

# Local Business Success Stories





In February 2014, the Hilton Garden Inn opened in Pascagoula. Constructed at the former LaFont Inn property on US Highway 90, the hotel has been touted as a way to improve the U.S. 90 corridor and serve as an impetus for future development across the City. In a public-private partnership, the City of Pascagoula installed over \$3 million worth of infrastructure and streetscaping to beautify the public road and walkways surrounding the complex. The Hilton Garden Inn contains 119 tastefully decorated rooms, a full service restaurant, and 6,500 square feet of meeting space.



Built across the tracks in downtown Pascagoula, the original structure of this now successful restaurant and bar was a single-family 'shotgun' house. Over the years, the building has served as a jewelry store, furniture store, and paint store. After several decades with little attention, a local family saw a gem in the rough and purchased the property in 2009. After a complete overhaul which included retaining many of the original details and was furthered by a City façade grant, Mark and D.J. Garrison, with their dog Jack, opened Jack's by the Tracks. Jack's is a self-professed southern sushi bar, juke joint, fish taqueria, and neighborhood pub and deli that also offers the coldest beers, fanciest cocktails, and the best local music talents.



Moving from Anchor Square to the downtown plaza in October 2013, Rosalie's Boutique became the first business to transition from the City-operated business incubator. Rosalie's opened in Anchor Square in September 2011. Rosalie's is now located at 651 Delmas Avenue, a historic building which once housed Parker's Jewelry Store and Parsley's Barber Shop. Since its relocation, Rosalie's has surpassed everyone's expectations becoming one of the top earning boutiques in Pascagoula. Rosalie's serves as a quintessential model for Anchor Square: beginning as the dream of a local entrepreneur; developing into a small business at Anchor Square; growing beyond the incubator space; and into a successful business.



In April 2010, the Grand Magnolia Bed and Breakfast opened on Magnolia Street in Pascagoula, after years of extensive restoration by the Steiner family. This local couple purchased a historic property in disrepair, took advantage of grants and tax credits, and made a significant investment in their community. The Grand Magnolia Bed and Breakfast now contains seven full suite guest rooms and a large community gathering hall for rent.



The Lodge Apartments were once some of Pascagoula's nicest apartments, but had fallen into disrepair as a result of misuse, improper maintenance, and storm damage. A local developer purchased the property and rehabilitated the entire complex, with assistance from the Mississippi Development Authority. In Spring 2010 The Lodge Apartments reopened, as a first class affordable housing option.



Downtown Pascagoula's Jackson Avenue is anchored on both ends by two new cornerstone bank buildings. M&M Bank and Charter Bank, both locally owned banks, have recently built new banking facilities. These successful financial institutions provide extensive support to the local community and each serve as a model of success among local businesses.