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[FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]
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PHOTOS ATTACHED

Celebrate the Arts at the 39th Crosstie Arts and Jazz Festival

Cleveland, MS

For the last 38 years, the Crosstie Arts & Jazz Festival has become a Delta tradition that brings the Cleveland and surrounding communities together on the lawn of the Bolivar County courthouse for a day of art, wonderful music, fun children's activities, and delicious foods. This tradition will continue as we celebrate the arts at the 39th Crosstie Arts and Jazz Festival on **Saturday, April 19, 2008!**

Numerous local and regional artists will be on hand to exhibit and sell their original work. Whether you are interested in paintings, photographs, sculpture, pottery, crafts, fabric and paper designs, hand-made furniture or jewelry, something will surely catch your eye!

Several Mississippi authors will also be signing books, throughout the day at the Authors' Tent that will again be set up on the grounds. From cookbooks to children's books and from short stories to sports stories, this year's roster of authors is sure to please every literary taste.

Paul Canonici is the author of *The Delta Italians* and *So Italian*. Canonici will sign his Cookbook, *So Italian*. Mike Frascogna is an attorney in Jackson who wrote *Gridiron Gold* with his two sons, Marty and Mike III. This book is full of great stories and a must-read for any sports enthusiast. Chuck Galey is a Greenwood-born artist and illustrator whose latest children's work is entitled *The Fat Stock Stampede at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo*. His work has delighted children for many years, and is a must-see for any family with young children. Lastly, Lauch Magruder is a former Mississippi attorney who is now living in North Carolina. He is the author of *Without Regard*, a highly regarded legal thriller that was released late last year.

As always, jazz, funk, blues, R & B, classic rock, and gospel music groups will keep your feet tapping throughout the day. The roster includes the following artists: Mary Buckley, female vocalist; MDCC Ambassadors and Delta Dancers; Steadman Brothers, Southern gospel; Bayou Blues, vocal group; DeltaRox, classic rock band; Ol' Skool Revue, R&B, funk; and The Mike Ellis Band, variety

And for those of you who want a little exercise, there is the 5K Run/Walk or the annual kids' fun run for the young runners! The fun run will begin at 10:00 a.m., but the race will begin at 8:30 a.m. Registration is between 7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. at the corner of

Court; there is a \$12.00 pre-registration, \$15.00 on the day of the race. Trophies will be given to the top three times in men's and women's overall. Medals will also be given to the top three finishers in each age and to the top three winners in the walk. There will be t-shirts and ribbons to all participants.

In the children's area they will be able to explore their side through child-sized easels, stringing beads and molding clay. Sand boxes and bubbles will be available for the youngest of participants. They will also have the opportunity to get their face painted and dance and sing to music!

Local restaurants, civic and church groups, and regional vendors will also tempt your taste buds with a varied menu of foods including sno balls, barbecue sandwiches, hot tamales, funnel cakes, corn dogs, hamburgers, hot dogs, and crawfish.

Whether you and your family prefer strolling through the marketplace, running a race, snacking on great food, or simply listening to good music, this year's festival has something to offer everyone!

Crosstie would not be possible without our generous supporters! They include: Rock River Foundation, The Bolivar Commercial, Delta Magazine, Cleveland Board of REALTORS, Sanders Seed, CableOne, Nehi Bottling, Carol Tatum, Robinson Electric Co., Cleveland Newsleader, Radio Cleveland, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Janoush, WABG, Coopwood Communications, Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce, Quality Steel Corporation, WXVT, Bolivar County, Baxter Healthcare, Bolivar Medical, City of Cleveland, Cleveland State Bank, Delta State University, Fleming Lumber Co., McCarty's, Planters Bank, Phi Mu Sorority, The Children's Dental Clinic, Cleveland Lumber and Supply, Denton Dairy Products, Inc., First National Bank of Rosedale Merchants and Farmers Bank, Ned and Bettye Mitchell, Dr. and Mrs. Jason Morris, Jacks, Adams, and Norquist, Povall and Jeffreys, P.A., Ms. Mary Shaman, Gresham Petroleum, James Ceranti Nissan, Graham and Carla Cassibry, Dan and Lynda Bell.