

# SC THE CORNER

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A SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER PUBLICATION



AUGUST 2025



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Joshua T. Woods

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE GROUNDS

CHAMPIONING

INNOVATION,

INSPIRING

PROGRESS

As we enter another month of growth and opportunity, I want to take a moment to reflect on where we've been, where we are, and where we're headed as a chamber and a community. Serving as your Chamber President is both an honor and a responsibility I do not take lightly. Each day, I'm inspired by the passion and dedication I see from our partners, volunteers, and local leaders who share a common goal: making Southwest Mobile County a place where businesses succeed, families flourish, and our community continues to thrive.

This past month has been filled with moments that remind me why chambers of commerce matter. We've witnessed firsthand what can be accomplished when businesses, organizations, and individuals unite for a common purpose. Whether it was through our recent networking events, community outreach programs, or collaborative partnerships, the message has been clear—we are stronger together.

One of the most rewarding parts of this role is seeing how our chamber touches lives beyond business connections. Through programs designed to support local families, workforce development initiatives, and events that bring our community closer, we're making a tangible impact. When I see a small business owner walk away from one of our luncheons with new leads and partnerships, or a family benefiting from one of our community support efforts, it reaffirms that the work we do here truly matters.

But these successes don't happen by chance—they happen because of you, our partners and supporters. Your involvement, whether through sponsorships, volunteering your time, or simply showing up to engage, is the driving force behind everything we accomplish. I want to personally thank each of you for believing in the power of connection and for investing in both your own business growth and the well-being of our entire region.

Looking ahead, I am excited about what the coming months hold for us. We have new opportunities on the horizon—events designed to help you expand your network, educational sessions to strengthen your business, and community initiatives that allow us to give back where it's needed most. We'll continue advocating for our local businesses, working alongside city and county leaders to ensure our area remains a place where entrepreneurs can plant roots, grow, and prosper.

One of my personal goals as your Chamber President is to foster a spirit of unity and collaboration that extends beyond our partnership. When local businesses succeed, our entire community benefits—jobs are created, families are supported, and our neighborhoods thrive. This chamber is not just about partnership numbers or events on a calendar—it's about relationships, about lifting one another up, and about leaving a legacy that strengthens our community for future generations.

*Josh Woods*

SWMCC Board President

# EVENT CALENDAR

AUGUST 2025

1

### Gun Giveaway Tickets Open

Our Annual Guns & Gear Giveaway Tickets will go on sale on Friday, August 1st.  
Proceeds from this fundraiser support our TALL Scholarship Program.

18

### 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.

1

### Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

**Time:** 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
**Location:** Alpha Health  
Join us in showing support for this valued business and enjoy an opportunity to network with fellow chamber partners.

19

### 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.

1

### August Luncheon Preregistration Deadline

The deadline to purchase an online ticket for the August Luncheon is August 1st at 5:00 pm.  
**No tickets will be sold at the door.**

29

### September Luncheon Preregistration Deadline

The deadline to purchase an online ticket for the September Luncheon is August 29th at 5:00 pm.  
**No tickets will be sold at the door.**

6

### Monthly Business Luncheon

**Time:** 11:30 am - 1:00 pm  
**Location:** John C. Williams Auditorium  
**Speaker:** Mobile Delegation  
**Caterer:** Custom Catering by Stephanie

### SAVE THE DATE

**What:** Tillman's Corner Christmas Parade  
**When:** Saturday, December 6th  
For those interested in participating, please email [info@swmccchamber.com](mailto:info@swmccchamber.com) for an application.



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# NETWORKING

AUGUST 6TH, 2025

## SPEAKERS:

the office coordinates the schedules and other administrative functions of the Legislative Delegation. Finally, upon request, it disseminates information about proposed laws and existing statutes to the public and serves as a point of contact for citizen input on current issues.

The Mobile County Legislative Delegation Office was established as a public service to meet the unique and specific needs of the delegation and the citizens of Mobile County. This office is a liaison between the public, local and state officials, and the delegation members. In addition,



**Senator David Sessions**  
Alabama State Senate  
District 35



**Representative Chip Brown**  
Alabama House of Representatives  
House District 105



**Representative Mark Shirey**  
Alabama House of Representatives  
House District 100



**Representative Margie Wilcox**  
Alabama House of Representatives  
House District 104

## AUGUST LUNCHEON SPONSOR



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# BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



At Fast Pace Health, our core mission is to deliver high-quality, accessible, and compassionate healthcare services to rural communities that are often overlooked. Since our inception in 2009, we have expanded significantly. Today, our network encompasses over 300+ healthcare centers spread across Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Indiana, Alabama, North Carolina, and

Arkansas. We proudly offer a comprehensive range of services including primary care, dermatology, orthopedics, physical therapy, and behavioral health, all tailored to meet the unique needs of the communities we serve.



# BECOME A PARTNER



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.



SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# BUSINESS ADVANTAGE SPONSORS

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Family Security Credit Union  
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Rock & Roll Offs

## Friends of the Chamber

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Mobile Memorial Gardens Funeral Home  
New Horizons Credit Union  
Occupational Health Center  
The Shoulder of the Central Gulf Coast



COLUMN

# THE NEXT LEVEL

THE

One of the greatest responsibilities of your Chamber is to serve as the collective voice of our business community. Beyond connecting businesses, providing resources, and fostering local partnerships, we exist to ensure that the needs and concerns of our partners are heard by those who make decisions that shape our region’s future. Advocacy is not just a word—it is a vital action that directly impacts every one of our businesses, our employees, and our community as a whole.

Many of the policies that affect our operations—from infrastructure funding and workforce development initiatives to small business incentives, tax structures, and education investments—are shaped in Montgomery by our state representatives. Having strong, open lines of communication with these leaders ensures that they understand the unique challenges and opportunities we face here in Southwest Mobile County. Your Chamber works year-round to foster these relationships, but real progress happens when we come together, face-to-face, to engage in meaningful conversations with those who represent us.

That is why our upcoming Chamber Luncheon with the Mobile Delegation is such a critical event. This gathering is more than just another luncheon—it’s a chance for our business leaders, community members, and elected officials to come together and discuss what truly matters for our future. The Mobile Delegation plays a key role in influencing state legislation that impacts our local economy, schools, transportation systems, healthcare access, and job creation. By being part of this conversation, you are helping to shape the decisions that will affect not just your business, but the entire region for years to come.

Too often, important decisions are made in government without full understanding of how they impact the businesses on the ground—the entrepreneurs, job creators, and community leaders who keep our area thriving. Advocacy bridges that gap. It gives us the ability to speak up about what’s working, what needs improvement, and what changes could help us grow stronger as a community. It ensures that our representatives hear directly from you, not just statistics on a page, but real stories from real people who live and work here every day.

This luncheon is a platform for connection, collaboration, and influence. It is a chance to ask questions, to express concerns, to thank our legislators for their work, and to remind them that Southwest Mobile County is a region that deserves continued attention and investment. When our representatives leave this luncheon, we want them to leave with a clearer understanding of who we are, what we need, and how they can support the continued success of our area.

I encourage every partner of our Chamber to attend this important event. Your presence matters. Your voice matters. Together, we are stronger advocates for the future we envision—a future where businesses thrive, families prosper, and our region remains a vital and growing part of Alabama’s economy.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to not only supporting your own business but also strengthening our entire community. Let’s come together for this luncheon and show our state representatives that Southwest Mobile County is united, engaged, and determined to create lasting, positive change.

*Tina Poiroux*

Executive Director

SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce

(251) 666-2846



SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



# 3rd Annual SPORTING CLAY SHOOT

GET YOUR GUNS OILED &  
SHELLS LOADED AND JOIN US  
FOR OUR 3RD ANNUAL  
SPORTING CLAYS SHOOT!  
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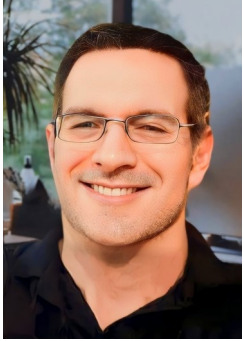
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BY : RON SIVAK

# THE REAL ESTATE CORNER



In July the Mobile County Commission awarded \$24.4 million for a project aimed at transforming Bayou La Batre's waterfront to Ben M. Radcliff Contractors, Inc. Work on the Bayou La Batre City Dock Redevelopment Project is expected to take approximately two years. Once completed, the waterfront project will feature a seafood marketplace with two 4,500-square-foot open-air pavilions, portable restroom facilities and a direct-from-boat sales pier; a full-service marina with a 6,108-square-foot elevated marina building; a boat launch with a four-lane concrete boat ramp with courtesy docks, gangways, protective rock revetment and expanded paved parking; and site improvements including demolition of old structures, new bulkheads, boardwalks, utilities, lighting, sidewalks, curbs, landscaping, signage and benches. The dock revitalization will also support direct seafood sales, expand charter fishing and ecotourism, and increase community gathering and market space. Moffatt & Nichol provided the master planning, engineering and design.

Mike Reid, director of local real estate brokerage Merrill P. Thomas Co. Inc., represented the landlord (Ranger Properties, LLC) in the leasing of a 4,636-square-foot property holding an office, showroom and warehouse to National Coatings & Supplies (NCS) | Single Source Inc. (SSI), found at 732 Lakeside Drive in West Mobile. Thomas

Kenna of Avison Young represented the tenant in the deal. NCS was founded in 2006 by O. Temple Sloan, Jr. and a group of experienced leaders. What began with 17 stores has grown into a national network. NCS's merger with SSI in 2016 and the addition of a 200th store in 2024 are key milestones for the company which now operates in 43 states.

Last month Corona Auto Sales LLC bought a site located at 2528 Government Boulevard in West Mobile that had been owned for over 90 years by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of Alabama and home to the Robert L. Bullard VFW Post 49. Mike Reid represented both the buyer and seller in the transaction. Chartered on January 5, 1934, VFW Post 49 was one of Alabama's oldest posts. At its peak activity, it was the seventh-largest post in the VFW nationwide, with more than 1,200 members, and was officially retired with a ceremony on June 5, 2024.

Norfolk, Virginia-based Capes Shipping Agencies has expanded its Gulf Coast footprint with the opening of a new office in Mobile. The local manager of the Mobile office is Jennings Lawler, who was recently hired and has local experience at Host Agency and TruBridge. The office serves all ports and facilities in Pascagoula, Theodore and Mobile from 11 North Water Street, Suite 1045, and may be contacted at phone: 251-415-6099.

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



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# FIRST RESPONDER SPOTLIGHT

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE



We are honored to recognize Officer AJ McKittrick of the Mobile Police Department as our Officer of the Month. Officer McKittrick’s dedication to duty, professionalism, and unwavering service to the citizens of Mobile exemplify the highest standards of law enforcement. His efforts to keep our community safe do not go unnoticed, and we are grateful for his hard work and commitment.

A special thank you goes to Century Bank for sponsoring this month’s recognition. Their continued support allows us to spotlight outstanding officers like Officer McKittrick and show appreciation for the vital role they play in protecting and serving our community.



We are proud to recognize Deputy Antony Gates of the Mobile County Sheriff’s Office as our Deputy of the Month. Deputy Gates has shown exceptional dedication and commitment to protecting and serving the residents of our community. His hard work and willingness to go above and beyond do not go unnoticed, and we are grateful for his continued efforts to keep Mobile County safe.

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Century Bank for sponsoring this month’s recognition. Their support allows us to honor outstanding law enforcement officers like Deputy Gates and highlight the important role they play in maintaining safety and security in our area.



## 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.”



  
 SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY  
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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START FORM

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PER PERSON



# CLASSICAL GREECE

Are you ready to embark on an unforgettable adventure while connecting with fellow community leaders? The Southwest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce invites you to join their “Classical Greece” trip, departing March 8–18, 2026. This once-in-a-lifetime journey will take you through the cradle of Western civilization, exploring iconic landmarks such as the Acropolis, the Parthenon, and the charming streets of Athens’ historic Plaka district. From there, you’ll set sail across the Aegean Sea, experiencing the beauty and culture of the Greek islands, including Mykonos, Patmos, Rhodes, and the world-famous Santorini. This thoughtfully curated itinerary offers a perfect blend of breathtaking sights, fascinating history, and relaxing moments along Greece’s stunning coastline.

This trip is more than just sightseeing—it’s an opportunity to strengthen bonds within our chamber community. As you explore ancient ruins, enjoy shared meals, and watch sunsets over the Aegean with fellow travelers, you’ll build lasting connections and friendships. The chamber’s group travel experience combines expert planning, comfortable accommodations, guided tours, and seamless transfers, allowing you to focus on making memories instead of worrying about the details. Whether you’re a history enthusiast, an adventurer at heart, or someone simply looking for a remarkable getaway, this trip promises an experience you’ll never forget.

Registration forms and full itinerary details are available on the Chamber’s website at [swmchamber.com](http://swmchamber.com), where you can also find information about pricing, payment options, and travel requirements. Don’t miss your chance to explore Greece’s timeless beauty while connecting with other members of your community—reserve your spot today and prepare to experience the trip of a lifetime next March.

# TILLMAN’S CORNER COMMUNITY CENTER

The Tillman’s Corner Community Center, located at 5055 Carol Plantation Road in Mobile, Alabama, has long served as a cornerstone of the local community, providing a welcoming space for gatherings, celebrations, and events of all kinds. The facility offers a variety of rooms that can accommodate different group sizes, from small, intimate meeting spaces to a large auditorium complete with a stage for performances, ceremonies, or large-scale programs. Each space is equipped with essential amenities such as tables, chairs, ample parking, restroom access, and wheelchair accessibility, making it a convenient and functional venue for weddings, birthday parties, family reunions, business meetings, and special community celebrations. With its central location and versatile layout, the community center has become a trusted venue for residents and organizations throughout the area.

Beyond private events, the Tillman’s Corner Community Center plays an important role in hosting many well-known local programs that foster connection and support for families in the region. Signature events such as the Annual Kids Day have become beloved traditions, offering free backpacks, school uniforms, haircuts, games, and other resources to help children prepare for the school year. Throughout the year, the center also welcomes vendor fairs, seasonal festivals, networking events, and other gatherings that bring people together and strengthen community bonds. Its accessibility and ability to host both large and small groups make it a valuable resource for residents and visitors alike.

The center’s ongoing role as a hub for both social and civic activities reflects its commitment to serving the diverse needs of the Tillman’s Corner area. Whether it’s providing a place for families to celebrate milestones, offering a venue for businesses to connect with the community, or supporting outreach programs that benefit local children and families, the Tillman’s Corner Community Center continues to be a vital space where people can come together, create memories, and build lasting relationships. It stands as more than just a rental facility—it is a gathering place that embodies the spirit of community and provides opportunities for connection, support, and celebration year-round.

**Phone:** (251) 666-2488

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

**Website:** [www.swmchamber.com](http://www.swmchamber.com)



TILLMAN’S CORNER  
COMMUNITY CENTER

# THANK YOU TO OUR KIDS DAY SPONSORS!



County Commissioner  
Randall Dueitt



Alabama Senator  
David Sessions



Rita Broome Agency  
(251) 653-4800



THEODORE DAWES



Kids Day 2025 would not have been possible without the amazing support of our volunteers, vendors, sponsors, and every single person who helped make this event a success. Together, we were able to give back to our community in a meaningful way—ensuring children have the resources, confidence, and excitement they need to start the school year strong.

## Come see us at our new children's location:

4211 Government Blvd., Mobile

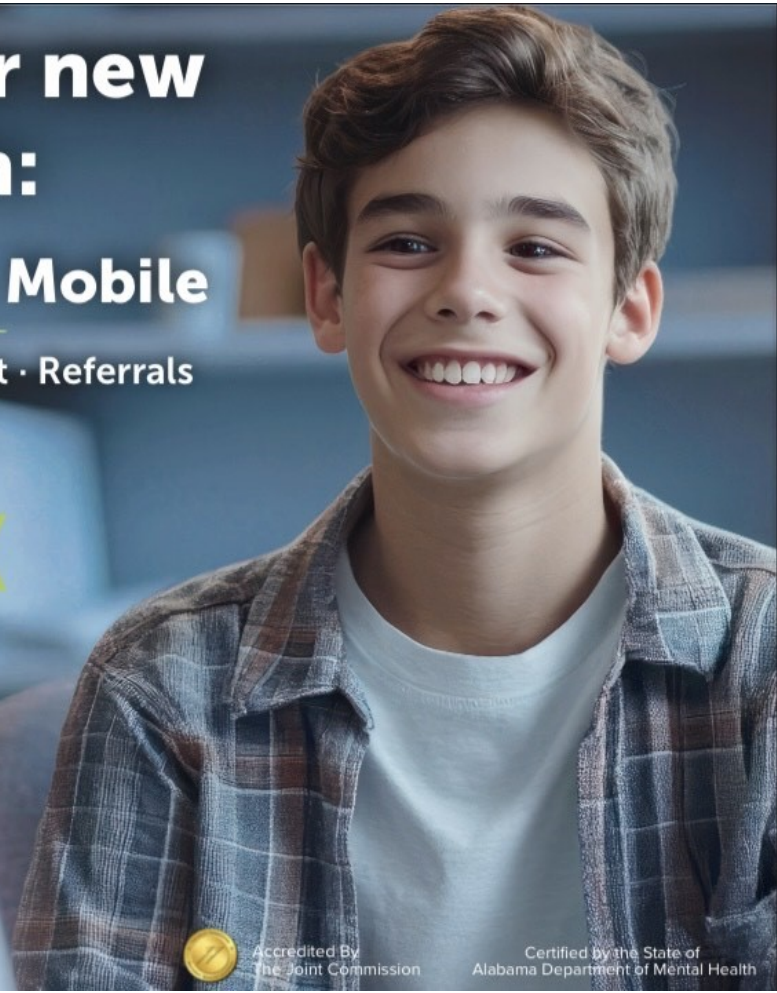
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Mobile, AL 36607



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MCL**  
(251) 366-1442  
jmainepayne37@gmail.com



**The Rych Agency**  
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## Chamber and Community Center Staff

### Executive Director

Tina Poiroux, AACE  
tpoiroux@swwcchamber.com

### Administrative Assistant

Hope Driskell  
hdriskell@swwcchamber.com

### Event Coordinator

Jillian Baxter  
jbaxter@swwcchamber.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



**ALEXANDRA DUBOSE**

MARKETING DIRECTOR

251.476.8210  
251.586.1285 - Cell  
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