



**Paragon**  
BANK

# the Shield *of excellence*

## Paragon Celebrates 10th Anniversary!



*CEO Robert Shaw addresses the open house attendees.*

In January we began our celebration of the anniversary of 10 years of banking at Paragon Bank at our all-employee breakfast. We highlighted our accomplishments during the ten years and recognized the 23 employees who have been with Paragon since its beginning.

On March 24 we hosted an open house to celebrate our milestone and to thank our loyal customers for helping us to succeed. We also celebrated Paragon Bank 10 for 10, which has been proclaimed by the City of Memphis. At our open house we highlighted 10 nonprofits with which we have been involved for the past decade. We initiated Paragon's 10 A.C.T.S (Assisting the Community Through Service) of Kindness, through which we will emphasize participation with these organizations as celebration of our 10 years of operation.

This issue of our newsletter tells about some of our activities with the Memphis Child Advocacy Center, Mid-South Food Bank, Make-a-Wish Foundation, Civil Rights Museum, and Madonna Learning Center. Visit [pb10for10.com](http://pb10for10.com) to learn more about our community involvement during our 10th anniversary year.

We are very grateful to all those who have contributed to our success—Bank employees, customers, stockholders, and Board of Directors.

As we begin our second decade, we will continue to “Raise Expectations” by serving our customers with efficiency and personal concern, and we will continue our efforts as a compassionate and contributing part of the Memphis community.



*Lewis Perkins, Kerri Morrin, and Tracey Thesmar enjoy the open house.*



*Pictured above are Paragon's 10-year employees. Back row: Steve Maury, Andy Taylor, Patrick O'Hearn, Diane Roten, Debby Allen, Stacy Fields, Margie Smith, Pam Caviness, Rita Fiduccia. Middle row: Robert Shaw, Chondrea Black, Nancy Magness, Joyce Davis, Carole Hughes, Carol McConkey, Gordin McMurtry, Liz Joyner. Front row: Lisa Word, Cheryl Shackelford, Sharon Gullede, Tracey Thesmar, Lisa Barden, Chris Platania.*



*Dorothy Cleaves and Penny Hill greet open house guests.*

# SPOTLIGHT



*The Ghost River brewers pose in their brewery.*

**G**host River Brewing is Memphis to its core starting with the very basic and essential of beer ingredients – water. The superior Memphis water was essential to owner Jerry Feinstone and his partners when they started the process of forming Ghost River Brewing in 2007. “Memphis water is like starting with a blank canvas,” Jerry says. “When we brew a beer, there’s nothing we have to take out of the water. Memphis is a unique beer brewing location because the water supply is very pure and clean.”

Ghost River Brewing grew out of Bosco’s Restaurant, where Jerry first started brewing craft beer. The creation of Bosco’s Brewing Co. was monumental as it was the first craft brewery in all of Tennessee. With Bosco’s brewery well established, Jerry already had the equipment available for a small production brewery. He and his partners decided to start putting together a small plant with the capacity to produce 2,000 barrels a year, and Ghost River Brewing was born. Since 2008, they have expanded dramatically to produce 12,000 barrels a year, thanks in part to an

expansion financed by Paragon.

Ghost River prides itself in identifying as an American craft brewer, which means it has small-scale production, is independently owned and controlled, and utilizes traditional brewing ingredients. Craft brewers in America arose in the 1980s after beer laws that had existed since the repeal of Prohibition started to be revised allowing for new and different beer profiles across America.

Beyond the clean and pure water source, Ghost River strives to tie their beer to Memphis in various other ways. They are a supporter of the Wolf River Conservancy and donate a portion of the proceeds of every barrel of beer sold to support the efforts of the Conservancy. The name “Ghost River” also provides a unique Memphis connection. This comes from a section of the Wolf River in Fayette County known as the “ghost section.” “The ghost section is a big cypress bog where the river loses its channel and spreads out,” Jerry explains. “The name ties in with the Memphis water because this is one of the main places where the Memphis aquifer is recharged. Plus, it’s a beautiful part of the river.” This concept was even incorporated into their iconic logo that features the cypress trees found in the ghost section of the river. A video of the ghost section of the Wolf River can be found at [ghostriverbrewing.com](http://ghostriverbrewing.com).

Ghost River brews three or four beers at any given time. This includes their two most well known brews, Riverbank Red and Golden Ale, and a few seasonal beers that rotate throughout the year. Currently in season are the Honey Wheat and GrindHouse varieties. Their constant rotation is a reaction to the enthusiasm some of their customers show toward new and different brews. “The millennial generation has taken on craft beers as something they like because of the uniqueness of the beers,” Jerry says. “They would like to see something new every week.” This enthusiasm for the new and different resulted in adding unique one-time beers such as the Brewers’ Series, which features beers created by the individual Ghost River brewers.

The future of craft brewing looks bright, and Jerry is looking to expand Ghost River Brewing with it. Ghost River now has distributors in Jackson, Tupelo, Oxford, Starkville, and Hattiesburg, MS; West Memphis, AR; and West Tennessee almost to the Tennessee River. Although expanding to new markets, their focus will always be in the Mid-South. “Staying regional is where we want to be, and, as we get more and more craft breweries, people’s interest will be in the regional breweries closest to them.” For Jerry Feinstone, it all comes down to the beer. “What’s the best part about being a craft brewer?” he says. “Beer is a sociable product, and you get to share in people’s good times.”

## *New Products from Paragon to streamline your business operations!*

### **Paragon One Card**

The Paragon One Card is a non-revolving, non-interest bearing charge card that allows an organization to make electronic payments to vendors that accept VISA. One Card customers must spend over \$100,000 annually, and they receive the following benefits:

- Card-control capabilities
- Card accounting capabilities
- Reduction in paper check processing costs
- Increase in accounts payable efficiency
- Potential for rebates

### **Payroll Solutions from HR New Hire**

Paragon Payroll Solutions, powered by HR New Hire LLC, provides affordable payroll solutions that offer the best of both worlds - the latest web-based technology and dedicated, personalized service.

The HR New Hire LLC advantages include:

- 24/7 access and real-time reporting
- 30-minute call-back guarantee
- Maximum security
- Amazing flexibility
- People-friendly payroll portal
- No hidden fees



## 10 A.C.T.S. of Kindness Germantown Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner Gala



Paragon employees and guests enjoy the dinner gala.



Mike Edwards, Paragon President and COO, speaks to attendees.

In January we attended the Germantown Area Chamber of Commerce Gala for the 10th consecutive year. As Presenting Sponsor for the event, Mike Edwards, Paragon President and COO, spoke to attendees about the Chamber and its role in our successful decade. This was one of our 10 A.C.T.S. of Kindness celebrating our 10th anniversary. Throughout the year, we are celebrating our 10th anniversary by giving back to the nonprofits we have been serving for 10 years. To see our most recent A.C.T.S. of Kindness, use the hashtag #pb10for10 and visit pb10for10.com.

## Memphis Child Advocacy Center Celebrity Chefs Gala



Patrick and Sue O'Hearn attend the Memphis Child Advocacy Center's Celebrity Chefs Gala.



## Mid-South Food Bank Food Drive



Through December, Paragon held a Food Drive for the Mid-South Food Bank in the banking center lobbies. Paragon raised \$11,920 and collected 278 cans of food to provide 36,038 meals. Pictured here at the drop-off are Penny Hill, Haley Overcast, Lisa Word, Dorothy Cleaves, Robert Shaw, Valorie Valle, WMCTV's Andrew Douglas, Steve Maury, Lisa Barden, Anita Meyers, Lisa Califf, and Donna Bain.

# Community Involvement

## Make-A-Wish: Season of Wishes



Lisa Barden, Emily Friedman, and Haley Overcast were among the Paragon volunteers who participated in the Make-A-Wish Season of Wishes at Saddle Creek.

## Lunch and Learn: Civil Rights Museum



Paragon Team Members had the opportunity to hear from Beverly Sakauye from the National Civil Rights Museum. She spoke about the museum's recent expansion, its national and worldwide reputation, and volunteer opportunities for Paragon.



## United Way Kickoff Breakfast: The Madonna Learning Center



Pictured are Brenda Gaines-Ollie, United Way; Lisa Barden, Paragon; Wayne Littleton, Paragon; Stephanie Brookshaw, United Way; Jo Gilbert, Madonna Learning Center; Matthew Abis, student at Madonna Learning Center; Barney Abis, father of Matthew Abis; and Mike Edwards, Paragon.

## Paragon Wins Tennessee's Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award!

Paragon recently won the 2014 Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award for the State of Tennessee. The Tennessee Psychological Association (TPA) presents the award annually to recognize innovative companies that implement programs to foster employee health and wellbeing.

Areas evaluated for the competition include the following:

- Employee involvement
- Health and safety
- Employee growth and development
- Work-life balance
- Employee recognition

Paragon was nominated by Dr. Robert Bloom, Ph. D., President-elect of the TPA and chair of the Psychologically Healthy Workplace Committee.



*Paragon CEO Robert Shaw accepts the award from Dr. Robert Bloom, Ph. D.*

### Director's Corner: Mary McDaniel

As a business owner, retired FedEx executive, and passionate philanthropist, Mary McDaniel brings unique qualities and skills to the Paragon Board of Directors. Whether she is leading a team of employees that span the globe or investing in the Memphis community, Mary McDaniel seeks to make things happen and effect change wherever she may be.

Mary McDaniel received her first degree from State Technical Institute at Memphis (now Southwest Community College). It was there that she made the connections that would jump-start her career as she was recruited by one of FedEx's HR representatives who had previously worked with her at State Tech. For the next 31 years, Mary worked her way through the ranks at FedEx, starting as a Supervisor and finishing her FedEx career as a Vice President while holding some nine positions in between.

The position that gave her career focus was time as Senior Manager of Publishing Operations Support, where Mary got her first taste of Air Operations. "I knew that in the last part of my career I would want to work with airplanes," Mary says. "It's a passion of mine that surprises most people who meet me." All of her following positions at FedEx, whether in purchasing, publishing, or distribution, built upon each other to her final position as Vice President of Air Operations Material and Corporate Sourcing. In this position, Mary was in charge of all the employees who handled purchasing, warehousing, and distributing as well as the audit and oversight of aircraft parts.

Mary's movement throughout her career was very purposeful. As she says, "I haven't stayed in any job over 5 years. What I love about corporate America is the opportunity to work in different areas. This keeps you from becoming stale and stagnant in one environment, which can in a way stifle creativity." So when her 30th anniversary passed at FedEx, Mary knew that it was time to move on, and she had planned her retirement in the same way she planned her career.

But retirement for Mary McDaniel was just the close of the FedEx chapter of her life and the beginning of a new one as a business owner. During her last years at FedEx, she established MHM Investments and Consulting, which is now in its fourth year of operation. Mary invests in various areas of

interest and consults in multiple business areas including purchasing and contracting, leadership coaching and training, and career coaching and training.

In addition to time spent running her own business, Mary serves as chair of the Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission. Mary was appointed to this position by the governor and is now serving her fifth year as commissioner. She also serves as a member of the Southwest Tennessee Community College Board of Trustees. Mary was chair of the board for four years, during which time she assisted in raising the money to build the nursing school that opened last year.

Mary also divides her time serving with other non-profits as Development Board Chair for the Women's Foundation of Memphis, President of Philanthropic Black Women of Memphis, and a member of the Memphis Symphony's Mei-Ann Circle of Friends (MACF).

MACF was originally founded by a group of women who wanted to befriend Symphony Conductor Mei-Ann Chen when she first came to Memphis. Mary was one of the 10 founders of MACF, a group that has eventually grown to more than 150 members.

Mary became a Paragon customer when the bank first opened 10 years ago, but it was eight more years before Mary joined Paragon's Board of Directors. "I heard about the board seat initially from Edith Kelly-Green, who was a former Paragon Board Member," Mary says. "But after Dorothy Cleaves (First Vice President, Private Banking) talked to me, I became really interested in the position and the rest is history."

Mary has one daughter, Kristina, who she refers to as the highlight of her life. "Being a mother is the biggest thing I've ever done. People ask me what kept me up at night. It certainly wasn't my job. It was wondering if I was being a good enough mother."

Paragon is thankful to have the insight and leadership of Mary McDaniel on the Board of Directors!



*Mary McDaniel*

## New Smiles at Paragon:



Brittney Rowe  
Business Development



Carolyn Taylor  
Loan Closing Associate  
Small Business  
Capital Group



Troy Wheelley  
First Vice President  
Information Technology

## Future Paragon Customers:



Luke Michael Cullinan  
Son of Doug Cullinan,  
SBA National Sales  
Director



Christa Faith Eggleston  
Granddaughter of  
Mickey Smith-Eggleston,  
Small Business Capital Group



Alice Gardiner Gifford  
Granddaughter of  
Debby Allen,  
Grove Park Manager

## Locations:

### Grove Park

Poplar at Grove Park  
4515 Poplar Avenue, Suite 108  
Memphis, TN 38117

### Fountain Place

Poplar at Valleybrook  
5400 Poplar Avenue, Suite 150  
Memphis, TN 38119

### Paragon Place

Poplar at Massey  
6300 Poplar Avenue, Suite 117  
Memphis, TN 38119

### Saddle Creek

Poplar at Germantown  
7600 Poplar Avenue  
Germantown, TN 38138

### Paragon Small Business Capital Group

2970 Clairmont Road NE, Suite 700  
Atlanta, GA 30329  
(404) 419-1856  
paragoncapitalsolutions.com

**Telephone:** 901.273.2900

**Branch Hours:** 8:30 am–5:00 pm, Mon–Thu  
8:30 am–6:00 pm, Fri

**ATM:** 24 Hours/7 days a week

**Paragon Direct:** 901.333.0260  
24-Hour Voice Response Unit

**Online Banking:** bankparagon.com

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 2022  
Memphis, TN 38101-2022

## Stay in the Loop on Facebook and Twitter

Want to stay informed on the latest happenings such as events and community service at Paragon? Then “like” us on Facebook (Search for Paragon Bank) and “follow” us on Twitter (twitter.com/bankparagon).



Scan for Facebook!



Scan for Twitter!

MEMBER FDIC



Ryan Elizabeth Leonard  
Daughter of  
Michael Leonard,  
Private Banking



Treasure Dior Tillman  
Granddaughter of  
Teresa Garner,  
Deposit Operations



Lyla Rae Valle  
Granddaughter of  
Valorie Valle,  
Facility Manager

## Anniversaries

Congratulations and thanks to the following employees who have celebrated ten-year and five-year anniversaries with Paragon!

### Ten-Year Anniversaries

Carol McConkey	October 1, 2004	Diane Roten	December 13, 2004
Chondrea Black	October 1, 2004	Chris Platania	December 13, 2004
Gordin McMurtry	October 5, 2004	Joyce Davis	December 13, 2004
Debby Allen	October 29, 2004	Pam Caviness	January 3, 2005
Cheryl Shackelford	December 1, 2004	Nancy Magness	January 4, 2005
Liz Joyner	December 1, 2004	Patrick O'Hearn	January 25, 2005
Tracey Thesmar	December 1, 2004	Steve Maury	February 22, 2005
Sharon Gulleddge	December 8, 2004	Margie Smith	February 22, 2005
Lisa Barden	December 13, 2004	Lisa Word	February 28, 2005
Rita Fiduccia	December 13, 2004	Dorothy Cleaves	May 4, 2005
Stacy Fields	December 13, 2004	Donna Bain	June 20, 2005
Carole Hughes	December 13, 2004		

### Five-Year Anniversaries

Marshall Talley	October 19, 2009
Bill Freeman	January 4, 2010



Co-workers celebrated Cheryl Shackelford's big birthday with decorations and treats. Happy Birthday, Cheryl!