



August 18, 2012

Sen. Pryor, Rep. Ross to Speak at Marion Berry Tribute Dinner

U.S. Senator Mark Pryor and U.S. Congressman Mike Ross will speak at the Marion Berry Tribute Dinner sponsored by Mid-South Community College and hosted by Southland Park Gaming and Racing.

The ticket-only event will be held on Thursday, Aug. 23, at 7 p.m., in Southland's Starting Gate Event Center. Platinum tables are sold out, but gold (\$800) and silver (\$650) tables, with seating for 10 people, remain available. A limited number of individual tickets are also available for \$60.



U.S. Sen. Pryor



U.S. Rep. Ross

To reserve space at the Thursday evening event, go to www.mbrec.org/media/table-reservations and fill out the Table Reservation form, or contact Patti Coleman, MSCC Director of Advancement, at (870) 733-6764 or pdcoleman@midsouthcc.edu.

Proceeds from the table/ticket sales will go toward the establishment of the Marion Berry Scholarship at the College.

Sen. Pryor, in his second term, is committed to putting the interests of Arkansas first. He has earned a reputation as a “voice of reason,” working with both Democrats and Republicans to pass meaningful legislation for Arkansas and the nation.

He serves on six Senate committees, providing him with multiple avenues to benefit Arkansas. He was first elected to public office in 1990 as a member of the Arkansas State House of Representatives. In 1998, he won election as the state's Attorney General.

Congressman Ross, a fifth generation Arkansan and former small business owner, has represented the state's Fourth Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2001. The Prescott resident serves on the House Energy & Commerce Committee and as ranking member of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. Ross is also Co-Chair of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, Co-Chair of the Second Amendment Taskforce and Co-Chair of the Blue Dog Coalition, a group of fiscally conservative Democratic House members that advocates the principles of fiscal responsibility and government accountability.

Chad Causey, senior associate with Noble Strategies, a bipartisan, state & federal government affairs and issue management firm, will introduce Congressman Berry. Causey worked with Berry for 10 years, starting as a field representative and finishing as chief of staff. During his tenure, he took night classes to earn a law degree from the Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America.

MSCC President Dr. Glen Fenter will also speak at the tribute dinner.

On Friday, Aug. 24, MSCC will dedicate the \$9 million Marion Berry Renewable Energy Center at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the ceremony.

The building is named in recognition of the longtime First District Congressman who fueled efforts to direct more than \$55 million to Eastern Arkansas for educational and economic development.

The Marion Berry Renewable Energy Center provides a world-class facility to support entrepreneurs, workforce training, and applied research in the utilization of renewable agricultural outputs to create value chains which support creation of new businesses and jobs across the region.

MSCC received a \$2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration to assist in the construction of the center. An additional \$1.2 million from the U.S. Department of Labor provided for program development and equipment for the engine testing facility.