



Mississippi Business Weekly

January 12-16, 2009

Class in Session

- Small business owners can attend monthly classes to teach them a better understanding of business fundamentals during the hard economic times
- The purpose of the classes are to point out opportunities even in times of recession
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce is presenting a course January 21, 2009 to help these small - business owners

<http://www.sunherald.com/business/story/1059713.html>

Disputed Entergy Purchase Untallied

- Entergy is charged for allegedly overcharging customers, as a result from a purchase of a fuel contract in 2000
- Jim Hood, State Attorney General, claims that Entergy and its subsidiaries unlawfully manipulated the buying and selling power of energy to capitalize on their company's earnings
- The results could take up to the end of March to conclude if Entergy was overcharging their customers

<http://www.clarionledger.com/article/20090113/BIZ/901130334/1005/biz>

Cadence Sells Shares to Treasury

- Cadence Financial Corporation has completed the sale of \$44M of preferred stock to the U.S. Treasury Department
- Chairman and CEO Lewis Mallory Jr., "the \$44 million preferred stock sale will further strengthen Cadence's already solid capital base"

<http://www.msbusiness.com/article.cfm?ID=7355>

Coast Soon to have New Four-Lane Highway

- The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) is nearing completion of the Mississippi 67 road construction project in Harrison County
- MDOT project engineer said the project will greatly enhance travel in this region of Harrison County

<http://www.msbusiness.com/article.cfm?ID=7351>





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Airport Busier than Ever

- Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport had their best business year ever in 2008, despite the economic turmoil and unpredictable gas prices
- They have increased over 63,598 passengers from the prior year
- However, with a new year starting airlines are seeing their loads diminishing due to the economic downfall
- With nearby airports steadily losing customers, Gulfport-Biloxi Regional is finding ways to increase their capacity for future passengers

<http://www.sunherald.com/business/story/1069760.html>

Pre-foreclosures Spike in the Southeast

- In 2007, the region saw 383,697 pre-foreclosure filings representing 2.31% of all households
- In 2008, the region saw 735,417 pre-foreclosure filings representing 4.29% of all households
- This increase between '07 and '08 represents 91.7% increase, the highest compared with other U.S. regions

<http://www.msbusiness.com/article.cfm?ID=7362>

