

# THE CORNER



*Holiday*  
**FOOD DRIVE**

**NOVEMBER 2023**

**SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY**  
CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE



**SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY**  
CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

## Letter From the President

As the saying goes, “There is always something to be thankful for,” and those of us at the Chamber are grateful to all of those who showed their support at the Business Expo on October 19th. The event showcased several local businesses through event sponsorships, raffle giveaways and booths. It was a joy to bring the event back home and we would like to say thank you for making it possible.

In the spirit of giving, the Chamber is in the midst of its Alabama vs. Auburn Food Drive. If you are able to donate, we ask that you bring your items to our next Monthly Business Luncheon on Wednesday, November 1st. May the team with the best fans win!

We are going to be graced by our Mayor Sandy Stimpson as speaker for our Luncheon. Make sure you purchase your tickets in advance through the Chamber website for this event because he always draws a sellout crowd. Special thanks go to Nick Matranga for personally sponsoring our luncheon this month.

We are less than a week away from the start of our 10 Guns in 10 Days drawing which will begin on November 1st. Once the drawing begins, you will not be able to purchase tickets. Get your tickets for \$50 each through the website, office or Chamber Board. If you win you will be put back in the drawing for an opportunity to win again.

Christmas is right around the corner and the Chamber is looking forward to its upcoming Christmas Tree Lighting. If you or someone you know is interested in having a booth at the Tree Lighting or sponsoring the event, please contact the Chamber Staff.

We are starting up our Star Student Program again and have a few sponsorship opportunities available. Our star students are chosen from participating schools based on grades and attendance. According to the teachers and principals our program really makes a motivational difference to these kids. They get to attend our Luncheons and receive an award certificate and a gift card.

Thank you to all of our partners and sponsors for their support so far this year and it's proof that we really do have “STRENGTH IN NUMBERS.”

*Curtis Polk*

BLP Stores Division Manager



“Strength in Numbers”



Cover Photo by LauriPatterson/Getty  
Images as shown in “The Spruce Eats.”

# NOVEMBER EVENT CALENDAR

## 1 Gun Giveaway Kick-Off



One Gun Winner and one Gear Winner will be drawn November 1st through the 10th at 10:00 am.

## 1 Monthly Business Luncheon

**Time:** 11:30am - 1:00pm

**Location:** John C. Williams Auditorium

**Speaker:** Mayor Sandy Stimpson

## 15 Christmas Decorating

**Location:** Tillman's Corner Community Center

If you are interested in helping please reach out to the Chamber Staff for more details.



## 17 Food Drive Sorting

**Time:** 10:00 am until

**Location:** Tillman's Corner Community Center

We are in need of volunteers for sorting!

## 21 Coffee With The Chamber

There will be no Coffee with the Chamber throughout the holiday months. Please use this time to spend celebrating with your friends and family. We hope you will join us again in the New Year!

## 21

### Coffee Chat

Coffee Chat has also be postponed until January of 2024.



## 23 Happy Thanksgiving!

We hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving with your loved ones. The Chamber office will be closed Thursday, November 23rd and Friday, November 24th in honor of this holiday.



## 27 Christmas Tree Lighting

**Time:** 5:30 pm

**Location:** Tillman's Corner Community Center

Come join us for a fun-filled night!

**SWMCC 2023 AWARD NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED**

TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION VISIT US ONLINE AT [www.sumecchamber.com](http://www.sumecchamber.com)

**Citizen of the Year | Community Impact Award**

**Teacher of the Year | Volunteer of the Year | Diplomat of the Year**

# SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY

CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

## NOVEMBER BUSINESS LUNCHEON

Wednesday, November 1st, 2023

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



The City of Mobile's 108th Mayor, Sandy Stimpson has a bold mission for Mobile's citizens to become One Mobile – a safer, more business and family friendly city.?

Driven by a desire to affect positive change in the life of each citizen, Mayor Stimpson has proven that the greatest level of success is achieved when everyone has a seat at the table. Stimpson's four decades of experience in the private sector and extensive community service provide a solid foundation for the type of practical change he has generated in his ten years in office. Mayor Stimpson has

ushered in a new culture at City Hall, emphasizing a commitment to transparency, effectiveness, and efficiency.

Mayor Stimpson's leadership has led to unparalleled reform of city finances. Stimpson and his team have put the city on sound financial footing by reducing bonded indebtedness by nearly \$180 million and unfunded liabilities for pension and benefits by more than \$200 million. This has led to credit rating increases from both Moody's and S&P. During the same period, he has built and maintained a two-month rainy day reserve fund and enacted more than half a dozen raises for all City of Mobile employees.

Since assuming office in 2013, Mayor Stimpson's tenure has been marked by major achievements that stand to make a lasting impact for all citizens. Stimpson and his team have executed on several transformative initiatives including an overhaul of the city's decades-old zoning code, an unprecedented increase in the delivery of infrastructure improvements, and the city's first supplier diversity program. Under Mayor Stimpson's leadership, the City of Mobile has also been recognized nationally for its innovative approaches to addressing urban blight.

Mayor Stimpson's civic and business endeavors, both locally and statewide, have been numerous and varied. He has served on the boards of the Boys & Girls Club of Southwest Alabama; the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce; the Alabama Policy Institute; the Business Council of Alabama; and the University of Alabama President's Cabinet.

A graduate from the University of Alabama in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, Stimpson began a nearly 40-year career in his family's lumber manufacturing business. Mayor Sandy Stimpson and his wife Jean have been married since 1975 and have four grown, married children and 14 grandchildren.

BUSINESS

NETWORKING



# LUNCHEON SPONSOR



Commissioner Matranga was born and raised in Mobile. He is a 1965 graduate of McGill High School. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and rose to the rank of sergeant. Commissioner Matranga retired at the rank of Colonel after 31 years of active and reserve service.

Commissioner Matranga earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Middle Tennessee State University and a Master of Science degree from Central Missouri State University.

**Commissioner Nick Matranga**  
**Mobile County License Commission**

[www.mobilecountylc.com](http://www.mobilecountylc.com)

(251) 574-8551



The Annual Show your Colors Food drive has officially kicked off! Pick a team, donate canned goods and let us see who really has the best fans. Either way this is a win for the community!

- |                 |                |                |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Boxed Stuffing  | Chicken Broth  | Mac & Cheese   |
| Boxed Potatoes  | Rice           | French Fried - |
| Canned Fruit    | Seasonings     | Onions         |
| Cranberry Sauce | Cake Mix       | Canned -       |
| Gravy           | Cake Icing     | Vegetables     |
| Cream of Soups  | Brownie Mix    | Pie Crust      |
| Cornbread Mix   | Cookie Mix     | Pie Fillings   |
| Canned Yams     | Canned-Pumpkin | Etc.           |

*Please turn in all food items by November 16th to the SWMC Chamber Office 5055 Carol Plantation Road, Mobile, AL 36619*



# LUNCHEON CATERER



Naman's Catering has been the Premier Caterer for the Gulf Coast for over 30 years. Naman's Catering specializes in full-service catering and event management for corporate events, galas, fundraisers, and weddings. "Throughout our expansion, we have kept to the exceptional standards that have distinguished our company since we began. We bring this outstanding service and presentation to many venues across the Gulf Coast."



**\*\* \$15.00 Current Partners**

**\*\* \$18.00 for Future Partners**

**EVENT TICKETS ARE LIMITED.**

**RSVP by Tuesday, October 31st  
to reserve your seat!**

**Tickets can be purchased online at  
[www.swmchamber.com](http://www.swmchamber.com)**

**BECOME A  
PARTNER TODAY!**

**CALL: (251) 666-2846**

**EMAIL:  
[info@swmchamber.com](mailto:info@swmchamber.com)**



# ALABAMA PECAN FESTIVAL

## 2023

NOVEMBER 3-5

5055 CAROL PLANTATION RD. MOBILE, AL. 36619

FRI: 5PM-UNTIL | SAT: 9AM-UNTIL | SUN: 9AM-UNTIL

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WWW.ALABAMAPECANFESTIVAL.COM



# SHOP LOCAL MONTH



## SHOP LOCAL

We hope you will join the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce in supporting Shop Local Month. This national campaign formed to show support to small businesses throughout the holiday months. It begins November 22nd and runs through December 22nd. We especially encourage you to dine or shop small on November 24th, the Friday after Thanksgiving!

# GGSF FAIR

SMALL TOWN USA

OCTOBER 27th - NOVEMBER 5th

## 2023 FAIR HOURS

Days Open	Hours Open	Ticket Office Closes	Midway Closes
FRIDAY, OCT 27	4pm	11pm	12am
SATURDAY, OCT 28	11am	11pm	12am
SUNDAY, OCT 29	12pm	8pm	10pm
MONDAY, OCT 30	4pm	8pm	10pm
TUESDAY, OCT 31	4pm	11pm	12am
WEDNESDAY, NOV 1	4pm	8pm	10pm
THURSDAY, NOV 2	4pm	8pm	10pm
FRIDAY, NOV 3	4pm	11pm	12am
SATURDAY, NOV 4	11am	11pm	12am
SUNDAY, NOV 5	12pm	8pm	10pm

TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

BEAT THE LINES BUY TICKETS ONLINE!  
GREATERGULFSTATEFAIR.COM BUY TICKETS

# CHAMBER BUSINESS AFTER HOURS



# 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 businesses to connect. This is a great way to meet new clients for your business.

# Pelican

PROMOS

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American WeatherStar recently opened its new manufacturing building at 8095 Padgett Switch Road in Irvington. The event marked a milestone for the company as it looks to expand its manufacturing capabilities for its more than 500 approved contractors nationwide.

“We moved out here in March of 2020 with one specific goal in mind: growth. Last year, we blended approximately 200,000 gallons of product in our existing plant, but we knew building a bigger facility was essential to the company’s continued growth.” American WeatherStar President Brian O’Donnell said.

With the new 10,500 square foot building, the company will blend silicone, urethane and acrylic coatings, which it supplies to its customers through various private-label manufacturers. The facility’s completion marks part one of a three-phase project. Founded in 2004, American WeatherStar is a manufacturer and supplier of fluid-applied commercial roof restoration systems and products.

Last month, Mobile Mayor Sandy Stimpson announced that the Mobile City Council agreed to support a new medical school building for the Whiddon College of Medicine at the University of South Alabama (USA), main campus, located in West Mobile. Using funding earmarked for economic development, the city will provide \$1 million a year toward the project over the next decade.

“With its \$1.4-billion annual budget, USA is a vital engine for growth and innovation for our region’s economy. USA Health also provides critical medical services to residents across Coastal Alabama,” Stimpson said. The new facility will allow USA to increase its class sizes to create more opportunities for local students and providers.

Off Dock Services has added another floor to its offices in the Waterman-Smith building located at 61 St. Joseph Street in Downtown Mobile, according to Josh W. Hall of CRE Mobile, who represented the landlord. The shipping and warehousing company has leased the entire sixth floor, after leasing the entire seventh floor this past August.

Waterman-Smith is a historic 70,000-square-foot office complex built in 1947.

Dave’s Hot Chicken, a Los Angeles-based street food brand, announced that it has signed a new franchise agreement with its original franchisees, inking a nine-unit development deal that includes both Mobile and Baldwin counties. Commercial sites under review for fast-casual eatery openings locally reportedly include West Mobile and Midtown.

Healthcare Connections NP has leased some 1,800 square feet of space found at 6420 Hillcrest Court Park in West Mobile and plans to open this month. Josh W. Hall of CRE Mobile represented the landlord in the deal. Healthcare Connections is a group of nurse practitioners specializing in adult health.

Spot of Tea, a restaurant that has served popular breakfast and lunch offerings in Downtown Mobile on Dauphin Street for nearly 30 years, is set to expand. Last month on social media, owner Tony Moore announced that franchise opportunities will soon be available.

Spring Hill College (SHC) announced that it will utilize a \$35 million grant awarded recently to build an advanced Health and Science Innovation Center. Construction is scheduled to begin in September 2024 and wrap up by August 2026.

The Mobile Area Water and Sewer System recently paid \$200,000 for a 2,289-square-foot property found at 4725 Moffett Road in West Mobile. Chris Harle with White-Spinner Realty handled the transaction.

The former Cafe 219 restaurant space, found at the corner of Conti and Joachim streets in Downtown Mobile will soon see openings for Penton’s Bistro lunch crowd and King Bleu Corner Bar after lunch hours.

For questions about, or news tips regarding, the local real estate market, please call, text or email [ron@mortageteam1.com](mailto:ron@mortageteam1.com)

SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



# Annual



# Christmas Parade



10:30 AM

5055 CAROL PLANTATION RD

MOBILE, AL 36619

(251) 666-2846

[INFO@SWMCCHAMBER.COM](mailto:INFO@SWMCCHAMBER.COM)

THEME:

## Baking Spirits Bright

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT

[WWW.SWMCCHAMBER.COM](http://WWW.SWMCCHAMBER.COM)





# NEW PARTNERS



**Bright Academy**  
(251) 525-9105  
gina@brightdyslexics.com  
www.brightdyslexics.com  
3590 Pleasant Valley Rd  
Mobile, AL 36609

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WNSP FM, WZEW FM**  
(251) 438-5460  
jane@wnsp.com  
www.wnsp.com  
www.92zew.net  
1100 Dauphin St Ste E  
Mobile, AL 36604

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**Farmers Insurance -  
The Collins Agency**  
(251) 455-9688  
alexander.pcollins1  
@farmersagency.com  
8738 Augusta Dr  
Mobile, AL 36695

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**Hembree Heating & Air**  
(251) 649-5902  
josh@hembreeac.com  
www.hembreeac.com  
3176 Westside Park Ct  
Mobile, AL 36695

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aaron@premierjanitors.com  
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Mobile, AL 36695

# BUSINESS ADVANTAGE SPONSORS

## Honorary

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## Diamond

Holcim

## Platinum

## Gold

Integrity IT Services  
Keesler Federal Credit Union  
Mobile County Commission  
Mobile County Sheriff's Department  
Payroll Vault

## Silver

Alabama Power  
Evonik Corporation  
Pro 1 Painters  
Treasured Moments Lifestyle Photography

## Bronze

Accelerated Accounting  
American Weather Star  
Brown and Root  
Corsentino Chiropractic  
CRE - Mobile  
Family Security Credit Union  
Godfathers Pizza  
Gulf Coast Graphix  
Huntington Learning Center  
Premier Cleaning & Janitorial  
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  
Holiday Inn Express & Suites  
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

# SWMCC ANNUAL BUSINESS EXPO



The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce would like to thank all of the sponsors, vendors and attendees who made its Annual Business Expo on Thursday, October 19th possible! It was an honor to bring the event back home to the Tillman's Corner Community Center. If you did not have the opportunity to participate this year, the Chamber would love to invite you to get involved in next year's Business Expo!

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# VIP PANCAKES & PAJAMAS

The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce is “Baking Spirits Bright” this holiday season. One of the Chamber’s most beloved events is back and will take place December 1st from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Tillman’s Corner Community Center. This year’s “VIP Pancakes & Pajamas with Santa” event will follow the Christmas Parade’s Gingerbread inspired theme. Tickets are \$25.00 per child, which includes admittance and dinner for one parent or guardian. An additional parent or guardian can purchase a meal for \$10.00. Each child will get to decorate Christmas Cookies, construct a Gingerbread House, take a photo with Santa Claus, and eat a Pancake Dinner all in the comfort of their favorite Christmas Pajamas. There are only 50 spots available, so we recommend you purchase your ticket now! Tickets are available in the Chamber Office at 5055 Carol Plantation Road, Mobile AL, 36619. If you have any questions or would like more information, please call (251) 666-2846.

SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## Vip Pancakes & Pajamas with Santa

**DEC 1** 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

5055 CAROL PLANTATION RD  
MOBILE, AL 36619  
(251) 666-2846  
INFO@SWMCCCHAMBER.COM

TICKETS ARE \$25.00 PER CHILD (INCLUDES ADMITTANCE FOR ONE GUARDIAN). WE ONLY HAVE 50 VIP NIGHT TICKETS AVAILABLE, SO BE SURE TO PURCHASE YOURS NOW!

# BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



At Pro 1 Painters, we are a family-owned and operated business that places the highest priority on top-quality craftsmanship and stellar customer service to ensure your complete satisfaction. Our team of skilled painters is committed to providing personalized attention to each project, no matter the size or complexity, to exceed your expectations. We stand behind our work with a satisfaction guarantee, so you can trust that every job we undertake will leave your property looking its best. When you choose us as your painting contractor in South Alabama, you can expect nothing less than the next level of professional painting services.



"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."

# OFFICER OF THE MONTH



Thank you Captain Matthew James for accepting this award on behalf of Corporal Frank Collier for his commitment to our community!



**Jerry Hamilton**

**Business Development**

OFFICE (251) 625-3950  
CELL (251) 300-1635

713 Lakeside Dr. W. | Mobile | AL | 36693  
www.puroclean.com/pes-mobile

## SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CHRISTMAS EVENT SCHEDULE:

**NOV 27** Christmas Tree Lighting  
5:30 PM  
HOT COCOA & SNACKS



**DEC 1** Vip Pancakes & Pajamas  
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM, TICKETS \$25  
SMALL GIFT, PHOTO WITH SANTA, PANCAKES & CRAFTS



**DEC 2** Breakfast with Santa  
8:00 AM – 10:00 AM  
FREE FOR KIDS UNDER 10, \$5 FOR ADULTS



**DEC 2** Christmas Parade  
10:30 AM  
FLOATS, TROWS, & SANTA  
5055 CAROL PLANTATION RD, MOBILE, AL 36619



## Chamber and Community Center Staff

**Executive Director**  
Tina Poiroux, AACE  
tpoiroux@swwmcchamber.com

**Administrative Assistant**  
Hope Driskell  
hdriskell@swwmcchamber.com

**Rental Specialist**  
Jillian Baxter  
jbaxter@swwmcchamber.com

### Event Specialists

Calvin Dickerson & Gary Turk

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

## Strength in Numbers



2020 - 2024



ALABAMA ACCREDITED  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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