THE SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# THE CORNER

AUGUST 2024





# 

# YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR BUSINESS"

## WELCOME TO THE

# SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY

### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

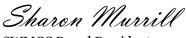
I hope each of you were able to attend and participate in our 11th Annual Kid's Day Event on Saturday, July 27th. What an amazing community outreach event! Approximately 4,000 people attended, despite the recurring rain storms. With the help of our event sponsors and volunteers, the Chamber was able to distribute around 1,400 backpacks and 300 uniforms to children age twelve and under. We would like to thank all of the sponsors, community partners, vendors, donors, organizations, volunteers, and partners who made this event possible. A special thanks to Tina, Hope, and Jillian for all their hard work in making the details come together behind the scenes. It is such an honor to be a part of a Chamber that has a heart for blessing those in need in our community and surrounding areas.

Our August Luncheon is quickly approaching with U.S. Representative Jerry Carl scheduled to speak. This event will be sponsored by ProShield Termite and Pest Control and catered by Grand Catering of Mobile. If you are interested in attending, please secure your seat by Tuesday, August 6th. Tickets can be purchased through the Chamber website. If your business purchased prepaid luncheon tickets, please reach out to a member of our staff to reserve your seat.

On August 1st, we will be kicking off our Annual Guns & Gear Giveaway. Proceeds from this fundraiser go to the SWMCC Foundation, which benefits our T.A.L.L. Scholarship Program. We have an amazing group of students this year, who most recently spent their summer break helping our staff prepare for Kid's Day. If you are interested in supporting our students, you can purchase a raffle ticket, take part in "Split the Pot" at our monthly luncheons, or participate in our 2nd Annual Sporting Clays Shoot. This year, the Chamber has selected a record number of 12 students to participate in the program. The Chamber Board and staff are helping to build our future workforce with these outstanding students by introducing them to key industry leaders in our community. Guns & Gear Giveaway tickets can be purchased from our Board Members or staff. The tickets are \$50.00 each and they will be available through October 31st. All winning tickets are reentered into the next day's drawing, meaning your ticket has the opportunity to win up to ten times. The daily drawings for the guns will run November 1st through November 10th. We would truly appreciate your support of this fundraiser!

We know it is a busy time of year with children returning to school and we genuinely appreciate your support, attendance, and involvement at our events and monthly luncheons. It is a blessing to the staff and Chamber Board to see new partners join us as we strive to make the community better and to reach out to those in need. We look forward to seeing what impact and difference we can make in our community throughout the remainder of 2024. "YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR BUSINESS," so let us know what we can do to help you grow and prosper and further promote your business.

"Teaching kids to count is fine but teaching them what counts is best." - Bob Talbert



SWMCC Board President



5055 Carol Plantation Rd Mobile, AL 36619 (251) 666-2846

www.swmcchamber.com

# TILLMAN'S CORNER MOBILE COUNTY, AL

#### **Executive Team**

President: Sharon Murrill

Vice President: Councilman Josh Woods

Cover Photo: Brittanica

Treasurer: Elaine Sessions Secretary: Christy Myers

## THE SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER'S

# EVENT CALENDAR

**AUGUST 2024** 

Guns & Gear Giveaway Tickets

Tickets for the SWMCC's Annual Guns & Gear Giveaway will be available August 1st through October 31st. Tickets are available through the Chamber Office or online at:

www.swmcchamber.com

Winners will be drawn November 1st through 10th.

13 Diplomat Social

Location: Topgolf Mobile

Chamber Board, staff, and diplomats are welcome to attend! The time will be announced closer to the event date.

Chamber Office Closed

The Chamber Office will be closed on Friday, August 2nd. Normal business hours will be resumed on Monday, August 5th. CAPS CAPS

Time: 4:30 pm
Location: John C. Williams Auditorium
Community Action Panel

First Day of School

Schools within the Mobile County Public School System (MCPSS) will be starting the 2024-2025 academic year on Wednesday, August 7th.

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.

**Monthly Business Luncheon** 

Time: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm Location: John C. Williams Auditorium

Speaker: U.S. Representative Jerry Carl
Caterer: Grand Catering of Mobile

The South Alabama Jaguars will have their first home game of the 2024 football season on

Whitney Stadium.

Saturday, August 31st at 4:00 pm at Hancock

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MONTHLY BUSINESS LUNCHEON

# NETWORKING

AUGUST 7TH, 2024

# LUNCHEON SPEAKER

**Congressman Jerry Carl** is a native of Mobile, Alabama, and currently represents Alabama's First Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Jerry was sworn in on January 3rd, 2021.



Jerry has been married to Tina, also a native of Mobile, since. Together, they have two children and two grandchildren. Jerry was raised by a single mother, so he learned the values of hard work and perseverance at an early age. This work ethic is what led him to start his first of many businesses at the age of 25.

Before his time in Congress, Jerry created and grew dozens of small businesses primarily dealing with home health care equipment and specialty pharmacies. He also has experience with timber management and real estate development. Until his son joined the Marines, Jerry never had any ambition of getting involved in politics. When his son returned from Afghanistan, Jerry decided it was time to do more for his community.



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If you plan to attend an upcoming Luncheon, please register ahead of time as to ensure you have a seat!

\*\* \$15.00 Current Partners
\*\* \$20.00 for Prospective Partners
EVENT TICKETS ARE LIMITED

RSVP by Tuesday, August 6th to reserve your seat! Tickets can be purchased online at www.swmcchamber.com

If you have prepaid tickets, please email the Chamber Staff to reserve your seat!

## **NEW PARTNERS**



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#### **Exploreum Science Center**



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# \$

# **Mobile Sports and Entertainment Group**

(251) 533-3394 john@mobileseg.com www.mobileseg.com 3766 Halls Mill Rd, Mobile, AL 36693

#### **Premier Cabinets LLC**



(251) 348-7872 denise@premiercabinetsofmobile.com www.premiercabinetsofmobile.com 6280 Spanish Trail Ct Theodore, AL 36582

# **BUSINESS OF THE MONTH**



The mission of McKemie Place is to provide a safe haven, spiritual encouragement, and access to resources that help meet the needs and promote the

well-being of unaccompanied women experiencing homelessness.

McKemie Place, a 501c3 non-profit, is the only emergency shelter for unaccompanied women in Southwest Alabama. Our first guests were given shelter in March of 2007 after an unaccompanied homeless woman froze to her death on the streets of downtown Mobile. McKemie Place started as a service of the United Methodist Inner City Mission, thanks to the efforts of the Homeless Coalition task force, and became its own nonprofit in 2010. To honor the legacy of James "Jim" McKemie and his heart for the homeless in our community, they decided to name the new women's homeless shelter, McKemie Place.

After years of searching, planning, and preparation, McKemie Place relocated to a permanent location of our own in 2020 where we can care for homeless women around the clock. Having our own facility has allowed us to improve the quality of our current services and make plans to expand the services we provide for our community. On average McKemie Place provides over 4 million dollars worth of services to women in need and serves 450 women each year.



SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER

# FIRST RESPONDER SPOTLIGHT

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Congratulations to Officer Tamarowia Dailey from the Mobile Police Department Precinct II on being selected as the Officer of the Month for July of 2024. Officer



Tamarowia Dailey was recognized for her accomplishment at our Business Luncheon on Wednesday, July 3rd, 2024. The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce would like to say thank you for your outstanding efforts and continued commitment to our community! She is pictured to the right, alongside Captain Matthew James and Century Bank Representative Jason Prater, after accepting her certificate.





Sgt. Johnny Thornton, Jr. was also recognized for his efforts on Wednesday, July 3rd by being named the Deputy of the Month. The Chamber would like to thank him for making the sacrifices he has to protect others in our community. Sgt. Thornton is pictured to the left with another member of the department after receiving his certificate from Jason Prater, who is a representative of Century Bank. We would also like to thank Sheriff Paul Burch for his continued support of this recognition program. The Chamber is proud to have the opportunity to recognize local first responders and greatly

In addition, the SWMCC would like to commend Firefighter Jack Ferdon of the Theodore Dawes Fire District for his exceptional work. Ferdon was recognized on July 3rd as our Firefighter of the Month. The Chamber would like to thank you for your faithfulness to serve and protect our community. He is pictured to the right



with Chamber Board Member: Chief Frank Byrd and Sheriff Paul Burch of the Mobile County Sheriff's Department. The Chamber is honored to have the opportunity to show appreciation towards these individuals for their bravery and dedication to our city. We appreciate the efforts of all three departments as well as their leadership for continuing to support the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber and its



## BROUGHT TO YOU 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."



The SWMCC would also like to thank the Mobile County Sheriff's Office for sponsoring our Firefighter of the Month Program. Sheriff Burch and his team are always willing to step up and help show appreciation to local first responders. "With three decades in law enforcement, he has served in several roles including uniformed patrol, general investigation, homicide investigation, and narcotics/VICE investigation. These accomplishments highlight Paul's dedication to serving the citizens of Mobile in a professional, respectful, and trustworthy manner." Without partners like Century Bank and the Mobile County Sheriff's Office, the Chamber would not be able to impact the SouthWest Mobile County Area as it has.



# **COMMUNITY CENTER**

#### Did you know the Tillman's Corner Community Center has three rooms available for rent?

The Auditorium is located directly in front of the main lobby. This room will hold up to 295 individuals. Auditorium rentals include a stage, commercial kitchen, rectangular tables, and chairs. Rental fees for this room include the deposit (\$200.00), administration fee (\$20.00), set-up fee (\$150.00), and five hour minimum (\$500.00). This comes to an upfront total of \$870.00 for five hours, additional hours can be added for \$100.00 per hour. The Community Center offers discounted rates for rentals Monday through Thursday during office hours (9:00 am to 5:00 pm). Rental fees with the discount would include the deposit (\$200.00), administration fee (\$20.00), and base daily rate (\$325.00), totaling \$545.00.

The Camellia Room is located to the right of the main entrance and is suitable for groups of 40 to 45 people. It can be used for training, birthday parties, baby showers as well as other events. Rental fees for this room include the deposit (\$100.00), administration fee (\$20.00), and five hour minimum (\$250.00). This comes to an upfront total of \$370.00 for five hours, additional hours can be added for \$50.00 per hour. The Community Center offers discounted rates for rentals Monday through Thursday during office hours (9:00 am to 5:00 pm). Rental fees with the discount would include the deposit (\$100.00), administration fee (\$20.00), and base daily rate (\$75.00), totaling \$195.00.

The Azalea Room is located to the left of the main entrance and is available for small groups of 5-30 people. Rental fees for this room include the deposit (\$75.00), administration fee (\$20.00), and five hour minimum (\$150.00). This comes to an upfront total of \$245.00 for five hours, additional hours can be added for \$50.00 per hour. The Community Center offers discounted rates for rentals Monday through Thursday during office hours (9:00 am to 5:00 pm). Rental fees with the discount would include the deposit (\$75.00), administration fee (\$20.00), and base daily rate (\$50.00), totaling \$145.00.

The Community Center offers a building rental rate for large events like weddings, festivals, and vendor fairs. A building rental would include access to the John C. Williams Auditorium, the commercial kitchen, the Camellia Room, and the Azalea Room. Rental fees for this package include the deposit (\$400.00), administration fee (\$20.00), and ten hour minimum (\$1,300.00). This comes to an upfront total of \$1,720.00 for ten hours, additional hours can be added for \$100.00 per hour.

In order to hold a date, the renter is responsible for completing a rental contract and paying the deposit and administration fee for their preferred room(s). The deposit is refundable as long as all rental regulations are followed and no damages are incurred to the property. All remaining rental payments are due in full 30 days prior to the event date in order to remain on the schedule. Renters are able to set their own time slot within the hours of 8:00 am and 12:00 am.

Tours of the building are available by appointment on weekdays between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm. If you are interested please contact our Event Specialist, Jillian Baxter, by phone at (251) 666-2488 or by email at info@swmcchamber.com.

More information about renting the facility can be found on our website at <a href="https://www.swmcchamber.com">www.swmcchamber.com</a>.



SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### **Annual Guns & Gear Giveaway**

Raffle tickets for the SWMCC's Annual Guns & Gear Giveaway will be available August 1st through October 31st. Ten guns and ten pieces of gear will then be raffled off November 1st through November 10th. Winners will be selected through a digital drawing software and announced at 10:00 am each day. All tickets are entered into the drawing each day, regardless of whether the ticket number was previously selected. This means that one ticket has the opportunity to win up to ten times. There is a limit of 200 tickets that will be sold through the Chamber Office. Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the SWMCC Foundation, which provides scholarships for our T.A.L.L. students.

Tickets can be purchased in the chamber office, through a Chamber Board Member, or on the chamber website. A list of this year's guns can be found in the chamber office, on the event flyer, or on the chamber website. If you are interested in supporting the SWMCC Foundation, you can do so by participating in our 2nd Annual Sporting Clays Shoot, purchasing a raffle ticket, or donating to "Split the Pot" at our monthly business luncheons.



# STUDENT PROGRAMS

**BUILDING TOMORROW** 

# T.A.L.L PROGRAM



As many of our partners know, the Chamber has a Student Scholarship Program for high school seniors called the Tillman's Corner Area Learning Leadership (T.A.L.L.) Program. Throughout the eight month program, students have the opportunity to tour local businesses, visit the State Capitol,

learn from financial experts, speak with State Representatives, serve in the community and more! The Chamber Staff and Board recently welcomed twelve new students to participate in the program. These students have spent their summer break helping our staff prepare for the SWMCC's 11th Annual Kid's Day. During the Kid's Day Event, students in the program served in a number of areas. The students worked a tattoo booth, watched over the bounce houses and inflatable activities, assisted vendors with booth set-up, ran the infamous "Beach Ball Drop," etc. The chamber representatives are grateful to have such a great group of students this year who are willing to set aside time to serve the children in our community.

If you are interested in sponsoring a 2024-2025 student's scholarship, please reach out to our staff. For those who would like to give as an individual, there are multiple fundraisers taking place this fall to help support this amazing group of students!



# THANK YOU TO OUR KIDS DAY SPONSORS!







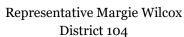
**County Commissioner** Randall Dueitt



























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#### What is a Corporate Partnership?

Partnerships help pool resources and expertise, build positive brand association, and expand the reach of programs. This past Saturday we had an example of a Corporate Partnership with many of you and it proved to be a successful endeavor for everyone, especially the school-aged children that are preparing to go back to school as well as the vendors that participated.

Why do partnerships matter? This is a question we ask ourselves here at the chamber daily. Between our donors, volunteers, board members, staff, and clients, we are in a constant state of relationship-building, and it's a wonderful thing! You get to forge deep connections to make a significant change in our community that REALLY matter.

I've worked with a number of nonprofit organizations and each of them relied on partnerships within the community to fuel their mission. Learning to navigate through your strengths and weaknesses allow you the opportunity to build relationships that matter. Here at the chamber, we want to engage with each of you and our staff knows the importance each relationship holds in collaboratively impacting our community. I can't emphasize enough how vital our corporate partners are to the overall health of our organization.

When you get involved here at the Chamber, there's more buy -in to meet the goals and make real, long-lasting change. The Chamber wants to continually bring together key movers and shakers from businesses across the community. These leaders, thinkers, and doers can analyze, research, plan, and implement using their knowledge and experience. Make sure you find your place here at the Chamber whether it is through volunteering, becoming a Diplomat, joining the Board of Directors, mentoring, or donating financially to community events, you always have value here.

I am often asked by businesses and individuals, "What gives us credibility?" The right partnerships can help validate our efforts and improve our credibility. This is why each member is approved by our Board of Directors. We value each partner and make sure the business is practicing reputably and being held at a standard for good business practices. Working together with corporate partners allows the chamber and its partners to make bigger strides and have a greater impact than they would by going at it alone.

Corporate partnerships can take many forms, but the key elements of any successful partnership are trust, communication, shared values, and mutual respect. We hope that you see the value in your partnership here at the Chamber and we look forward to increasing your trust in us as we improve and strengthen all partnerships alike.

Tina Poiroux
Executive Director

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SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER

CALL (251) 666-2846

EMAIL INFO@SWMCCHAMBER.COM BY: RON SIVAK

# THE REAL ESTATE CORNER



On July 31st it was announced that two global conglomerates have set up new warehousing and distribution facilities in Theodore, within the largest master-planned logistics park in the Southeast, the South Alabama Logistics Park (SALP).

Simpson Strong-Tie and VEYER are coming in due to the site's 12 mile proximity to the Port of Mobile's container terminal.

Simpson Strong-Tie is one of the world's largest manufacturers of structural construction products. The company is making a total investment of \$7.5 million in Mobile, creating 16 jobs.

VEYER, a 3PL logistics provider for fulfillment, distribution, and final-mile delivery services to Fortune 500 companies, will bring 18 jobs with a total investment of \$9.8 million to the area. The company will be re-routing their supply line for this new facility to the Port of Mobile.

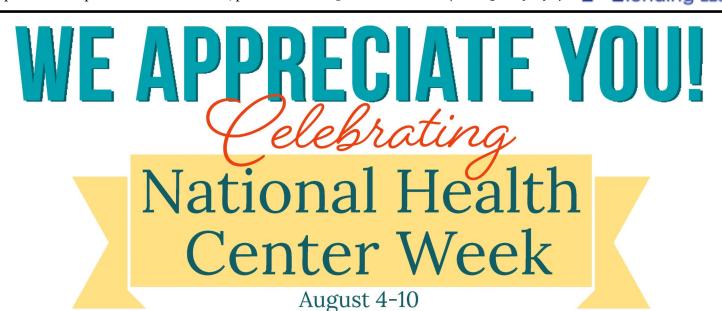
"VEYER is pleased to be making this investment the South Alabama Logistics Park. With its fast-growing port, top-notch logistics facilities, and connectivity, we believe that Mobile is an untapped resource for our company to grow." John Gannfors, President of VEYER said.

"This new warehouse location will provide customers with greater access to our products and solutions. Our new Mobile facility supports our commitment to offering next-day service, and we are grateful to be a part of this dynamic community." Simpson Strong-Tie Senior VP and Branch Manager Nick Algya said.

"This move shows the importance of the Port to our economy, both locally and statewide. These companies are locating here due to the recent \$1 Billion in capital improvements sunk into our terminal, and we anticipate more announcements like this in the future." John Driscoll, Director and CEO of the Alabama Port Authority said.

SALP now has five separate businesses on site, with an aggregate investment of over \$100 million, with 200 new jobs added locally. To date, SALP has over 500,000 square feet of facilities constructed at 100 percent industry utilization. Overall, the park has enough capacity for an additional 10 million square feet.

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









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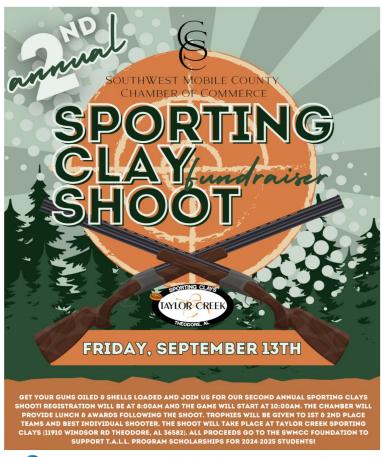
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# **Chamber and Community Center Staff**

**Executive Director** 

Tina Poiroux, AACE tpoiroux@swmcchamber.com

#### **Administrative Assistant**

Hope Driskell hdriskell@swmcchamber.com

#### **Event Coordinator**

Jillian Baxter jbaxter@swmcchamber.com

#### **Event Specialist**

Calvin Dickerson

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















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