

# Changing Times:

## The Transformation of Bolivar County Through the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

(An Oral History Project)

### **The Bolivar County Library System is Looking For Potential Interviewees Living in Bolivar County!!!**

Bolivar County experienced sweeping changes during the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, from the mechanization of farming bringing the shift from the sharecropping system to the wage labor system, the resultant falling of agricultural prices, and the rapid decline of its once booming small towns. We are looking for people who remember these changes and are willing to share their experiences as a contribution to the historical record of Bolivar County.

The interview can take place in your home, at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library, one of our branches (Rosedale, Shelby, Mound Bayou, Merigold, Shaw, Benoit, or Gunnison), or at another appropriate place within Bolivar County. We will record the interview using digital equipment. The interview will consist of questions designed to help you recount your life and experiences, including any anecdotes you may like to include. Each interview will last between 1 to 1 ½ hours. You will be asked to complete a form asking about your family history.

Additionally, we ask that you bring with you any photographs and/or documents that record the changes Bolivar County experienced through the decades, including family photographs. With your permission, we will scan your photographs and/or documents for inclusion in our photographic and/or vertical files collections to enhance our local historical collection.

People often say that their story is not unique or is not important. We disagree. Everyone has something to contribute and each interview will be a legacy for future generations of Bolivar County residents, historians, and researchers.

If you are interested in the possibility of being interviewed, or know of someone who would be a good candidate, please call Tamara Blackwell at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library at (662) 843-2774, Ext. 104, or email her at [tblackwell@bolivar.lib.ms.us](mailto:tblackwell@bolivar.lib.ms.us).