Southern Bancorp Community Partners
Building communities . . . Changing lives
• 50% reduction in poverty
• 50% increase in employment
• 50% raise in educational attainment
Delta Bridge Project
Southern’s Community-Driven Development Model

Local Steering Committee

- Economic Development – Business and Job Creation
- Economic Development – Tourism
- Education
- Housing
- Leadership Development
- Healthcare

Local Development Council
Leverage Funding Through Partnerships

- Federal Government
- Local Foundations
- Local Businesses
- Partner Organizations
- State/Regional Foundations
- Community Fundraising
- Individual Donors
- Local Foundations
- In-Kind Resources
- State Government
- National Foundations

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Building communities. Changing lives.
Funding Fundamentals

Key Question: Is what we are doing or proposing the best use of resources given the conditions and constraints? If so, can we demonstrate why and track the results?

- Measure and Show Impact
- Be Strategic
- Market Successes
- Focus on Relationships
- Leverage Opportunities
- Be Persistent
- Implement with Integrity

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Delta Bridge Project Expands into Coahoma County, Mississippi
Delta Bridge Project
600+ Coahoma County Residents
Sunflower River Weir
(Economic Development/Infrastructure)
Quapaw Canoe Company
Helena and Clarksdale Outposts offer unique canoe trips on the Mississippi River (Economic Development/Tourism)
Clarksdale Welcomes Aussies
(Economic Development/Tourism)
ASPIRE
Single Parent Educational Support (Education)

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LOCAL NEWS

DELTA BLUES MUSEUM

DBM one of 10 winners of National Medal for Museum and Library Service

By JESSE WRIGHT
The Press Register

The Delta Blues Museum has won the Institute of Museum and Library Services National Medal, the nation's top award for museums and libraries. Earlier this year, the IMLS announced the Blues museum was one of 10 libraries and museums named as finalists. The blues museum was the only library or museum in Mississippi to be considered for the award this year. The Delta Blues Museum shares the award with 10 other museums and libraries, although it is the only museum on the list.

Representatives from the Delta Blues Museum will travel to Washington, D.C., to accept an award May 18. Among the people going to the ceremony will be Travis Cates, now 31, who started playing the guitar at age 5.

See DBM, Page 17A

Single-parent students rewarded

ASPIRE program awards deserving mothers monies to help with education

By JESSE WRIGHT
The Press Register

A year after its local debut, a program that helps single parents go to school is about to open another round of scholarships.

ASPIRE, which stands for Assisting Single Parents in Realizing Education, gives money to single mothers and fathers currently enrolled at a university or a community college.

The money can be used for things like gas or bills, and although it's only $300 or $600 extra per semester, recipients say it's made a difference.

"It helped me transportation wise, it kept the gas in my car and that was the main thing," said Nettie Davis, who is a sophomore at Oxford Community College. "It came at a time when, if I needed a fill or something paid, it helped, and it helped pay for school supplies." Davis is a single mother with four kids, a 5, 4, and a 3-year-old child. She said she was enrolled in community college when she had her first child, and she dropped out, because she didn't know how she could take care of her baby by herself and go to school. Now, she's more determined to get an education because she wants her kids to know what's possible. What's possible is a lifestyle change.

According to an article last month in the New York Times about single parents, as of 2008, 81 percent of kids in the US are being raised by a single parent. In addition, single parent households are more likely than their two parent counterparts to be impoverished, and adults without higher education

See ASPIRE, Page 17A
National Board Certification
Loan Program for Teachers
(Education)

2012
10 Year Strategic Community Plan

Over $2.6 million invested through the Delta Bridge Project
KaBOOM! Playground

Over 200 diverse local residents came together for Build Day
(Economic Development/Tourism)
New Stage for Area Festivals
(Economic Development/Tourism)

Before

2012
Downtown Facade Grants
(Economic Development/Tourism)

Before

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2012
Property Cleanup
(Housing)

After

2012
Historic Marion Theater
(Economic Development/Tourism)

Before

2013