel has a number of career openings for front desk and housekeeping.

Heritage Place Hotel is located at 1409 Heritage Drive in Iuka. The telephone number is 662-424-8050 and the e-mail is [FrontDesk@heritagehoteliuka.com](mailto:FrontDesk@heritagehoteliuka.com). Visit the web site at [www.heritagehoteliuka.com](http://www.heritagehoteliuka.com).



**TEMPUR  
+ SEALY**

**TEMPUR+SEALY.** Tempur+Sealy expanded during 2023 by adding another production line. The company invested \$3,250,000 and created 18 new jobs. Learn more about Tempur+Sealy at [www.tempursealy.com](http://www.tempursealy.com).

**NOVOLEX**

**NOVOLEX.** Novolex shut down operations in 2023 and is removing equipment from the building. The company expects to vacate during the first quarter of 2024. Approximately 40 employees will be laid off. Your development foundation is marketing the 100,000 SF county owned building.



**DSO**  
DEEP SOUTH OPERATING, LLC.

**DEEP SOUTH OPERATING.** The largest ASIC facility in the State of Mississippi, Deep South Operating continues to add capacity at its Tri-State Commerce Park location. Short for "application-specific integrated circuit", the underlying ASIC chip is typically designed with a singular purpose. In this scenario, it's designed to "mine" cryptocurrency.

Mining is the dynamic process of generating fresh coins or tokens by solving intricate mathematical problems, essential for verifying transactions within blockchain networks. Successful miners are rewarded with a predetermined amount of the mined coin as a result. This fundamental procedure lies at the heart of cryptocurrencies, facilitating secure transactions and the introduction of new digital assets into circulation.

For more information, go to <https://deepsouthoperating.com/>.



**VANLEIGH RV**

**VANLEIGH RV.** Vanleigh RV was purchased by THOR Industries and shut down during the year. The property was sold to Patrick Industries which opened subsidiary Baymont Composites in the building.



**2024 TISHOMINGO COUNTY BUSINESS DIRECTORY.** Tishomingo County Development Foundation updated and printed 3,000 copies of the 80 page *Tishomingo County Business Directory*. Free copies are available at libraries, city halls, and banks.

The directory is updated online as we learn about new businesses opening and old businesses closing or moving. The online version is at [www.tishomingo.org/PDFs/Business%20Directory%202021%20Update.pdf](http://www.tishomingo.org/PDFs/Business%20Directory%202021%20Update.pdf).

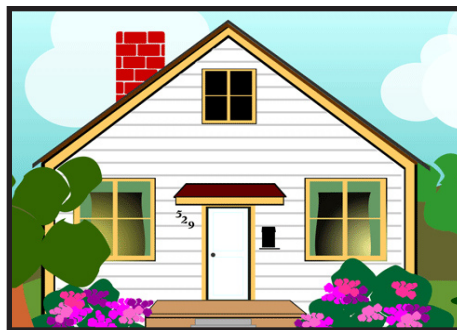
The directory is not a recommendation of any particular business. Normal business practice, for example, checking references for service providers, is recommended.

The intent of the business directory is to increase sales by Tishomingo County businesses and to encourage individuals to start a small business.

Locally owned small businesses are an economic development need in Tishomingo County.

Locally owned small businesses:

- Hire local people and usually treat them well;
- Use local services and suppliers;
- Keep their money in local banks;
- Support local schools, churches, and civic organizations;
- Serve as examples and mentors for others interested in starting a small business; and
- Pay local and state taxes.

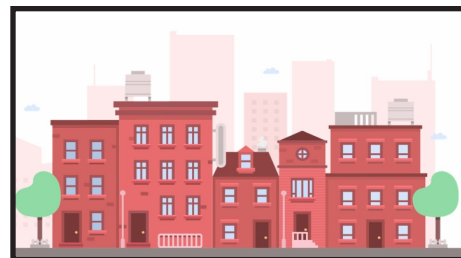


**HOME FAIRS.** Modeled on job fairs, the 2023 Tishomingo County Home Fairs were designed to bring together public and private housing funding sources at two events in Tishomingo County, one in Belmont and one in Iuka. The events were funded by a grant from Cadence Bank.

Participants in the Home Fair included Cadence Bank; First American National Bank, now Guaranty Bank; Community Spirit Bank; Renaissance Community Loan Fund; Mississippi Home Corporation; and USDA Rural Development.

More information on conventional home loans as well as special assistance for low and moderate income home buyers can be found at:

- Cadence Bank. [www.cadence-bank.com](http://www.cadence-bank.com)/StacyWhite, Stacy White, [stacy.white@cadence-bank.com](mailto:stacy.white@cadence-bank.com), 662-620-4883;
- First American National Bank, now Guaranty Bank. <https://gb-tonline.com>. Hollie Booker, [hollieb@fanb.bank](mailto:hollieb@fanb.bank), 662-423-3656;
- Community Spirit Bank. [www.communityspirit.bank](http://www.communityspirit.bank), Mike Montgomery, [mike@communityspirit.bank](mailto:mike@communityspirit.bank), 662-454-0001
- Renaissance Community Loan Fund. [www.rclfms.com](http://www.rclfms.com), Jeremy Martin, [jmartin@rclfms.com](mailto:jmartin@rclfms.com), 662-871-8723;
- Mississippi Home Corporation. [www.mshomecorp.com](http://www.mshomecorp.com), Macie Carney, [macie.carney@mshc.com](mailto:macie.carney@mshc.com), 601-718-4642;
- Rural Development. [www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs), 662-728-9003, extension 4, or 662-320-4009.



**APARTMENT HOUSING DEMAND STUDY & ANALYSIS.** The study was conducted by Dr. Alan Barefield at Mississippi State University. According to Dr. Barefield, "... Tishomingo County has had a remarkable level of economic growth over the past several years. Lightcast (formerly EMSI) estimates that the total number of jobs in Tishomingo County increased by 26.6% from 2010 to 2022 and that the number of manufacturing jobs in the county – the county's largest employment sector – increased by 76.9% over the same time frame. In comparison, estimates for the State of Mississippi indicate a 10.1% increase in the number of total jobs and a 10.2% increase in the number of manufacturing jobs during the same time period while the United States is estimated to have experienced a 20.0% increase in total jobs and an 11.6% increase in manufacturing jobs.

Looking forward, Tishomingo County is expected to see a 19.5% increase in total jobs and a 25.9% increase in manufacturing jobs from 2022 to 2033. Mississippi is expected to experience a 11.5% increase in total jobs and a 10.1% increase in manufacturing jobs while the U.S. is expected to have a 13.3% increase in total jobs and a 6.5% increase in manufacturing jobs for the same time period.

These data and estimates suggest that there may be a viable market for quality rental housing in Tishomingo County. . "

We thank Dr. Barefield and Mississippi State University for conducting this study which is vital to the future of employers and tax payers of Tishomingo County.

A copy can be found at [chrome-extension://efaidnbmninnibpac-jpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.tishomingo.org/PDFs/Apartment-Housing-Study.pdf](http://chrome-extension://efaidnbmninnibpac-jpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.tishomingo.org/PDFs/Apartment-Housing-Study.pdf).



### **TISHOMINGO COUNTY TOURISM COUNCIL.**

The tourism council was awarded a \$250,000 ARPA grant for a tourism marketing program for the year 2023 and will be awarded a third ARPA grant in 2024. The tourism council selected Foster Relations of Tupelo as the marketing consultant for the ARPA grant. The tourism marketing contractor is working on research, a strategic plan, new photos and videos, branding, a new web site, visitor guide, and social media campaign. They are working closely with Ferrin on making the best marketing changes. Web site visits and social media activity have increased significantly. The new tourism logo was unveiled in December of 2023.

The swinging bridge at Tishomingo State Park is featured on the cover of the 2023 Mississippi Tour Guide.

Tishomingo County is featured on the Farm to Fork Foodie Trail presented by Mississippi State Extension Service and Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area.

There are 177 short term rentals in Tishomingo County, a 46% increase in one year. The average occupancy rate is 48%.

The farmers market grant application to Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation was funded for \$248,899. The grant funds will be used for electrical work, repair of the rock wall, construction of a storage building, and other work at Jay Bird Park. The farmers market did well and sales averaged \$3,000 per event. The farmers market is open during season on Wednesdays from 6 AM until and on Fridays from 4 PM to 7 PM.

Ferrin Rainey Calvert was appointed as Mississippi's board member on the Tennessee River Valley Stewardship Council which is working on an RV trail that follows the Tennessee River as well as several other tourism promotion projects.

With 50,000 acres of lakes, two state parks, several Corps of Engineer parks, seven marinas, the Tenn-Tom Waterway, several museums, the Natchez Trace Parkway, beautiful scenery, picturesque downtowns, several retirement & vacation communities, arts and crafts shops, the bargain tour, and lots of special events, tourism and retiree attraction have the greatest potential for growth and wealth creation for residents and local businesses of any economic sector in Tishomingo County. In Mississippi, tourism is the fourth largest economic sector.



**J. P. COLEMAN STATE PARK.** J. P. Coleman State Park implemented a number of park improvement projects in 2023 including replacement of B dock and the fuel pump at the marina; replacement of numerous roofs throughout the park; replacement of flooring in cabins; and renovation of a townhouse in the hotel. Additional park improvements are scheduled for 2024.



**TISHOMINGO STATE PARK.** Tishomingo State Park welcomed a new park manager in July. Park Manager Phil Seymour has implemented a number of park improvement projects. The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MDWFP) has budgeted renovation of the lodge and swimming pool, repairs on cabins, and other improvements. The park currently has career openings for housekeeping positions.

With the approval of MDWFP, the Friends of the Park are also planning a number of park improvements during 2024. Volunteers are invited to join the Friends in planning and implementing various park improvement projects. The Friends meet on the first Monday of each month at 6 PM at the Nature Center at Tishomingo State Park and various work days are scheduled, mostly on Saturday mornings. Find us on Facebook.



# Tishomingo

COUNTY  
EST. 1836

- 1 Grand Harbor Resort & Marina - Iuka
- 2 Safe Harbor Aqua Yacht - Iuka
- 3 Cooper Falls - Iuka
- 4 Goat Island - Iuka
- 5 J. P. Coleman State Park - Iuka
- 6 Union Harbor Marina - Iuka
- 7 Eastport Marina and Resort - Iuka
- 8 Old Courthouse Museum - Iuka
- 9 Pete Pyle Marker - Burnsville
- 10 Oak Grove Cemetery - Iuka
- 11 Jay Bird Park - Iuka
- 12 Burnsville Colored School - Burnsville
- 13 Mill Creek Marina - Iuka
- 14 Church of Our Saviour - Iuka
- 15 Iuka Covered Bridge - Iuka
- 16 The Apron Museum - Iuka
- 17 Mineral Springs Park - Iuka
- 18 Battle of Iuka - Iuka
- 19 Woodall Mountain - Iuka
- 20 Iuka Drive-In Theatre - Iuka
- 21 Cave Spring on Natchez Trace - Tishomingo
- 22 Tishomingo Mural - Tishomingo
- 23 Bear Creek Indian Mound - Tishomingo
- 24 Fellowship Christian Retreat - Tishomingo
- 25 Sander's Landing - Tishomingo
- 26 Swinging Bridge - Tishomingo
- 27 Tishomingo State Park - Tishomingo
- 28 Old Bridge Beach - Dennis
- 29 John Witten Lock and Dam Museum - Dennis
- 30 Bay Springs Marina - New Site
- 31 Belmont Hotel - Belmont
- 32 Mac McNally Marker - Belmont
- 33 Shook Park - Belmont
- 34 South Tishomingo County Museum - Belmont

