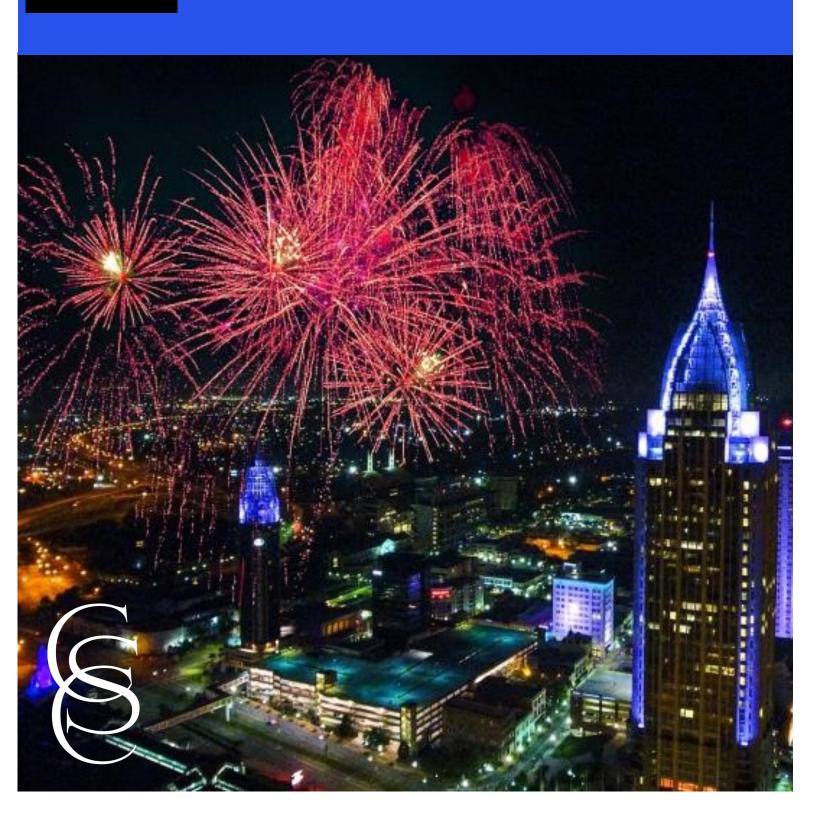
THE SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

THE CORNER

JULY 2024





- LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

OUR SUCCESS IS OUR BUSINESS"

WELCOME TO THE

SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

I'm not sure how we arrived in July so quickly, but here we are and our Chamber is excited about its many upcoming events. Last month the T.A.L.L. Selection Panel met to conduct interviews for 2024-2025 high school seniors. The panel spoke with 28 students from 10 local schools. Each year the candidates become seemingly more impressive, making the selection process very difficult. The panel has selected 12 students to represent our organization throughout the upcoming year. The following schools will be represented: Alma Bryant High School, Baker High School, Cottage Hill Christian Academy, Davidson High School, McGill-Toolen Catholic High School, Mobile Christian School, Murphy High School, St. Luke's Episcopal School and Theodore High School. We look forward to introducing them to our partners and having the opportunity to mentor and guide them.

On July 3rd, the Chamber will host its Annual 5 on 5 Non-Profit Luncheon. For those who have not attended in the past, we will have 5 non-profit organizations in attendance and each will speak for 5 minutes about the mission of their organization. As we all know, these non-profit organizations do amazing work in our communities, and we want them to be able to share their story. We understand it will be a busy holiday week, but please make plans to attend and be sure to reserve your seat ahead of time!

As most of you know, our largest event of the year is quickly approaching. In order to make it a success and impact our community in a meaningful way, we need your help! Kid's Day will be held on Saturday, July 27th from 9:00am to 1:00pm. It truly takes a village to pull off this event and Tina and her staff are doing an amazing job with the preparation and planning. We will be giving away approximately 1,200 backpacks filled with school supplies to local elementary-age children. We still need sponsors, vendors, volunteers and donations of school supplies. If you have not previously participated in this event, we hope you will join us this year to see what takes place. As a result, I think you would be very proud of the Chamber's outreach efforts that play into the success of this event. Many local children would not have a backpack or the school supplies they need to start the school year if it wasn't for this event. Please contact the Chamber Office if you have any questions or would like more information on how to get involved.

Hopefully, as you have attended the monthly luncheons you have noticed the recent growth in our Chamber as we welcome new partners each month. Our organization is looking to continue expanding and asks that you reach out to potential partners or let the Chamber Staff know of someone who you feel would be interested in joining. We also ask that you keep us informed of any events you are having so we can make other Partners aware. "YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR BUSINESS" and we are happy to promote each of you in your business, just keep us informed as to what we can do to help.

Happy 4th of July to all of our Partners!

Sharon Murrill



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: Visit Mobile

Treasurer: Elaine Sessions Secretary: Christy Myers

THE SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER'S

EVENT CALENDAR

JULY 2024

3

Monthly Business Luncheon

Time: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Location: John C. Williams Auditorium

Speaker: 5 on 5 Non-Profits

Caterer: D'Michaels

4

4th of July

The Chamber Office will be closed in honor of this holiday. We hope you have a great time celebrating our freedom with your friends and family.

9

Kid's Day Preparation Day

Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Please join us at the Community Center as we prepare to host our biggest event of the year: Kid's Day. We are looking for volunteers to help sort donations and decorate the facility.

16

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.

22

Pack the Bag

Time: 10:00 am

We need your help packing the 1,200 back packs we will be giving out at Kid's Day. If you or your team would like to volunteer, please reach out to our office.

24

Kid's Day Volunteer Meeting

Time: 3:00 pm

If you intend to volunteer at our 2024 Kid's Day, we ask that you attend this meeting. We want to ensure our volunteers are well prepared to serve our community and that the event runs smoothly.

26

Security & Parking Team Meeting

Time: 4:00 pm

Volunteers who sign up to help with parking or security for Kid's Day will meet the evening prior to the event to ensure the parking spaces are ready and help set-up vendor booths.

27

Kid's Day

Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Location: 5055 Carol Plantation Rd,

Mobile, AL 36619

Invite your friends and family!





MONTHLY BUSINESS LUNCHEON

NETWORKING

JULY 3RD, 2024

LUNCHEON SPEAKERS

Join us for our Annual 5 on 5 Non-Profit Luncheon on Wednesday, July 3rd. Each year the SWMCC selects 5 local Non-Profits to give a 5 minute presentation about their organization.



Big Brothers Big Sisters: "We nurture children and strengthen communities through two programs: Community and School-Based. Through these two programs, we enroll children ages 6-15 and continue supporting the match until high school graduation. BBBS is America's most impactful volunteer experience because our services provide a tangible way to change a life. We are not saviors or heroes. Instead, we create and professionally support meaningful match relationships to help children ignite

and harness their own potential—the potential they have had all along. And, our Match Specialists are with you every step of the way. Whether you choose Community-based mentoring or School-based, we will equip you with the tools, resources and support needed to help you and your Little excel"



Feeding the Gulf Coast: "By holistically addressing hunger, our organization actively works to improve the lives of the more than 350,000 individuals in our service area who are in need. It is an honor to serve our community by providing nutritious food to families and individuals struggling with hunger along the Central Gulf Coast."



Goodwill Gulf Coast: "Goodwill Gulf Coast has been serving Southwest Alabama and the Florida Panhandle for more than 65 years. Our team is proud to do the most good with your donations that we can. Proceeds from every purchase is spent on mission services for anyone who needs them, from birth to seniors and every stage in between. Because you care enough to

support us, we are able to provide services to over 12,000 people each year. When you shop and donate, you help people with disabilities or disadvantaging conditions. Your dollars help someone find support, a job, and education. People in our community are BETTER because of YOU."



Impact100 Mobile: "The vision to start a Mobile Chapter of Impact100 began in Fall 2019 when Founding Vice President Rená Davis attended the Annual Grant Award event of Impact100 Baldwin County. Rená shared her dream of starting a chapter in Mobile

County with two of her friends, Stacy Cummings and Lyndsey Dixon. After the pandemic, Danlee Budney joined them in February 2021 and reignited their passion to form a chapter. Together, these four women built the infrastructure, enlisting the assistance of other amazing women in their community and creating an all-volunteer Board of Directors that enabled the Impact100 Mobile dream to become a reality. Impact100 Mobile is made up of a diverse group of women of all ages, stages of life, income levels and backgrounds. The group has joined together to fund transformational grants to eligible nonprofits in Mobile County."



Keep Mobile Beautiful: "Since 1986 Keep Mobile Beautiful has worked to reduce litter, educate our neighbors about recycling and make a difference in the beauty of our City and County! We're proud to be an Affiliate of Keep America Beautiful® Our Mission is to empower individuals to take greater responsibility for the improvement of their community environment."

We are excited to welcome these Non-Profit organizations to speak at our Chamber and hope you will attend in support of their missions and community outreach. The SWMCC's annual community outreach event is quickly approaching and as we prepare to provide 1,200 backpacks to local elementary-age children, we ask that attendees interested in supporting the event bring school supply donations to the Non-Profit Luncheon. A list of the needed school supplies can be found on page five of "The Corner Chronicles" July 2024 Issue.

JULY BUSINESS LUNCHEON SPONSOR



He rides in his hook lift all day long... Rock & Roll Offs is the preferred vendor for dumpster and portable toilet rentals. Rock & Roll Offs has been proudly servicing the Mobile, Baldwin and Mississippi gulf coast for 5 years. We specialize in dumpster rentals from 10-30 yards and portable toilets for events, industrial, residential and commercial. We look forward to earning your business and being your preferred waste management solution company.

You can contact Rock & Roll Offs by phone at 251.645.2826, visit our website at www.rockandrolloffs.com or see our Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/rockandrolloffs

NEW PARTNERS



EZ-Flow Plumbing & Drain Cleaning

(251) 661-3131 jd@ezflowplumber.com www.ezflowplumber.com 2601 Halls Mill Rd Mobile, AL 36526



Motivation Media

(251) 301-6885 contact@motivationmediainc.com www.motivationmediainc.com 4254 Cottage Hill Rd Unit B Mobile, AL 36609

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



Driven Engineering, Inc. is a consulting engineering/government contracting firm based out of the Mobile, AL area.

From humble beginnings working out of our President's living room in 2006, we are now providing services to a variety of federal agencies, counties, cities, and private clients. We attribute our success to the talent of our staff, and the core values and mission statement of our firm.

Driven is an SDB, WBE, and certified DBE Small Business in multiple Southeast States and others. Our company was formed on Christian principles, a desire for excellence, and ethical practice. We live by our company motto, and our staff is steadfast that we are truly unique in purpose, vision, and environment.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



We are in need of school supplies for our Annual Backpack Giveaway. For those who are interested in donating, please bring your supplies to the Luncheon on July 3rd.

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, July 2nd 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!

SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER

FIRST RESPONDER SPOTLIGHT

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Congratulations to Corporal David Goodman from the Mobile Police Department Precinct II on being selected as the Officer of the Month for June of 2024.



Corporal Goodman was recognized for his accomplishment at our Business Luncheon on Wednesday, June 5th, 2024. The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce would like to say thank you for your outstanding efforts and continued commitment to our community! He is pictured to the right, alongside Captain Matthew James, just before accepting his certificate.





Corporal Archie Niles was also recognized for his efforts on Wednesday, June 5th. Corporal Niles was named the Deputy of the Month for June of 2024. The Chamber would like to thank him for making the sacrifices he has to protect others in our community. Corporal Niles is pictured to the left with his superior just before 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 appreciate those who help make this recognition possible.

In addition, the SWMCC would like to commend Firefighter William Clickstine of the Theodore Dawes Fire District for his exceptional work. Clickstine was recognized on June 5th as our first 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. The Firefighter of the Month is the newest addition to our First Responder Spotlight. 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 partners.



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.



STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Last month the SWMCC hosted our State Representatives as June Luncheon Speakers.

The Chamber invited State Senator David Sessions, State Representative Chip Brown, State Representative Margie Wilcox and State Representative Mark Shirey to speak at the June Business Luncheon. Senator Sessions and Representative Shirey were able to accept our invitation and Pete Riehm of CRE Mobile acted as the Moderator for the event. We would like to thank these three individuals for their willingness to speak and their continued support of our Chamber and its business representatives. The Chamber is honored to host our Representatives each year and allow our partners to build relationships with them and receive insight on legislative aspects that affect their businesses daily.

Representatives Chip Brown and Margie Wilcox were unable to attend the Luncheon due to their dedication and commitment to working for their constituents in the community and being pulled away at State Conference. Representative Wilcox has also been supportive of the Chamber's Annual Kid's Day by being instrumental in the procurement of a grant that was designated to help provide backpacks for local children.



NEW WEBSITE LAUNCH

Did you know the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber and Tillman's Corner Community Center have a new website?

On Friday, June 14th the Chamber launched its new website. As our 2024 motto states "Your Success is Our Business" and we hope this new website will allow you to easily access Chamber resources and event information. Our new website coincides with our Chamber's billing and partnership software, making it more user friendly.

All active Chamber Partners will be able to access their business's directory listing, invoices, job postings, and more through their GrowthZone portal. To access the portal, partners should click the "Partner Login" button on the home page. From there, you will have the ability to update company information, register for events, and pay your annual partnership dues. Partnership invoices for 2025 will be sent out through this software. If you have not yet accessed your portal, please reach out to the Chamber Staff by email at info@swmcchamber.com by October 31st, 2024.

One of the new website features is the "Partner Testimonials" button. The Chamber wants prospective partners to hear from those who know us and have seen growth and success through their partnership. If you are interested in writing a testimonial, please reach out to the Chamber Staff for more information at info@swmcchamber.com



SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HOW TO JOIN Are you interested in joining the SouthWest **Mobile County Chamber of Commerce?**

In order to join, the interested party must first complete a partnership application. Digital applications can be found on the Chamber's website (www.swmcchamber.com). If you would prefer a paper copy, one can be picked up from the Chamber Office Monday through Friday during business hours.

Once an application has been completed the Executive Director, Tina Poiroux, will take it before the Board of Directors for approval. Pending approval, the business will be recognized as a new partner at the following Monthly Business Luncheon. The Chamber encourages you to send a representative to this Luncheon to accept the New Partner Certificate and have their photo made for the Chamber's social media pages.

The Chamber's annual partnerships are based on business type: standard is \$185.00, non-profit is \$150.00, and schools and churches are \$100.00. Payment is due at the time the application is turned in. Applications turned in without the applicable fee are not eligible for Board approval.

In order to remain a partner in good standing, partnership dues must be paid in January each year. The Chamber has moved to an online system, so invoices will be emailed at the end of each year. It is very important that your business becomes familiar with the GrowthZone software as this switch occurs. If your business representative has not set up their GrowthZone account, please have them reach out to the Chamber Staff!



LEARNING LEADERSHIP

STUDENT PROGRAMS

BUILDING TOMORROW

11TH ANNUAL KIDS DAY

The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber is still accepting vendor applications for its 11th Annual Kids Day scheduled for Saturday, July 27th, 2024. The event will take place from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Tillman's Corner Community Center (5055 Carol Plantation Rd, Mobile, AL 36619). The Chamber

has both indoor and outdoor booths available, although indoor booths are reserved primarily for medical entities. All applications and registration fees must be turned in by Friday, July 12th. This is a great marketing opportunity for your business. Last year, the Chamber gave away over 1,600 backpacks and hosted around 6,000 individuals including parents and grandparents. All participating vendors must give away an item at their booth; this item can be a school supply (pencils, pens, erasers), individually wrapped candy, a water bottle, etc. We also ask that you have a game for the children to play at your booth. Please keep in mind the Chamber has implemented new dress code guidelines for participating vendors.

If you are interested in sponsoring this year's Kids Day, the Chamber has multiple packages available. Sponsorships must be paid by Friday, July 5th in order for your business to be included on the Event Sponsorship Sign. For more information please email info@swmcchamber.com or call (251) 666-2846. We are only halfway to our goal and we need your help to make this event successful!

For those who are interested in helping but are unable to sponsor or operate a booth, we have other ways for you to get involved! The biggest part of this event is the ability to provide school supplies, backpacks and uniforms. A great way to give is to host a school supply drive at your office for employees to donate school supplies and have one to two individuals drop them off at the Chamber. Another option is to sponsor one or more student(s). On the Sponsorship/Donation Form for the event, donors are able to enter how many individual uniforms and/or backpacks they would like to sponsor. The Chamber has a list of needed school supplies and accepted uniform pieces. All donations must be new with packaging/tags.

You can also get involved through our Annual Beach Ball Drop! The Beach Ball Drop is a big deal here at the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber. A net filled with over 100 beach balls is dropped from a fire truck to the ground where children attending the event race to find a ball. The children who find a ball are able to trade in their ball for the corresponding prize! Each year the Chamber accepts donations of toys, sporting goods and gift cards to give away as prizes to the winners of the game.

For more information please email info@swmcchamber.com or call (251) 666-2846.



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 are excited to welcome its newly selected T.A.L.L. Class of 2025:

Ann Dinkel (Cottage Hill)

Clayton Kimbro (Baker)

Clara Rose (Baker)

Ethan Stokes (McGill-Toolen)

Hallie Dickinson (St. Luke's)

Kyle Boone (Theodore)

Lela Warbington (Alma Bryant)

Lily Morgan (Alma Bryant)

Logan Lee (Davidson)

Madison Quinnie (Murphy)

Mary Elizabeth Kent (Baker)

Sienna Ngo (Mobile Christian)







Are you passionate about making a significant impact through your work or advocacy in the non-profit sector? Don't miss our upcoming July Business Luncheon where you can hear from five local non-profit representatives. I am eager to hear their stories, insights and innovations that are shaping the future of nonprofit efforts in our local community. Arguably the most obvious advantage of being a non-profit organization is that the work they do has the potential to make a difference in the lives of others every day. Non-profits are working on social issues that their founders are passionate about when trying to make the world a better place. They certainly have a different perspective due to the driving force of using a volunteer workforce versus a paid workforce. The opportunity to hear each of them highlight the importance of their work, discuss challenges and successes, and inspire a community committed to positive change will be worth your time. As we all experience the struggles of navigating busy schedules and even busier workloads, take time to challenge yourself to look beyond your own needs and find a place where you can volunteer and dedicate your time to serving others. Mobile has over 900 registered non-profits, meaning there is an organization somewhere in this city that will spark your interest and align with your individual values. Someone once told me that God gave you two hands, one to help yourself and the second to help others. This may seem unorthodox to some, but it hits home for me because putting others first and sharing my blessings with others is what has made my life more meaningful. Giving is contagious, so I encourage you to give it a try today!

"No one has ever become poor by giving to others." -Anne Frank

Tina Poiroux
Executive Director



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Gold

Mobile County Commission Mobile County Sheriff's Office Payroll Vault Southern View Media

Silver

Alabama Power Evonik Corporation Polysurveying of Mobile Proshield Pest Control The Grounds

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Lindsey & Waldo, LLC
Mobile Memorial Gardens Funeral Home
Occupational Health Center
The Shoulder of the Central Gulf Coast



JOIN TODAY!

SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER

CALL (251) 666-2846

EMAIL INFO@SWMCCHAMBER.COM

BY: RON SIVAK



Mobile's Alabama School of Mathematics and Science (ASMS) has opened its new 32,000-square-foot E.O. Wilson Science Research Center. The facility is designed to support STEM learning and the ASMS Research Fellows educational program, where students are paired with a faculty mentor to work on a college-level research project throughout the school year to compete for awards. The center is designed to facilitate academic projects on a greater scale as well as support workforce development in Alabama by preparing ASMS students to fill the need for high-level STEM jobs. Students statewide, interested in applying to develop new skills, are advised to contact ASMS about the admissions process for fall openings.

The University of South Alabama opened its \$8-million, 13,000-square-foot expansion space in June, located on the first floor in the Educational Outreach Building of the Stokes School of Marine and Environmental Sciences

on USA's main campus. The expansion was implemented to accommodate student growth. An advanced environmental analytical laboratory for research was installed that is capable of conducting a wide range of chemical analyses, including the identification emerging contaminants like pharmaceutical pollutants.

The expansion was funded through an \$8-million dollar investment from the university, state agency partners and private donors, including a \$2.5-million gift from Dr. Steven and Angelia Stokes and a \$2.5-million grant from the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act via the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the governor's office.

In Theodore, a developer paid \$550,000 last month for 1.15 acres located at 7071 Theodore Dawes Road adjacent to a Waffle House. Chris Herrington with Herrington Realty handled both sides of the transaction. Plans are in place for the build out of a new Urgent Care facility on the site near the Theodore Dawes exit off Interstate 10.

Leigh Dale Younce and Chris Harle of White-Spunner Realty, working for the seller, reported on a \$170,000 purchase in June of a 3.192 square-foot business building located at 5300 Overlook Rd. in West Mobile, near N University Blvd. Joselyne Ridings, broker and co-owner of Ridings Realty represented the buyer in the transaction.

A local franchisee of Covington, Louisiana-based Security Data Supply recently leased a space located at 7870 Schillinger Park Road in West Mobile. Pete Riehm with CRE Mobile represented the landlord in the deal.

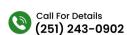
For questions or news tips about local real estate, please email ron@hflend.com or call/text 251-219-8914.



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Executive Director

Tina Poiroux, AACE tpoiroux@swmcchamber.com

Administrative Assistant

Hope Driskell hdriskell@swmcchamber.com **Event Coordinator**

EVONK
Leading Beyond Chemistry
Singing River

Jillian Baxter jbaxter@swmcchamber.com

<u>Event Specialist</u>

Calvin Dickerson & Shirley Rayford

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















