



Jackson Madison County
African American Chamber of Commerce

351-C North Royal Street, Jackson, Tennessee 38301
Phone: 731-424-2030 • Fax: 731.935-7069 • Email: aacc@bellsouth.net

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

4TH ANNUAL FOLLOW ME CELEBRITY GOLF CLASSIC, A SUCCESS

JACKSON, Tenn. (September 15, 2014) – Hats off to co-chairs of the 4th Annual Follow Me Celebrity Golf Classic! Jim Ferrell, president and CEO of Jackson Energy Authority and Chester Sharp, vice-president and branch manager for BancorpSouth provided creativity, leadership and commitment to the this year's event resulting in 17 teams and nearly \$11,000 raised.

During the opening program at the tournament held Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at Bent Tree Golf Course, the Jackson Madison County African American Chamber of Commerce, co-chairs and event sponsors recognized Celebrities in Education during the opening program. Presented with awards and certificates were Coach DaMonn Fuller and the Hawks of South Side High School, 2013-14. Also recognized were: Dr. Logan C. Hampton, the 10th president of Lane College; Dr. Samuel W. Oliver, the 16th president of Union University (who was represented by Athletic Director Tommy Sadler); Dr. Niles Reddick, the vice-provost of the University of Memphis Lambuth Campus; and Dr. Thomas Rakes, the ninth chancellor of The University of Tennessee at Martin who has held that position since 2007. The other three -- Hampton, Oliver and Reddick are newcomers to Tennessee, having been selected to their positions just this year. Talk Show host and radio personality Steve Bowers served as emcee for the opening ceremony.

Sponsored by BancorpSouth, Jackson Energy Authority, West Tennessee Healthcare, University of Tennessee at Martin along with the Jackson Sun, Jonah Affordable Housing Org., News/Talk 101.5 FM, the West Tennessee Examiner, and WOJG-FM Bolivar, the golf classic offered a Hole in One prize of \$10,000 and provided closest to the pin prizes on all Par 3 holes. Closest to the Pin winners included presented by the **Jackson Madison County African American Chamber of Commerce (JMCAACC)**. The four-player scramble, which raises funds for the chamber's Follow Me Into Business® youth development program, will be held **Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at Bent Tree Golf Course**, 2993 Paul Coffman Drive in Jackson (38301). The opening ceremony will begin at 12:30 p.m. and the tournament at 1:00 p.m. Grand prize is \$10,000 for a hole in one. This year's event also will include a silent auction.

"After deciding to recognize Southside High School for their outstanding statewide achievement, we thought the tournament would be a good time to recognize others in education such as the leadership at our four-year colleges," said JMCAACC President Clarence Boone himself a former educator and school principal. "So, we're taking this opportunity to recognize the ongoing support of Chancellor Thomas Rakes and the University of Tennessee at Martin and to welcome our newest college presidents including Dr. Logan Hampton of Lane College, Dr. Samuel Oliver of Union University, and Vice-Provost Dr. Niles Reddick of the University of Memphis Lambuth Campus as well as Dr. Joe Wiley of Freed-Hardeman University." The chamber began recognizing community participants in 2011 when the competition fell on the anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy, and First Responders were honored. Honorees receive an award

and a profile with photo in the golf booklet. UT Martin has been a lunch sponsor for the tournament for several years.

Corporate Registration for a team of four (4) is \$350, covering lunch, cart, free range balls, goodie bag. Those teams already committed are City of Jackson, Hewitt Chatman and Friends, First Bank, MIG Construction Services, Morgan Stanley, Raymond James along with Bancorp South, Jackson Energy Authority, Jonah Affordable Housing and West Tennessee Healthcare. Individual registration is \$75.

The Follow Me program was founded in 2002 to provide young people, 12-18, with job training skills and business basics training as well as mentoring, employment and community involvement opportunities. The year-round program also includes an 8-week Summer Program held in conjunction with T.R. White Sportsplex and paid summer jobs for a limited number of 16-18 year olds. Job sites for this summer were Family Healthcare, Food Rite, D & L Grocery, Jackson Madison County NAACP, Lane College, Missie's Campus Corner, RIFA, Walgreens South Highland and Week's Day Care.

JMCAACC is a 501(3)c nonprofit organization founded in 1999. The office is located at 351-C North Royal in Jackson, Tennessee. For more information, call 731-424-2030 or visit the website at www.jmcaacc.org. ###