

Community & Economic Development

Strengthening Arkansas Communities

Google, Banners, and Bears! Progress from the ARCO Region

Carla Vaught – County Agent Polk County
ARCO Board Member

Google...

- Workshops held in counties to help businesses learn the importance of an online presence
- Emphasized the
 necessity of having
 googling and search
 words for things such
 as trip advisor

Improving Your Google Presence Workshop





Banners...



Banners designed, purchased, and hung on all but 3 non-streetscaped blocks in Mena.



...and Bears!

City of Waldron welcome signs





Waldron – Where the West is Still Wild!

Business Stats

- Mena/Polk Co Chamber reports 60 new members in the past 2 years – 26 are new businesses
- Mena Advertising and Promotion reports a steady increase in revenue – budget approaching \$300K

New Businesses









Art District and Celebration





Beautification





ARCO Region Branding Initiative

- "One More Day" Webinar and meeting on Branding
- Online survey of residents of Mongomery,
 Polk and Scott Counties
- Looking for assets to help brand the area
- Used by Thoma and Thoma as a base for developing a logo and tag lines
- "Heart of the Ouachitas" has emerged as the most probable brand



Adventures of All Kinds!



Hiking, Biking...





and Riding





And Entertainment





Education and Resources

Montgomery County Economic Opportunity Meeting



Tasty Acre Project



Community Garden





Oh, the confusion of some mountains! We continue to work on our identity crisis!



Then...



And now... Our Future is Very Bright!



