

SC THE CORNER

A SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER PUBLICATION





LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Joshua T. Woods

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE GROUNDS

CHAMPIONING

INNOVATION,

INSPIRING

PROGRESS

Dear Chamber Partners,

As we reflect on the many milestones of our Chamber, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the strong, supportive community we have built together. One of the key factors driving the success of any community is collaboration. When individuals and businesses come together with a shared purpose, the impact is not only felt within the walls of each organization but throughout the entire community. This is what makes our business ecosystem so resilient and forward-thinking.

A shining example of this collaboration was the annual Awards Gala held on March 21st. As we celebrated the Chamber's 40th Anniversary, it was heartwarming to see our partners—individuals and businesses alike—gather in celebration of our shared achievements and future aspirations. The gala wasn't just an opportunity to honor the accomplishments of the past year; it was also a powerful reminder of what we can achieve when we come together in support of a common cause.

This year's event was particularly special as it also served as a fundraiser for the Chamber Foundation, which directly supports initiatives that help our community grow and prosper. With your generosity, we were able to raise funds that will support key projects such as the Gateway Initiative, a beautification project for Tillman's Corner, and the T.A.L.L. Scholarship Program, which helps invest in the next generation of leaders in our community.

The Gateway Initiative, in particular, will enhance the aesthetic and infrastructure of Tillman's Corner, making it a more vibrant and attractive destination for businesses, residents, and visitors alike. This project is just one example of how our collective efforts can transform our surroundings and create a lasting impact. In the same spirit, the T.A.L.L. Scholarship Program provides valuable opportunities to local students, empowering them with the tools they need to succeed in higher education and beyond.

These projects highlight the direct benefits that come from working together, and they stand as a testament to the strength of our community's spirit. None of this would be possible without the commitment and collaboration of each of you—our Chamber partners.

As we continue to build and grow together, I am excited for what lies ahead. The future of our Chamber and community is bright because of the dedication and collaboration we share. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing all the great things we will accomplish in the years to come.

Warm regards,

Josh Woods

SWMCC Board President

Cover Photo: Exit 4 Productions, LLC

THE SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER'S

EVENT CALENDAR

APRIL 2025

2

Monthly Business Luncheon

Time: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Location: John C. Williams Auditorium

Speaker: G. Owen Bailey, MSHA, FACHE

Caterer: A Gathering Place

15

Coffee with the Chamber

Our monthly Coffee with the Chamber is a great opportunity to network with other business leaders and representatives. This event is open for both current SWMCC partners as well as prospective partners.

2

Business Expo Registration Deadline

- Registration is required for booth space.
- Indoor and outdoor spaces are limited, so be sure to secure your booth today!
- All applications and fees must be submitted by April 2nd, 2025.

21

CAP Meeting

Time: 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Location: John C. Williams Auditorium

SMIA hosts a Community Advisory Panel (CAP) Meeting each month. The objective is to provide citizens the opportunity for an open dialogue with industry, to help citizens better understand industry, and to help local industry understand community concerns.

4

Small Business Expo

Time: 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Location: Tillman's Corner Community Center

Spend the afternoon exploring a variety of local businesses and organizations, discover new business contacts, and find products or services you've been looking for.

25

May Luncheon Preregistration Deadline

The deadline to purchase an online ticket for the May Luncheon is April 25th at 5:00 pm. Any tickets purchased at the door (if available) will be \$30.00 per person, regardless of partner status.

8

TALL Program Graduation

The SWMCC Board & Staff are excited to celebrate the twelve high school students who will be graduating from the TALL Scholarship Program. Thank you to all of the businesses, representatives, and sponsors who have partnered with the SWMCC to make this year's program a success!

30

TALL Program Application Deadline

The deadline to apply for the 2025-2026 TALL Scholarship Program is Wednesday, April 30th.

Application packets are available online at www.swmccchamber.com

T.A.L.L. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Application Guide Lines

- The complete application packet must be turned in together (application, photo, transcript, three references).
- Complete application packets can be submitted in person (Monday through Friday) at the SWMCC Office or by mail to 5055 Carol Plantation Rd, Mobile, AL 36619.
- No applications or references will be accepted by email.
- Applicants must be available for an in-person interview on Thursday, June 5th. Twenty-five to thirty applicants will be selected to move forward to the interview process.

MONTHLY BUSINESS LUNCHEON

NETWORKING

APRIL 2ND, 2025

LUNCHEON SPEAKER



G. Owen Bailey, MSHA, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer
**Senior Associate Vice President
for Medical Affairs**
USA Health

Owen Bailey serves as chief executive officer and senior associate vice president for medical affairs of the University of South Alabama Health System, known as USA Health, in Mobile, Alabama. USA Health includes University Hospital, Children's & Women's Hospital, Providence Hospital, Mitchell Cancer Institute and USA Health Physicians Enterprise. He

previously served as administrator of Children's & Women's Hospital, president and CEO of Thomas Hospital in Fairhope, and as executive vice president for Infirmity Health System.

A fellow with the American College of Healthcare Executives, he has served on the boards of the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce and the University of Mobile. He is past chairman of several boards, including the Alabama Hospital Association, Southwest Council for the Alabama Hospital Association, the Mobile Area Education Foundation, the Southwest Alabama Workforce Development Council, and the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce. He currently serves on several boards including the Business Council of Alabama, where he chairs the Health Committee, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama, Hancock Whitney Bank Alabama Market Advisory Board, and LifeSouth Community Blood Centers.

Bailey has received numerous awards, including the Up and Comer Award from Modern Healthcare magazine, the Young Healthcare Executive of the Year, the Regent's Award from the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the American Hospital Association's Grassroots Champion Award, and the Alabama Hospital Association's Distinguished Service Award. He was also named as one of Becker's Healthcare's 101 Academic Medical Center CEOs to Know.

He earned a bachelor's degree in health administration from Auburn University, where he served as drum major of the Auburn University Marching Band. He earned a master's degree in health administration from UAB. He is an active member of First Baptist Church of Fairhope, and he and his wife, Genie, have four children.

USA HEALTH

BECOME A PARTNER: JOIN THE SWMCC TODAY



Joining the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber means becoming part of a close-knit, family-like community where businesses support each other's growth. Unlike traditional memberships, the Chamber refers to its members as "partners," emphasizing collaboration and mutual success. As a partner, you'll have access to valuable resources, networking events, and business development opportunities that help you thrive in the local market. The Chamber's dedication to fostering relationships and providing support ensures that your business is never alone in its journey.

With a strong focus on local prosperity, the Chamber advocates for a business-friendly environment and contributes to the region's economic growth. By joining, you're not only gaining visibility through marketing and event opportunities but also participating in initiatives that benefit the entire SouthWest Mobile County community. Become a partner today and experience the power of collaboration and connection that can take your business to new heights.

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



I've gotten to know many local families as an Allstate agent in Theodore. I enjoy being a part of the community, and building local relationships is one of the best parts of my job. I know what life is like here in Theodore – that you choose your car and your home to fit your lifestyle and your budget. I also

know how important it is to do the same when it comes to insurance. I look forward to getting to know you and helping you to find the solutions that meet your needs.

Part of what I like best about my job is that I can offer customers options for a wide variety of coverage and services. You can depend on me to help you look at the big picture.

I'm committed to helping Theodore residents assess their immediate and long-term needs and choose options that will help them achieve their goals. When you want to explore options for protecting your home, personal property, or financial future, I'm available to answer your questions. If you're already a customer, I'm ready to review your coverage so that you can make any necessary adjustments to fit your changing needs. Call me today.

Rita M. Broome, Agent

Allstate Insurance Company | Agent Services

7321 Theodore Dawes Rd.

Theodore, AL 36582

Ph.#: 251-653-4800

LUNCHEON TICKETS

If you plan to attend the Chamber's Monthly Business Luncheon, **you must purchase a ticket for the event by Friday, March 31st at 5:00 pm.** Event tickets are available online at www.swmccchamber.com. Prospective partner and guest tickets are \$22.00 per person, while current partners can purchase a discounted ticket at \$17.00 per person. If your business purchased prepaid luncheon tickets, please email info@swmccchamber.com to reserve your seat(s).

Individuals who purchase a ticket online or reserved a prepaid seat will be eligible for the new "Fast Pass" Registration. An email will go out to those who are eligible on April 1st with further instruction on this process.

For anyone who does not preregister, you will be charged \$25.00 per person at the door (depending on availability). This change applies to all attendees, regardless of whether they are representing a renewed partner or prospective partner.

BUSINESS ADVANTAGE SPONSORS

2025

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Mobile County Commission
Mobile County Sheriff's Office
Polysurveying of Mobile

Diamond

CrowderGulf LLC
Holcim
Integrity IT Services
Motivation Media

Gold

Mobile County Sheriff's Office
Payroll Vault

Silver

Alabama Power
Rita Broome Agency
Broussard Agency, Inc
Evonik Corporation
Polysurveying of Mobile
Premier Cleaning & Janitorial
Proshield Pest Control
The Grounds

Bronze

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Blue Rents
Cadence Bank
CRE Mobile
Family Security Credit Union
Godfather's Pizza
Rock & Roll Offs

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New Horizons Credit Union
Occupational Health Center
The Shoulder of the Central Gulf Coast



COLUMN

THE NEXT LEVEL

THE

Maximizing Your Chamber Partnership: The Value of Getting Involved

As the Executive Director of your local Chamber of Commerce, I often hear from new partners about the many benefits of joining, but the real success stories come from those who dive deeper into the opportunities available. It's not just about signing up; it's about getting involved, connecting with others, and fully leveraging the resources at your disposal.

Partnership with a Chamber of Commerce opens up a world of possibilities, but it's the active engagement that truly sets you apart. Whether you're a small business owner, an entrepreneur, or part of a larger organization, the Chamber is your gateway to growth, collaboration, and community building. By attending events, participating in committees, and volunteering, you are not only gaining visibility, but you are also forming valuable partnerships that can lead to increased opportunities and success.

One key way to jumpstart your involvement is by attending and participating in our upcoming Small Business Expo on Friday, April 4th. This event will bring together entrepreneurs, small business owners, and service providers for a day of networking, learning, and collaboration. It's an excellent opportunity to showcase your business, learn from fellow partners, and connect with potential customers or collaborators. Our expos are designed to give you a platform to engage with a wider audience, build relationships, and gain insights into the latest trends affecting your industry.

But the expo is just the beginning. Once you've had the chance to experience the power of face-to-face networking, I encourage you to dive even deeper into Chamber offerings—whether it's attending monthly mixers, getting involved with a committee that aligns with your passions or industry, or using our advocacy efforts to voice the issues that matter most to your business.

The more you invest in your Chamber, the more you get out of it. So, I challenge you to not just join, but actively participate. Together, we can strengthen the business community and help each other thrive.

We look forward to seeing you at the Small Business Expo on April 4th, where new opportunities and connections are just waiting to be made!

Tina Peireux

Executive Director

SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce

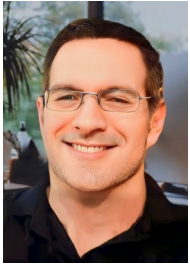
(251) 666-2846



SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BY : RON SIVAK

— THE REAL ESTATE CORNER —



In March, Keesler Federal Credit Union purchased roughly 1.55 acres of land found at the corner of Highway 90 and Nevius Road in Tillman's Corner for \$1.502 million. Plans are in place to build a new branch office at the site and Robert Cook of Vallas Realty represented the buyers in the transaction. The transaction is part of a larger ongoing development being handled by Delaney Property Group. Additional plans in the area, according to Scott Delaney of Delaney Property Group, include a new Chipotle Mexican Grill franchise that has leased a 1,400-square-foot parcel in a strip mall, a new Chick-fil-A restaurant opening at the site, and an adjacent 1,400-square-foot lot still available for a business lease.

Pratt Thomas with Merrill P Thomas Co., Inc. reported the lease last month of a 1,176-square-foot office property, along with a 4,880-square-foot warehouse footprint found at 5821 I-10 Industrial Parkway South in West Mobile, to a locally owned equipment company called Sell Your Press, LLC. Sell Your Press facilitates connections between end-users and offers deals for decommissioning, installation and rigging services for lithograph equipment. The high growth company is introducing mechanical and rigging services to broader markets along the central Gulf Coast region.

Bay Outpatient Radiology Inc. recently signed a lease for a new 6,000-square-foot space found at 4724 Airport Boulevard in West Mobile, with an effective opening date scheduled for June 1, 2025. The latest location for the clinic will provide much needed additional space to support the company's growing medical services. The transaction was handled by Jill Meeks with Stirling Properties, who represented the landlord.

Mobile-based Speedway Auto Tint recently leased a new 3,155-square-foot space in the Top Music Plaza center located at 3656 Government Boulevard in West Mobile. The headquarter move represents an aggressive expansion for the company in a high-traffic area, and the transaction was handled by Angela McArthur and Kaelan McArthur with Stirling Properties, who represented the landlord.

Last month David Cooper of the Berkshire Hathaway Cooper & Co. Inc. Commercial Division represented the seller and Ronnie Johnson of The Mitchell Co. worked for the buyer in the sale of a 15,200-square-foot, six-unit office building located at 1206 Montlimar Drive in West Mobile for \$1.2 million. The investor is local developer STBN Properties LLC.

In March local investors paid \$376,000 for a 2,900-square-foot building located at 5910 Grelot Road in West Mobile, according to Chris Harle with White-Spunner Realty. The buyer plans to utilize the property for office space.

For questions or news tips about local real estate, please email ron@hflend.com or call/text 251-219-8914.



Stop by the
Accordia Health tent during
Blessing of the Fleet on May 3 and 4
in Bayou La Batre.

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SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER

FIRST RESPONDER SPOTLIGHT

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE



Officer Payton Clay of the Mobile Police Department's Precinct 2 was proudly recognized as Officer of the Month at the SWMCC Chamber's March Luncheon on Wednesday, March 5th. This prestigious award honors Officer Clay's exceptional dedication, tireless work ethic, and outstanding contributions to the community. His commitment to upholding the law and ensuring public safety in the Mobile area has made a significant impact, and this recognition highlights his professionalism and the positive influence he brings to the department and the community. The SWMCC Chamber and attendees of the luncheon applauded Officer Clay's service and continued efforts to make Mobile a safer place for all.



Deputy Ryan Turner of the Mobile County Sheriff's Office was proudly recognized as Deputy of the Month at the Chamber's March luncheon on Wednesday, March 5th. This prestigious acknowledgment comes as a result of Deputy Turner's unwavering commitment to serving the community with integrity, dedication, and professionalism. Throughout his time with the Sheriff's Office, Deputy Turner has consistently gone above and beyond the call of duty, working tirelessly to ensure the safety and security of Mobile County residents. His

attention to detail, strong work ethic, and ability to effectively handle high-pressure situations have earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and the community. This recognition highlights not only his outstanding contributions to law enforcement but also his genuine care for the well-being of those he serves.



SPONSORED BY

The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce would like to thank Century Bank for sponsoring our Officer of the Month and Deputy of the Month Programs. We so appreciate their willingness to continuously recognize such outstanding members of our community.

"Century Bank is a proud member of the communities we serve. Our involvement in extracurricular activities, fund raisers, organizations and other local events is a priority for directors, officers and employees of Century Bank."



BECOME A SPONSOR



SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2025 BUSINESS EXPO

"Championing Innovation, Inspiring Progress"

FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

VENDOR SOIREE
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**TILLMAN'S CORNER
COMMUNITY CENTER**
5055 CAROL PLANTATION RD
MOBILE, AL 36619

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

DIAMOND - \$1,500.00
PLATINUM - \$800.00
GOLD - \$500.00
SILVER - \$300.00
BRONZE - \$150.00



THE SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS EXCITED TO PRESENT ITS ANNUAL BUSINESS EXPO. SPEND THE AFTERNOON VISITING LOCAL BUSINESSES AND YOU MAY FIND: A NEW BUSINESS CONTACT, A COMPANY THAT OFFERS A PRODUCT OR SERVICE YOU HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR, ETC.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION OR AN APPLICATION PLEASE EMAIL INFO@SWMCCCHAMBER.COM OR CALL (251) 666-2846.

REGISTRATION FEES SHOULD BE TURNED IN WITH THE APPLICATION. ALL APPLICATIONS AND FEES ARE DUE BY APRIL 2ND, 2025. INDOOR AND OUTDOOR SPACES ARE LIMITED SO BE SURE TO SECURE YOUR BOOTH TODAY!

BOOTH REGISTRATION FEES:

INDOOR BOOTH
PARTNER - \$150.00
NON PARTNER - \$200.00
CHARITABLE NON PROFIT - \$100.00
OUTDOOR BOOTH
PARTNER - \$100.00
NON PARTNER - \$150.00
CHARITABLE NON PROFIT - \$50.00

IF YOU ARE A SPONSOR PLEASE CHECK WITH OUR STAFF TO SEE WHAT BOOTH DISCOUNTS MAY BE AVAILABLE TO YOU.



—LIGHTS. CAMERA, COMMERCE—

Chamber's Lights, Camera, Commerce Awards Gala

The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce recently hosted a spectacular evening at the Lights, Camera, Commerce Awards Gala, marking a monumental milestone of 40 years of dedicated service to the community. The event, a true celebration of the Chamber's achievements, was filled with excitement, glamour, and heartfelt moments, making it a night to remember.

Guests were treated to an exclusive VIP cocktail hour, where they mingled and enjoyed a selection of fine drinks, setting the tone for a memorable evening ahead. The gala also featured a thrilling silent auction with a variety of impressive items, alongside a Louis Vuitton raffle, which added an extra layer of excitement to the festivities in honor of the Chamber's 40-year legacy.

As a fundraiser for the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber Foundation, the event played a crucial role in supporting key initiatives that benefit the community. Proceeds from the gala will go towards advancing the Gateway Initiative, a beautification project designed to enhance the aesthetic appeal of Tillman's Corner, as well as the T.A.L.L. Scholarship Program, which provides educational opportunities for local high school students.

The Chamber extends its deepest gratitude to the generous donors, sponsors, and partners whose contributions made this event possible. A special thank you goes to the committee members, the Board of Directors, and the staff, whose hard work and dedication ensured the evening's success. Finally, congratulations to all of the awardees for their outstanding contributions to the community.

SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LIGHTS. CAMERA. COMMERCE.

Awards Gala

DIAMOND SPONSORS:



COUNTY COMMISSIONER
RANDALL DUEITT



PLATINUM SPONSORS:



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PIGGLY WIGGLY
THE GROUNDS

POLYSURVEYING DONATES 12-PASSENGER VAN

In a generous act of community support, Polysurveying has donated a 12-passenger van to the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber to assist with the transportation needs of the T.A.L.L. Scholarship Program. This eight-month program offers high school students an opportunity to engage in a transformative experience that prepares them for future leadership roles and exposes them to a variety of career paths.

The TALL Scholarship Program, which selects students through a rigorous interview and application process, is designed to provide valuable life skills, professional networking, and educational experiences that extend far beyond the traditional classroom. Throughout the program, students embark on a series of enriching activities that include visiting local businesses, receiving financial planning workshops from chamber partners, meeting with state representatives at the Alabama State Capitol, and connecting with industry leaders such as Evonik.

The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber has long been dedicated to fostering local talent and providing students with opportunities that set them up for success. This donation underscores the spirit of collaboration and community engagement that Polysurveying champions. By investing in the education and development of young people, the company is helping shape a brighter future for Mobile County and its residents. With the support of Polysurveying, the TALL Scholarship Program is poised to make an even greater impact, empowering the next generation of leaders to excel in their careers and communities.



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Saraland, AL 36571



Richard F. Sharpe

Business Development Officer

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Chamber and Community Center Staff

Executive Director

Tina Poiroux, AACE
tpoiroux@swmccchamber.com

Administrative Assistant

Hope Driskell
hdriskell@swmccchamber.com

Event Coordinator

Jillian Baxter
jbaxter@swmccchamber.com

Event Specialists

Calvin Dickerson and Catherine Hartsock

For Rental Information call the Tillman's Corner Community Center at (251) 666-2488
For Chamber Information call the SWMCC at (251) 666-2846



ALABAMA ACCREDITED

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



NOT A PARTNER

JOIN THE SWMCC TODAY!

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