

THE CORNER



JULY 2023

SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY

CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE



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Letter From the President

Here's the scoop on what's going on this month at the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce. We will be hosting our Monthly Business Luncheon on Wednesday, July 5th. The July Luncheon is very special, as it is our Annual 5 on 5 Non-Profit Luncheon. Attendees will have the opportunity of hearing from representatives of 5 non-profit organizations: Be the Change Gulf Coast, Home of Grace, McKemie Place, Ransom Ministries, and Wings of Life. Please make plans to attend! Seats are limited and your partnership is important.

Speaking of ice cream, the Chamber plans to build Mobile's largest ice cream sundae at its 10th Annual Kid's Day. The event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, July 29th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Tillman's Corner Community Center. Tina Poiroux, the SWMCC Director, and her staff are working diligently to make this the best Kid's Day yet! They hope to give away 1,200 back packs filled with school supplies to local children. This is one of my favorite events and it would not be possible without sponsors, school supply donations, volunteers, and vendors. If you are looking to become more involved in the community and truly make a difference, I highly recommend participating in this event.

This month we had the pleasure of interviewing 24 of Mobile's most talented up in coming high school seniors for our T.A.L.L. Leadership Program. We will be announcing those students who were selected to represent our Chamber soon.

As I bring this month's letter to a close, I would like to commend our 2023 partners for their outstanding efforts. Your progress has not gone unnoticed. Whether it be your determination to grow, expansion of knowledge, or dedication to our community. As iron sharpens iron, you have continued to uplift other businesses as well as our community which goes to show that we have strength in numbers.

Curtis Polk

BLP Stores Division Manager

“Strength in Numbers”



JULY EVENT CALENDAR

4

Independence Day



The office will be closed as we celebrate the passage of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

5

Monthly Business Luncheon

Time: 11:30am - 1:00pm

Location: John C. Williams Auditorium

Speakers: 5 on 5 Non-Profit Representatives

17

CAPS Meeting

4:30 pm

The Community Advisory Panel Meeting will be taking place at the Tillman's Corner Community Center.

18

Coffee With The Chamber

Start Your Morning With Coffee & Networking 7:30-8:30. No reservations needed. Make this a priority to come and meet other Business Professionals over coffee.

18

Coffee Chat

We will be taking a break from our monthly Coffee Chat through July. We hope you will join us for extended fellowship time.

25

Kid's Day Volunteer Meeting

4:30 pm

We are still in need of volunteers for this year's Kid's Day! Please email info@swmcchamber.com or call (251) 666-2846 to sign up.



29

Kid's Day

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Come join us for our 10th Annual Kid's Day as we build Mobile's largest Ice Cream Sundae!!



This event would not be possible without our incredible volunteers! If you or your business is interested in volunteering please reach out to info@swmcchamber.com

SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY

CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

JULY BUSINESS LUNCHEON

Wednesday, July 5th, 2023

Networking 11:30am / Meeting 12:00-1:00pm



BUSINESS NETWORKING



Honeybees are known for their astounding teamwork. They might be tiny but by working together, each doing its own small part, these industrious bees build fantastic honeycombs that provide food and shelter for their huge families. They do not do it alone. They do it by working together. Each bee looks out for the good of the hive and the hive looks out for each bee.

This is the concept of Be The Change Gulf Coast. We recognize that sometimes people just need a little help and by working together we can each do a little something to achieve the bigger goal.

Be The Change Gulf Coast is a 501c3 charity committed to helping members of our community who find themselves struggling when an unexpected challenge forces them to choose between necessities. Founded by Shelli Bell, who through her work with several non-profits has seen firsthand how \$100 can change the trajectory of a person's life, Be The Change Gulf Coast seeks to help those who are trying to help themselves.

The people we help are faced with hard choices like buying groceries or medicine. Because they can't afford both. These are not luxury items; they are every day needs that a lot of us take for granted. For families with one or two working parents that just cannot make ends meet when there is a bump in the proverbial road, our assistance can make all the difference.



Our mission is to provide a comprehensive alcohol and drug recovery program for females ages 18 and up. We provide a twelve week residential program that embraces all aspects of addiction and recovery, including spirituality.

Our goal is to help addicted females recover from their addiction, be restored with their families, encourage them to further their education as appropriate, and to live a life that is chemically free.



McKemie Place is the only emergency overnight shelter for unaccompanied adult women in our Region- serving Mobile, Baldwin, and Washington counties. The mission of McKemie Place is to provide a safe haven, spiritual encouragement, and access to resources that help meet the needs and promote the well-being of unaccompanied women in distress. The main goal of

McKemie is to provide a safe place for homeless women to stay while encouraging them towards self sufficiency and helping them regain their independence. Our first guests were given shelter in March of 2007 and in 2022, 259 homeless ladies found a safe haven including a soft bed and a warm shower at McKemie Place. Through the gracious assistance of dedicated volunteers, we are able to provide three meals per day to our guests and provide them with all other essentials needed for daily life. New beginnings are never out of reach at McKemie Place.



Ransom Ministries, Inc. was founded by Matt and Tara Armbruster in October of 2010 to meet the immediate need of a fresh warm meal through Ransom Café. Through the years, through the cafes and other projects, the leadership of Ransom Ministries began to see that the services that were being offered to provide for individuals' basic needs were allowing people to remain in their dependent state rather than helping them get to a place where they could provide life essentials for themselves and their families.

Knowing that the initial mission of providing food opportunities for the poor had been fulfilled allowed Ransom Ministries to refocus its efforts and establish Ransom ReProgram, a job readiness and life skills training course that was designed to help participants move out of dependency and into fulfilling careers. ReProgram was first offered in the fall of 2015 with the vision of breaking the cycles of crime, poverty, and addiction in which many of those in the program found themselves trapped. It soon became evident that if participants were going to experience true life success, they needed to earn an income while learning job and life skills in the classroom.

To that end, Ransom Ministries began offering on-the-job training in January of 2019 through Ransom Recycling, an electronics recycling business. As a natural extension of the services currently provided, Ransom Ministries established Ransom Staffing in 2021. Acting as a temporary employment agency, Ransom Staffing Services enables participants to continue on the path started through Ransom ReProgram, and to gain the knowledge and skills needed to re-enter the workforce.



We are a non-profit, Christ centered, life recovery center empowering individuals and families through spiritual development, education, and opportunity.

We empower people to break destructive life cycles including poverty, addiction, incarceration and family violence. We accomplish this through Christian discipleship, Wholistic education, and community partnerships. Our vision is to see individuals, families, and communities transformed for the glory of God.

JULY LUNCHEON SPONSOR



As a leader in the restoration industry, PuroClean of Mobile has earned the trust of insurance professionals, home service providers, property managers, and homeowners throughout North America. PuroClean of Mobile understands the trauma our customers face in the aftermath of a fire, water, mold or biohazard incident.

Our technicians provide remediation services with compassion, respect, and minimal disruption, sealing off affected areas to prevent further damage and minimize costs. Our IICRC-certified uniformed professionals are thoroughly background-checked. They pledge to do whatever it takes to restore and rescue our client's property, from walls to the smallest keepsake. We do not call it a day until we exceed our customers' expectations.

We have offices in Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, and Tuscaloosa. Call Jerry Hamilton with any property restoration needs you may have.

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251-300-1635

pesalinfo@puroclean.com

**** \$15.00 Current Partners
** \$18.00 for Future Partners
EVENT TICKETS ARE LIMITED.**

RSVP to reserve your seat!

**Tickets can be purchased online at
www.swmcchamber.com or call the office
to pay by phone at 251-666-2488.**

**SPLIT
THE POT**

\$1 = 1 TICKET

\$5 = 10 TICKETS

**\$20 = AN ARM'S LENGTH
(APPROX. 40 TICKETS)**

ANNUAL SKEET SHOOT

We hope you will consider joining us for our 1st Annual Skeet Shoot Fundraiser at Taylor Creek Sporting Clays! If you are interested in participating please email info@swmcchamber.com or call (251) 666-2846!



"The Holcim cement plant is located in Theodore and has been in operation since September 1981. The facility is a dry process plant that includes a four stage preheater and is built along the Theodore Ship canal. The plant has increased the usage of alternative raw materials and fuels to reduce its fossil fuel footprint and to lessen impacts on the environment. As part of Holcim US, we play an essential role in accelerating our world's transition to a net zero and inclusive future."

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



We would like to welcome Hope Driskell to the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce. She recently graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of South Alabama's Mitchell College of Business. She is excited to help partners grow their business and serve the community of Tillman's Corner. Go Jags!



SUMMER PROGRAM



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SOUTH ALABAMA

Our Summer Enrichment Program has begun! We have Club kids in our 6 traditional clubs, 6 summer sites, and Camp Chandler-Tonsmeire. Throughout June and July, our Clubs are kid-focused, fun, and engaging. Kids are enjoying exciting summer activities that include Summer Brain Gain, field trips, sports, swimming, arts and crafts, while also learning the importance of a healthy lifestyle.



Katherine Caraway
Marketing

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e: kat.accelerated@gmail.com
w: acceleratedaccounting.tax

CHAMBER BUSINESS AFTER

HOURS

NETWORKING AT ITS BEST...

We are looking for businesses to host a monthly Business After Hours event at your location. It is a great opportunity to have the Chamber in your office and showcase the many wonderful items you sell, the services you provide or the activities that you perform. Schedule today and get more information on how to get on our calendar for 2023.

Hosting an After Hours Networking event gives members/partners an opportunity to network and socialize in a fun, relaxed atmosphere after the regular working day. This event is meant to be fun and is a great way for business to connect. This is a great way to meet new clients for your business.



MOBILE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SHERIFF PAUL BURCH



SEE A CRIME? REPORT IT NOW
SEE POTENTIAL EVIDENCE?
UPLOAD PHOTO & VIDEO

Help us get the bad apples out of your neighborhood.
Download the app and learn more at mobileso.com

Encinitas, California-based **Sage Health** opened its first clinic in the state last month inside the Pinebrook Shopping Center in West Mobile. Plans are in place to add two more sites locally; one in Midtown on Government Street and another on St. Stephens Road in West Mobile. These facilities focus exclusively on seniors and, among the many issues these communities face, access to a primary care physician is reportedly one of the largest.

The Port City was chosen by the healthcare provider because of data suggesting a higher population of elderly people with a lack of access to primary healthcare. Sage Health is also planning to expand to Mississippi, Arkansas, and Maryland as soon as the end of this month.

Per a press release, **Fast Track DPF** has opened a roughly 2,000-square foot diesel particulate filter (DPF) cleaning service center, found at 6221 Sperry Road in Theodore. The locally based company specializes in treatment plans for diesel-powered vehicles and heavy equipment to ensure efficient engine performance, reducing the potential risk of costly emission part damage.

“The summer travel season brings increased traffic and construction projects, making Fast Track’s services particularly relevant, considering the increased attention on air pollution and environmental sustainability,” Fast Track announced in a prepared statement. For more information on their services, call 251-490-9734.

Atlanta, Georgia-based **Pond**, a national engineering, and architecture company, has leased some 3,162-square feet of office space inside the Commerce Building found at 118 North Royal Street in downtown Mobile. **Josh W. Hall** of **CRE Mobile** represented Pond in the deal. The firm plans to move sometime this Fall from its current site situated at 9 Dauphin Street to the larger footprint. According to its website, Pond has more than 20 locations nationwide. **Inge & Associates** worked for the property owner in the transaction.

Finally, **Stirling Properties** announced multiple real estate transactions closing locally last month:

A & J Venue, LLC has leased Suites D and E of the 3,100-square-foot building found at 6414 Hillcrest Park Court in West Mobile, according to

Jill Meeks with Stirling.

Fang & Claw Tattoo & Piercing Shop has leased some 1,500-square-feet of retail space in the Old Shell Plaza shopping center in Suite D at 5546 Old Shell Road in West Mobile, according to **Kaelan McArthur** of Stirling, who represented the tenant. **Amber Hightower Dedeaux** of **Vallas Realty** represented the landlord in the deal.

Mallorie Wareham has leased a 1,200-square-foot space inside the Schillinger Place Shopping Center in Suite 12A at 2502 South Schillinger Road in West Mobile. The suite is a storefront for **Maddy & Myla’s Boutique**, which opened last month on June 10. **Kaelan McArthur** worked for the property owner in the transaction.

Smitherman Partners has leased a 1,200-square-foot footprint inside the Cumberland Place shopping center, Suite D, at 7695 Cottage Hill Road in West Mobile. **Angela McArthur** represented the landlord on the deal.

A **local investor** has bought a 5,200-square-foot office and warehouse space situated at 3715 Lakeside Drive South in West Mobile for \$345,000. **Jeff Barnes** with Stirling represented the buyer in the transaction.

Mobile-based **Gulf Coast Men’s Clinic, LLC** has leased a 3,051-square-foot office footprint found at 820 University Boulevard in West Mobile. **Jill Meeks** worked for the property owner on the deal.

Lacombe, Louisiana-headquartered **ChillCo, Inc.** recently leased a 2,000-square-foot warehouse site found at 2565 Halls Mill Road in West Mobile. **Jill Meeks** represented the tenant in the transaction.

WE’D LOVE TO ADD YOUR NAME HERE!!
CALL THE CHAMBER FOR MORE
INFORMATION ON BECOMING AN ACTIVE
PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY BY JOINING THE
SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER!
call 251-666-2846
or email info@swmchamber.com

THANK YOU TO OUR KID'S DAY SPONSORS

We appreciate your dedication to the Tillman's Corner Community and look forward to seeing how many lives we can impact through your generous donations. If you are interested in sponsoring please call **(251) 666-2846** or email **info@swmcchamber.com** for more information!



Randall Dueitt
District 3
County Commissioner



Thank you to Alabama House Representative Margie Wilcox of District 104 for her generous support of this event.



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NEW CHAMBER PARTNERS



Darren Rych
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pickup@doctordookie.com
www.doctordookie.com



WE NEED YOUR HELP:

SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER of COMMERCE



HERE'S THE LATEST SCOOP ON OUR ANNUAL SUMMER-TIME SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE! WE NEED YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT TO FILL AS MANY BACKPACKS AS POSSIBLE. AN EXAMPLE OF ITEMS NEEDED IS LISTED BELOW AND MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS ACCEPTED.

- Backpacks
- Packs of Paper
- Spiral Notebooks
- Index Cards
- Pocket Folders
- Composition Books
- Three Ring Binders
- Ballpoint Pins
- Packs of #2 Pencils
- Colored Pencils
- Markers (thin & thick)
- Boxes of Crayons
- Highlighters
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Calculators
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Bottle White Glue
- Glue Sticks
- Pencil Pouch
- Crayon Boxes
- Erasers
- Dividers
- 3 Prong Folders



Please bring school supply
donations to the July Luncheon!!

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Bronze

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Family Security Credit Union
Godfathers Pizza
Gulf Coast Graphix
Huntington Learning Center
Proshield Pest Control
Rock & Roll Offs
Singing River Health Systems
Southern View Media
The Grounds
Uniti Fiber

Friends of the Chamber

A Spot of Tea
BASF Corporations
Dex Imaging
Dick Russell's BBQ
Elite Mobile Real Estate
EverLoved Veterinary, LLC
Fremin Ventures, LLC
Gulf Coast Graphix
Kalifeh Bedsole Adams PC
Lindsey and Waldo, LLC
Magnolia Mortgage Company
Occupational Health Center
Poplar Home Waterproofing Inc.
The Shoulder of the Central Gulf Coast
Touching Hearts Senior Care

"BUILT FOR THIS" WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



August 25th, 2023
from
8:00 am to 5:00 pm
at the
GulfQuest Maritime Museum

Join us as we discuss building confidence, financial wealth, and social media presence/branding. Dr. Sandra Dalton-Smith will serve as the keynote speaker and plans to give insight into building resilience. The event will include door prizes, networking, vendors, and more!

Hosted By:



SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY
CHAMBER of COMMERCE



SARALAND AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



PARTNERS ON THE MOVE



Dick Russell's BBQ was recently recognized for having Mobile's 3rd Best Burger by **Alabama Life & Culture**.

Their article states: "Though this mainstay of Highway 90 in Tillman's Corner is known for barbecue (baby back ribs, pulled pork shoulder and chicken) and breakfast (three-egg omelets, giant pancakes and homemade biscuits), the burger is my favorite item on the menu, which doubles as a placemat on top of vinyl checked tablecloths. Daily specials include comfort dishes like country-fried steak, fried catfish and meatloaf, served with two sides. With a mix of tables and comfy booths, Dick Russell's is staffed by doting servers who will keep your tea glass full throughout your meal.

Order this: The Old Fashion Hamburger, the only burger on the menu, is described as 'a hamburger to remember,' and it really is: a half-pound burger topped with cheese, lettuce, tomato and sauteed chopped onions, which make it special."



SWMCC BUSINESS EXPO

The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce's Annual Business Expo has been rescheduled for Thursday, October 19th! The event will take place from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. There will also be a Vendor Soiree from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. If you are interested in participating and did not sign up earlier this year, we have limited spots available. Please email info@swmccchamber.com for more information.



SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE
SWMCC
SMALL BUSINESS
EXPO

PLEASE RSVP FOR THIS EVENT
swmccchamber.com
251-666-2488

Location:
Tillman's Corner
Community Center
5055 Carol Plantation Rd
Mobile, AL 36619

Thursday, October 19th 2023
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
VENDOR SOIREE
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



FLAG SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE

The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce recognizes special individuals through our flag display on HWY 90 on patriotic holidays.

The flag sponsorship allows you to recognize special individuals through your \$100 donation. We will pay tribute to your love ones, veterans, children and or businesses each holiday while raising your flag to reflect gratitude and appreciation. The sponsors name will be displayed on our perpetual plaque hanging in the Tillman's Corner Community Center Lobby all year, and we encourage you to stop by and take a look at the individuals who have already sponsored a flag for their loved ones.



For more information contact SWMCC office at 251-666-2488 or email info@swmccchamber.com



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EMAIL:

info@swmccchamber.com



OFFICER OF THE MONTH



Photographed By: *M. TREASURED* PHOTOGRAPHY

Thank you Officer Jarred Hutto for your commitment to our community!

Chamber Mission

Our Chamber's mission is to foster, promote, advance and improve the civic, commercial and general business interests of the surrounding areas and to cooperate with other communities promoting objectives for the improvement of our businesses and the welfare of our community.



Chris Black

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Calvin Dickerson
Gary Turk

**CONTACT US at 251-666-2488 or the Chamber at 251-666-2846
www.swwcchamber.com**

Strength in Numbers



SIGN UP TO RECEIVE OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AND OTHER CHAMBER OPPORTUNITIES BY EMAILING US AT INFO@SWMCCHAMBER.COM



2020 - 2024



ALABAMA ACCREDITED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE