



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

ANDY GIPSON  
COMMISSIONER

# **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**For January 25, 2019**

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**What: Groundbreaking Ceremony for Children's Barn**

**Who: Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson**

**When: Friday, January 25, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.**

**Where: Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum  
1150 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, MS**

## **Mississippi Ag and Forestry Museum Breaks Ground for Children's Barn**

Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson and the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum will celebrate the groundbreaking for the new Children's Barn and Multipurpose Building with a ceremony on Friday, January 25 at 9:30 a.m.

The construction of the Children's Barn and the Multipurpose Building are part of the rebuilding efforts to replace buildings lost during a devastating fire on the Museum grounds in November 2014. The rebuilding of the Children's Barn, once one of the most popular attractions at the Museum, will provide an exciting opportunity for visitors to observe typical farm livestock in a convenient and authentic farm setting. The Multipurpose Building, which will be connected to the Children's Barn by a covered walkway, will allow the Museum to expand its educational opportunities through the addition of specialized educational programming. This building will feature information about veterinary medicine.

The construction of the two buildings will enhance each visitor's experience by giving them the opportunity to increase their knowledge of the importance of agriculture, and activities such as birthday parties with pony rides will once again be offered. These rebuilding efforts are funded through insurance claim funds from the fire in 2014. The Children's Barn and Multipurpose Building were designed by Wier Boerner Allin Architecture. The general contractor is Paul Jackson and Son Construction Company. Construction is expected to be completed by this fall.

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Note to Media – Commissioner Gipson will be available for interviews. The groundbreaking will take place at the site of construction. Enter the Museum through the main entrance on Lakeland Drive, and parking will be behind the Heritage Exhibit Center. A map is attached for your convenience.

**THE MISSISSIPPI AGRICULTURE  
AND FORESTRY MUSEUM**

1150 Lakeland Drive Jackson, MS 39216  
601-432-4500 | [www.msagmuseum.org](http://www.msagmuseum.org)

Enter through the Main Gate  
at Lakeland Drive.

Parking will be located behind  
the Heritage Center.

