

THE CORNER

SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce

Serving All of South West Mobile County

April 2017



southern light[®]

Andy Newton

Business Luncheon Wednesday, April 5th

"In Step With Progress"

Message from the President



Greetings to all my SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce members, friends and colleagues. What a wondrous but chilly March we had and now we can see Spring time is in full swing. As we see the time has changed so are the times of our lives. We all need to understand we all have 24 hours in a day. Make your days productive, make a call to that someone you have not seen or spoken to for a while and let them know you are thinking of them. One of the things we say is **"I'm so busy and I just don't have the time"**. We need to remember time is short and every second is precious. Do not wait until it's too late.

Just a quick quote for you to think about:

"If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at will change."

I would like to thank our friends and colleagues for partnering with us on the event committees. As you all know preparation is the key to success. It is not too late to get involved; we are always looking for a helping hand.

Join the SWMCCC today and be a blessing to someone tomorrow. Remember the Chamber does great things.

*Blessings,
Donna Abercrombie*

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 business and the welfare of our community.

SouthWest
MOBILE COUNTY
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

2017 Officers

President
Donna Abercrombie
Century Bank

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Theresa Orrell
Polysurveying

2nd Vice President
Pete Riehm
NAI Mobile

Secretary
Tiffany Ginn
Southern Light

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AIM Mail Center

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Chris Benton - Alabama Power
Chris Black - Integrity IT Services
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Cadie Gaut - Payroll Vault
Russanne Howell - Farmers Insurance
Cindy Imsand - A-Cool Storage
Larry Kent - Individual
Delores McLaney - McLaney Senior Dance
Kay Peace - Individual
Ruth Robinson - Mobile Memorial Gardens Cemetery
Bruce Rogers - Servpro of South Mobile Co.
Della Wade - WalMart
Keidrick Wooten - Mobile Gas

Community Center Staff

Executive Director
Tina Poiroux
tpoiroux.tccc@bellsouth.net

Rental Specialist
Ashley Rester
tillmanscornerco@bellsouth.net

Building Supervisors
Hooper Stiles
Susan Williams

APRIL CALENDAR

4 Heart Matters

When: April 4th 9am-11am
Where: Tillman's Corner Community Center
What: Sharing matters of the heart for Seniors
Contact: 251-661-7700

Tillman's Corner Lions Club Meeting



When: April 4th Noon
Where: Tillman's Corner Community Center
Contact: Marion Farnell 251-554-2091

5 SWMCCC Business Luncheon

When: April 5th 11:30am-1pm
Guest Speaker: Andy Newton with Southern Light
Where: Tillman's Corner Community Center
Contact: Chamber Office 251-666-2488
Cost: \$9 for members and \$11 for potential members
Luncheon Sponsor:



MOBILE MEMORIAL GARDENS
FUNERAL HOME

14 Good Friday



16 Happy Easter!

18 SWMCCC Coffee with the Chamber

When: April 18th 7:30am - 8:30am
Where: Tillman's Corner Community Center
Contact: Chamber Office 251-666-2488
Cost: Free for members and \$5 for potential members

20

Grow your Business with Email and Social Media

When: April 20th 8am - 9am
Where: Tillman's Corner Community Center
Host: Kathryn Cariglino
RSVP: 251-666-2488/tillmanscornerco@bellsouth.net

SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce
Kids Day
5055 Carol Plantation Road
Mobile, AL 36619
Saturday, July 29, 2017
Sponsors/Vendors Wanted!
Please go to www.swmcccchamber.com to print the vendor application
For more information please call the Chamber office at 251-666-2488

April 18, 2017

7:30-8:30 am

Tillman's Corner Community Center
Free for Members / \$5 for potential Members

RSVP with the Chamber Office

251-666-2488 or

Tillmanscornerco@bellsouth.net



SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce

MONTHLY BUSINESS LUNCHEON

April 5, 2017 11:30am - 1pm

Guest Speaker:



Andy Newton is a founding member of Southern Light where he has served as President and Chief Executive Officer since its inception in 1998. In that capacity, he stewards the overall operations and strategic guidance of the company. Southern Light is currently the leading provider of fiber optic networks and high-capacity transport solutions along the Gulf Coast with approximately 6,000 miles of fiber networks.

In 2016, Southern Light was ranked the 52nd Best Medium-size Workplace by Fortune Magazine. From a quality perspective, the Department of Defense's Carrier Management Group has routinely classified Southern Light as one of the best carriers in the United States.

Andy is active in the Gulf Coast community serving on such boards as the Alabama School of Math and Science Foundation Board, Downtown Mobile Alliance, University of South Alabama School of Computing, and UMS-Wright Preparatory School.

He is an Alabama native and received a degree in Economics from Birmingham Southern College.

Caterer:



Luncheon Sponsor:



Menu:

Chopped Sirloin with Gravy over Wild Rice
Vegetable Medley
Green Salad
Rolls
Assorted Cakes
Tea

Need someone to prepare your tax return?

There are various types of tax return preparers, including certified public accountants, enrolled agents, attorneys, and many others who don't have a professional credential. You expect your preparer to be skilled in tax preparation and to accurately file your income tax return. You trust him or her with your most personal information. They know about your marriage, your income, your children and your social security numbers – the details of your financial life.

Most tax return preparers provide outstanding and professional tax service. However, each year, some taxpayers are hurt financially because they choose the wrong tax return preparer. Make sure you are well informed about your preparers reputation and experience before choosing to release your financial documents.

1

What kind of tax preparer do I need?

Anyone can be a paid tax return preparer if they have an IRS Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN). However, tax return preparers have differing levels of skills, education and expertise.

2

How can I check a tax preparer's credentials?

Our [Directory of Federal Tax Return Preparers with Credentials and Select Qualifications](#) can help you find preparers in your area who currently hold professional credentials recognized by the IRS, or who hold an Annual Filing Season Program Record of Completion. You can also check the [professional organizations](#) many tax

3

What if I have a complaint about a tax preparer?

The IRS is committed to investigating paid tax return preparers who act improperly. [Make a complaint](#) if you have been financially impacted by a tax return preparer's misconduct or improper tax preparation practices.



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER BREAKFAST THURSDAY, MAY 4TH

At Tillman's Corner Community Center
5055 Carol Plantation Rd. Mobile, AL 36619

7:00 am

PRAY FOR AMERICA

Please Join us for



1st Tuesday of each month
Tillman's Corner Community Center
9am-11am

Coffee — Danish — Friends — Fun

A monthly gathering to meet and make new friends
Learn useful information for seniors
"Sharing matters of the heart"

Sponsored by Mobile Memorial Gardens Funeral Home
251-661-7700



Mobile Memorial Gardens

*Where The Beauty Of
Life Lives Forever*

A local not-for-profit cemetery and mausoleum serving families since 1953

Julius Powell
Vice President

Tel (251)661-1333
Email: jpowell@MobileMemorialGardens.org
6100 Three Notch Rd - Mobile, AL 36619
Web: www.MobileMemorialGardens.org

Touching Hearts Senior Care
'Touching seniors hearts'

Gina Germany
Co-Owner, CEO

3263 Demetropolis Rd., Ste. 10
Mobile, AL 36693

Office: (251) 445-4204

Fax: (251) 445-4205

gina@touchingheartsseniorcare.com

www.touchingheartsseniorcare.com



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JAGUAR LAND ROVER GULF COAST

16d
littleblackdress

presented by  t. batchelor
AND SON INC.

COCKTAIL PARTY & RUNWAY SHOW

MAY 4, 2017

Fort Whiting Auditorium

Doors Open at 6:30 PM • Cocktail Attire • Guests Must Be 21 Years of Age or Older

tickets: www.rmhcmobile.org or 251.694.6873



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**RONALD McDONALD
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50 LOCAL MC MODELS
IN FASHIONS BY **Dillard's**



Have you ever dreamed of starting your own Business?

Many people consider quitting their job to start a business. What is your delay and how can you build your confidence?

I have worked with many businesses that have been successful and had the same fear you are experiencing. Some of the responses they have had about their delays were all the same. The fear of not being successful must be overcome and we must build our confidence in what we love and what we know. That burning desire you are overwhelmed with is what sparks the power to overcome the fears. Believing in your own individuality already puts you ahead of the game of success. Having the faith to invest time and resources into your own inspiration gives you an edge to believe in your product to market to the world. Statistically, we have learned that 78% of coached individuals start new businesses that they originally envisioned before the counseling took place. This just shows that they needed to build their confidence in their original ideas. We could all use more confidence in our professions helping us overcome the fear of success either while starting our own business or learning to present confidence in our current profession. I am learning daily to make the commitment to be successful, but also learning to look past my qualifications to be successful.

Build your confidence by trusting your instincts, considering the probability of your success and the outcome, assessing your energy and not obligation, expanding the possibilities and choosing the business that inspires your dream.

The lack of successful business startup is ultimately controlled by our fear. Be confident in knowing others have succeeded and you can do the same. The Chamber is a great place to build acquaintances and relationships with other business owners who have walked the same path. Fear does not control us and confidence to be successful is liberating.



SWMCCC is now accepting PayPal payments online for chamber events.

**Visit our website
www.swmcchamber.com**

CAREER NOTES



My name is Michelle Kirkpatrick. I have been a Mortgage Loan Originator since 2003. I am excited to start my journey as the new Mortgage Lender at Century Bank at the Cottage Hill branch. I have lived in Mobile with my husband and two daughters for 19 years.

What I enjoy most about being a loan originator is the gratification that comes from helping people, whether it is getting them into a new home or just being available to answer questions about their existing loan, I find that I can help with all their mortgage needs including VA, FHA, USDA and conventional loan programs.

Chamber on the Move



Photo Courtesy of Jo Anne McKnight

Congratulations **Curtis Polk**, BLP Mobile Paint's Sales Division Manager, for joining the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber's Diplomat Team!

Diplomat applications are now available on the website and in the Chamber office. We are looking for individuals who want to promote their business and also help the Chamber be more effective in the community. Ambassadors are individuals who are wanting to volunteer and assist with Ribbon Cuttings, Open Houses, Coffee with the Chamber and more. We are looking for individuals who demonstrate leadership qualities within the Community and have a desire to see growth within their own business.

2016-2017 Businesses of the Month

The Small Business of the Year

It has been the pleasure of the Chamber to recognize the heartbeat of our membership. We are a voice for businesses and here to help promote and offer opportunities to watch small businesses grow along with providing more training classes to improve the current business practices. On May 3rd we will be revealing the winner of this Award and recognizing the company that has excelled in leadership and commitment to Entrepreneurship.

We are asking our members to go to our website beginning April 1st to cast your vote for your favorite Business of the Year. Our monthly finalists are all deserving of this award and need your help. Votes can be cast daily until April 15th and the business that has received the most votes will be announced at our Small Business of the Year Luncheon, May 3rd.

www.swmcchamber.com



Family Security Credit Union has been serving its account holders for over 60 years. Family Security offers many financial services, including savings, free personal checking, VISA credit cards, online and mobile banking, and various loan products with competitive rates. Family Security also offers a Give me a Break checking account, which allows individuals to re-establish their checking account history. Please visit myfscu.com to see a full listing of available products and services.



Founded in 1991 Neighbor's Restaurant has been serving the Tillman's Corner area a unique brand of "Southern Comfort Food". Offering a wide variety of Seafood, Chicken, Burgers, Po Boy's, and Daily Specials, you can always find something to satisfy your needs. Known for their wide variety of vegetables, we offer over twenty different choices every day and night. Owner's Pete & Jo Potter cordially invite you for lunch or dinner. Open Monday thru Saturday from 11:00 AM till 9:00 PM and Sundays 11:00 AM till 2:00pm.



Russanne Howell owner, agent of Farmers Insurance, Howell & Associates Insurance Agency. Our office has been operating by the support of our community for the last 12 years and have been in the insurance industry 35 years. We educate the clients so that they can make the decisions they need to concerning their insurance needs and help protect their assets. We are involved in Social and Civic Organization throughout the county. It would be an honor to represent the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce as Business of the Year.

McLaney's Senior Dance

McLaney's Senior Dance is owned and operated by Delores McLaney. The dance is celebrating it's 8th anniversary this year. The band members include: Larry Davis, Butch Layne, Donald Reed, Kenny Reed, Buddy Finch and Carolyn Willard. Delores is assisted by: Dee DeMouy, Ruth Huber, Della Wade & Tressa Lewis to make sure everything at the dance stays in order. You can have the opportunity to hear the band on the first & third Thursday of every month at the Tillman's Corner Community Center at 7:00pm. Everyone is welcomed to come and have a good time. The McLaney's Senior Dance is big in giving back to their community.



Feeding the Gulf Coast, formerly Bay Area Food Bank, serves a 24-county area spanning south Alabama, south Mississippi, and the panhandle of Florida. In 2016, the food bank distributed over 22 million pounds of food to nearly 400 church pantries, soup kitchens and other nonprofit organizations throughout its service area. The food bank also operates multiple nutrition programs, including Summer Food Service, Afterschool Snack, Backpack, Disaster Relief, Community Garden, Mobile Pantry, Produce Drop, Cooking Matters, and SNAP Outreach. Feeding the Gulf Coast is a United Way agency and a member of Feeding America. For more information, visit

www.feedingthegulfcoast.org.



Touching Hearts Senior Care's mission is "to ensure a better quality of life for our elderly clients and their families by providing dependable and affordable care." Touching Hearts provides in-home care, assistance, and companionship to seniors. Based in Mobile, AL, Touching Hearts serves clients in south Alabama and has been the Gulf Coast region for 10 years. They are the only Certified Dementia Caregivers in the State of Alabama. Learn more at www.touchingheartsseniorcare.com.



Dr. Chris Corsetino has been serving the Mobile community for 26 years and counting. Along with Dr. Corsetino, we have four equally amazing associate doctors: Dr. Pradat, Dr. Lofton, Dr. Heyda, and Dr. Krause. All of our doctors have extensive training to identify a patient's problem and provide personalized treatment options. As the largest chiropractic office in Mobile, Alabama, it is our passion at Corsetino Chiropractic to provide the highest quality of care possible to our patients.



Mobile County Water, Sewer and Fire Protection Authority, Inc. (MCWS&FPA) is one of the largest rural water systems in the State of Alabama. With the capacity to produce over 7 million gallons of drinking water per day to serve our 13,400+ customers in Southern Mobile County. The board of directors, managers and employees are all dedicated to providing our customers the highest quality water and sewer utility services. Our distribution system has 300 miles of water lines. Theodore, Tillman's Corner, Cypress Shores, Dawes, Fowl River, Mon Luis Island and Coden are only some of the areas served by the Authority. Our Board of Directors are as follows: Michael Burdine, Chairman; Audie Tillman, Vice Chairman; Preston Smith, Treasurer; Jim White, Secretary; George Callahan, Member.



Karen C. Simmons, P.C. ("KCS") was formed in August 2010 after CPA Karen Simmons left partnership with a larger CPA firm. Mrs. Simmons started with three employees including herself. Today, she employs 12 employees at KCS. The core goal of KCS is to create value for businesses locally and nationally by providing innovative solutions in the areas of tax and accounting, bookkeeping, strategic planning and advising. KCS customizes these services into a monthly package to provide better insight and allow business owners to focus on building their business. KCS takes pride in their ability to offer the technology and broad range of services of a large firm without sacrificing the personalized services offered by a small firm.



LINDSEY & WALDO, LLC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
"You see the numbers, we look for the opportunities."

Here's two certain truths: 1) the State and Federal Governments would love to have more of your hard-earned money in their accounts, and 2) not all tax advisors are created equal. Sure, even though it's painful, none of us begrudge paying our legal and fair share of taxes. But the problem is that many regular taxpayers are missing out on legal and safe deductions because they aren't aware of them and don't have a proactive tax professional on their team. At the CPA team of Lindsey & Waldo, you get someone who will dig deep and help keep you from overpaying your taxes.



Built on many years of IT experience, Integrity IT Services is an innovative Information Technology Solutions Provider that caters to today's ever changing IT landscape. Our staff enjoys the challenges of the IT world and highly depends on our reputation in the community. We are local, invested, and embedded right here in YOUR community. Our services include enterprise level antivirus solutions, network administration and security, network cabling and termination, managed service and maintenance contracts, automated cloud backup solutions, internet service and hosted VOIP phone solutions, hosted email, PC repair and much more. Our goal is to keep your business running smoothly and efficiently to eliminate unnecessary downtime.

GROW YOUR BUSINESS WITH EMAIL AND SOCIAL MEDIA:

APRIL 20, 2017 8 - 9AM

TILLMAN'S CORNER COMMUNITY CENTER
5055 Carol Plantation Road, Mobile, AL 36619

HOSTED BY: KATHRYN CARIGLINO
WITH CONSTANT CONTACT



In this session, we will show you how to make the most of the combination of email and social media for your business. When the session is finished, you will have a greater understanding of marketing basics like goals and objectives. Session includes a live demonstration of how simple and quick it is to create the perfect email and link it to your social media sites.

Register Here: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=pjmoqdlab&oeidk=a07edxcceaw9627a43e>

RSVP: 251-666-2488 or tillmanscornerco@bellsouth.net

T.A.L.L. **2017-2018** **Program** Tillman's Corner Area Learning Leadership

If you know a High School Junior that is looking for an opportunity to further their leadership skills, then ask them to apply for the Tillman's Corner Area Learning Leadership Program. The next term will begin in September 2017 and all applications are due into the Chamber office by May 12th. We are also looking for Business Professionals to partner as Mentors in our program. If you are interested in volunteering your time and efforts for such a great cause, please contact the Chamber office. Financial Sponsors are also encouraged, if you're interested in donating to the Scholarship Program please contact Tina Poiroux at tpoiroux.tccc@bellsouth.net. We are looking forward to meeting the future leaders in our community and expect another exceptional class of seniors. Support T.A.L.L. and promote the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce class of leaders.



**Thank you to the sponsors of
each school.**

**C Spire
Holiday Inn 110
The Antley Family
Mobile Memorial Gardens Cemetery
Payroll Vault
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SouthWest Mobile County Chamber**



Photo Courtesy of Jo Anne McKnight

**Nathan Ranew and his
daughter Natalie Ranew from
Lighthouse Baptist Academy**

Membership Renewals:

AIM Mail Center # 153
D' Michaels
Hampton Inn
Hardee's
Holiday Inn I-10
Holiday Inn Express & Suites
Mobile County Health Department

Republic Services
Southern Light
Southwestern Consulting
Time to Eat
Wade, Della
WALA Fox 10 TV

New Members:

Boar Hog's BBQ
106 Cody Rd S
Mobile, AL 36608
251-525-8228

Hood's Home Center Mobile
5597 Hwy 90
Theodore, AL 36582
251-653-0650

Belt & Bruner, PC
2051 Dauphin St. Ste A
Mobile, AL 36606
251-243-0443

Corporate Sponsor:



712 Oak Circle Dr W Ste A
Mobile, AL 36609
(251) 662-1235

Business of the Month:



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Our Services Include:

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SouthWest MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER of COMMERCE **CORPORATE SPONSORS**

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FUNERAL HOME

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF
SOUTH ALABAMA

CENTURY BANK

**SUPPORT THE
COMMUNITY THAT
SUPPORTS YOU BY
JOINING THE
SOUTHWEST MOBILE
COUNTY CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE.**

For information on
becoming a member call
251-666-2488.

If you are already a member,
pass the word along to help
promote our community!