

JUNE 2021

# THE CORNER



SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce  
*Serving All of South Mobile County*





# MISSION FORWARD 2021

*A message  
from your  
SWMCC  
President*



*Tiffany Ginn*

Summer is Here!!! There have been so many exciting things going on in our community, and it seems like more than ever, that things are getting back to normal. The city just hosted a Mardi Gras parade and fireworks display to celebrate the commissioning of the Navy's newest combat ship, the USS Mobile, with crowds up to 64,000 in attendance!

And, if you missed the May Luncheon and Business of the Year Award, you missed a great program! Mayor Sandy Stimpson provided an overview of all the great things happening in Mobile and a pep talk about the many new opportunities yet to come. The Annual National Day of Prayer Event was also well attended. Thanks to all who came out to pray for our community! We also just held our Annual Business Expo Event at Heron Lakes with over 50 businesses and organizations represented. Thanks so much to all who helped make this event a success!

As we roll into summer, the Chamber continues to work hard to promote our local businesses and organizations, and you will not want to miss the opportunities we have coming up. We have 3 ribbon cuttings in 2 weeks, so please check the newsletter or website for more information. Our next Business Mastermind session will meet Thursday June 10th, and Coffee at The Chamber will be on Tuesday, June 15th.

Kid's Day is our next big community event and will be held on Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>. Preparations are well underway. Tina has a long list, so please check with her on how you can help. One of the most impactful ways you can help us, is with our annual School Supplies Drive going on now until July 19<sup>th</sup>. We have several partners who use this opportunity as a team building event where they ask each of their employees to stuff 1 backpack full of supplies. We will be more than happy to pick these up from your business, so please let us know how we can assist.

Be sure to attend our next Business Luncheon on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, where we will welcome 5 of our local non-profit organizations including: Boys & Girls Club of South Alabama, Habitat for Humanity of South Alabama, United Cerebral Palsy of Mobile, United Way of South Alabama, and Women's Resource Center. Every month attendance at our luncheons increases so please RSVP today to reserve your seat!!! We look forward to seeing you at one of our events very soon!

## **Community Center Staff**

### ***Executive Director***

Tina Poiroux  
tpoiroux@swmcchamber.com

### ***Administrative Assistant***

Gloria Poché  
gpoche@swmcchamber.com

### ***Rental Specialist***

Susan Williams  
swilliams@swmcchamber.com

***Event Specialist*** - Glennan Palframan

***Custodial / Maintenance*** - Calvin Dickerson

**CONTACT US @ 251-666-2488 or 666-2846**

**[www.swmcchamber.com](http://www.swmcchamber.com)**

## Board of Directors

# 2021 Officers

### President

Tiffany Ginn, Uniti Fiber

### 1st Vice President

Chris Black, Integrity IT

### 2nd Vice President

Bryan Dewberry, Mission 1<sup>st</sup> Mortgage

### Treasurer

Curtis Polk, BLP Mobile Paints

### Secretary

Sharon Murrill, Alabama Power Co.

## Advisory Board

Theresa Orrell, Polysurveying of Mobile

Kay Peace, Individual

Pete Riehm, CRE Mobile

Ruth Robinson, Mobile Memorial Gardens Cemetery

## Board of Directors

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Mechelle Davis - Infinite Insurance

Brian Lancaster - State Farm Agent

Tammy Lyons - Family Security CU

Chip Menton - Theodore High School

Christy Myers - Singing River Hospital

Wes Pipes - Individual

Paul Radczenko - Evonik

John Wimsatt - Walmart

Josh Woods - The Grounds

Della Wade - (Honorary Board)

## Ex-Officio Board of Directors

Randall Dueitt - County Commissioner

Kevin Rodgers - Captain, Precinct II

John Williams - City Councilman

# JUNE EVENTS CALENDAR

## 2 SWMCC BUSINESS LUNCHEON

When: **JUNE 2nd, 11:30 a.m.**

Begin Networking

Speaker: 5 ON 5

Where: 5055 Carol Plantation Road  
Tillman's Corner Community Center

Contact: Chamber Office 251-666-2846

Cost: \$15 Partner | \$18 Future Partner

Sponsor: **POLYSURVEYING**

5588 Jackson Road

Mobile, AL 36619

251-666-2010



## 10 Business Mastermind Group

8:00 - 9:00 am

5055 Carol Plantation Rd

Mobile, AL 36619



## GRAND OPENING

10:00 AM

711 Oak Circle Dr. E

Sutie B

Mobile, AL 36609



## 11 GRAND OPENING

12:00 Noon

7272 Theodore Dawes Rd

Suite B

Theodore, AL 36582



## COFFEE WITH THE CHAMBER

15 When: June 15th at 7:30am

Where: Tillman's Corner Comm. Center

5055 Carol Plantation Rd.

Mobile, AL 36619

Contact: 251-666-2846

**INTERESTED IN BEING A SPONSOR FOR THIS EVENT?  
CALL THE OFFICE AT 251-666-2846**

**SAVE THE DATE  
JULY 31, 2021  
ANNUAL KIDS DAY 2021**

**Cover Photo:** Owner Operator Infinite 30 Mobile  
Krisann Dikes [infinite30mobile.com](http://infinite30mobile.com)

SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce  
**JUNE BUSINESS LUNCHEON**

EVENT TICKETS ARE LIMITED. RSVP to reserve your seat! Tickets can be purchased online at [www.swmchamber.com](http://www.swmchamber.com) or call the office to pay by phone at 251-666-2488

**Wednesday, June 2, 2021**  
**Networking 11:30 am / Meeting 12:00 - 1:00 pm**

**SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY**  
CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE



United  
Cerebral  
Palsy™



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF SOUTH ALABAMA



## JUNE LUNCHEON CATERED BY



5360 Highway 90, Mobile, AL 36619  
251-661-6090

### LUNCH MENU:

Chicken & Dumplings  
Corn | Green Beans  
Mixed Green Salad  
Banana Pudding

RSVP at [swmcchamber.com](http://swmcchamber.com),  
call 666-2846 or email  
[info@swmcchamber.com](mailto:info@swmcchamber.com)  
**\*\* \$15.00 Current Partners  
& \$18.00 for Potential Partners\*\***

## JUNE LUNCHEON SPONSOR

# POLY

  
SURVEYING

## 2021 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

# SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE NEEDED ITEMS

- Backpacks
- Packs of Paper
- Spiral Notebooks
- Index Cards
- Pocket Folders
- Composition Books
- Three Ring Binders
- Ballpoint Pens
- Packs of #2 Pencils
- Colored Pencils
- Markers (thin & thick)
- Boxes of Crayons
- Highlighters
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Calculators
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Bottle White Glue
- Glue Sticks
- Pencil Pouch
- Crayon Boxes
- Erasers
- Dividers
- 3 Prong Folders

**Please have all items turned in by  
July 19th to the Chamber Office at  
5055 Carol Plantation Road, Mobile, AL 36619**

**For More Information call 251-666-2488**



[www.abcSigns.Biz](http://www.abcSigns.Biz)





# KIDS DAY DRIVE-THRU

**Saturday July 31st  
11-1 pm**

**Location: Tillman's Corner Community Center**

**SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY  
CHAMBER of COMMERCE**

**Food \* School-Supplies \* Music**

Drive Thru Interactive Event will be for children ages 4-12. Each child will receive a book bag with school supplies and parents must be present to participate. Come dressed as your favorite Disney Character! Call for more information 251-666-2846.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF SOUTH ALABAMA**



**EVONIK  
POWER TO CREATE**



## BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



We offer top-class inspection services for our clients to help them make informed crucial real estate decisions. We have experienced professionals who have been trained in the use of the latest inspection technology to ensure quick turnaround times and detailed results. Our experts have also been trained to inject maximum integrity and to be thorough in their jobs to ensure all aspects of the inspection are covered. Home inspection is our field of expertise, and we combine quality hard work and integrity to earn our client's trust.

**Riaan du Plessis, CPI**

InterNACHI® Certified Professional Inspector®

## PARTNERS ON THE MOVE

**E-WORC PROMOTES WHITE TO COO:** Mobile-based marketing and advertising company [e-worc](#) has promoted Amber White from project manager to chief operating officer (COO). White started in 2015 in an entry-level role of administration and support. CEO Michelle Crowe commented, "Her hard work and constant focus on learning about the ever-changing marketing and advertising industry, both in the traditional and digital marketplaces, has led to increased competency and responsibility. She works hard, learns fast, and clients really like her." In her new role, she will oversee all active development and design projects and company operations for e-worc and its clients.

[Cottage Hill Christian Academy](#) in Mobile recently announced that Chris Brazell has been named its next head of school. Brazell has served in many roles during his 20 years at the school, most recently as athletic director, varsity football coach and varsity baseball coach. Brazell began his career at the academy in the 2001-2002 academic year as an assistant coach and then spent 13 years in the classroom as a social science teacher. Brazell earned a BS in social science from the University of Mobile in 2002.

### The Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama

**(CCAA) board of directors** is pleased to announce the hiring of Paige Green Hutto as the organization's next president and CEO. A seasoned chamber professional, Hutto has spent the last 13 years as president and CEO of the Gilmer Chamber in Ellijay, GA. Her chamber career started in 1998 when she was hired as tourism director for the Eufaula Barbour Chamber her hometown of Eufaula, Alabama.



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## REAL ESTATE CORNER BY RON SIVAK

West-Mobile headquartered healthcare solutions company **CPSI** announced last month its fourth expansion with the acquisition of Alpharetta, Georgia-based **TruCode, LLC.** which provides software solutions that enable health providers, consultants and payers to code more accurately and efficiently and help improve revenue-cycle performance. Prior to the purchase, CPSI has been a strategic partner with TruCode over the past five years.

The acquisition was funded by a combination of cash on hand and additional borrowing capacity under CPSI's revolving credit facility. One of the larger employers in the area, CPSI is already the parent of **Evident, LLC.;** **American Health Tech Inc.;** **TruBridge LLC.** and **iNetXperts, Corp. d/b/a GetRealHealth.**

"The impressive margins that TruCode brings to the CPSI family of companies is expected to expand our consolidated EBITDA earnings margins by roughly 130 basis points," Matt Chambless, CPSI CFO said.

The former **Smith's Bakery** site located at 1201 West I -65 Service Road North in West Mobile was acquired last month by Montgomery-headquartered **Ren Seafoods** for **\$4.17 million.** **Marietta Urquhart** and **Jamie Ison** with **White-Spinner Realty** represented the buyer in the deal and **David Dexter** of **CRE Mobile** worked for the sellers.

The seafood company will invest **\$12.4 million** into the new manufacturing hub (BBN #30) that's reportedly a strategic project on the Gulf Coast, based locally, for the company. The center is also expected to create nearly **60 new full-time jobs** upon opening. Ren Seafoods is affiliated with Pennsylvania-based **The Fishin' Co.** and build-out is expected to wrap up by the end of this year.

**The House of Rescue Ministry – Redemption Place** received tentative planning approval last month to construct a 10,800 square foot church that is anticipated to seat around 300 worshippers after build-out. The site is situated at **808 Magnolia Road** due north of Pleasant Valley Road in West Mobile, according to the **Mobile Planning Commission.** The 2.6 acre site is categorized as an R-1 zoning area, according to the press release.

New Orleans-based chain **PJ's Coffee** signed a lease last month for a 1246 square-foot space located inside **Pinebrook Shopping Center** in West Mobile with plans to open sometime in the fall of this year. **Robert Cook** with **Vallas Realty** worked for PJ's in the transaction and **Brittain Youngblood** of **Youngblood Real Estate** represented Pinebrook Shopping Center. **Rachel Freeny** **State Farm Insurance Agency** is leasing some 1,932 square feet of office space located at **4087 Cottage Hill Road, Suite A** in West Mobile. The new location is expected to open in late August. Angie McArthur with Stirling Properties handled the transaction.

## OFFICER OF THE MONTH



Congratulations to Officer Joshua Nix on receiving the

Outstanding Officer of the Month Award for May 2021.

Officer Nix was presented the award as recognition of his outstanding service to our community at the SWMCC Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, May 5th.

SWMCC 2021 President, Tiffany Ginn and Captain Rodgers presented Officer Nix with the award. Officer Nix's dedication, hard work, and outstanding service, are seen as admirable and worthy of recognition! Your contribution to those you serve is greatly appreciated.

 **Infinite Insurance Solutions, LLC**  
**Mechelle Davis Agency**



*Mechelle Davis - Owner/Agent*

6389 Three Notch Road, Suite D  
Mobile, AL 36619

Phone 251-662-9812 Fax 251-662-9832

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## CHAMBER MISSION

Our Chamber's mission is to foster, promote, advance and improve the civic, commercial and general business interests of the surrounding areas and to cooperate with other communities promoting objectives for the improvement of our businesses and the welfare of our community.

# COASTAL 150 UPDATE

## State Legislature 2021 Session is Complete

Last Monday, the Alabama State Legislature completed its last day of the Legislative Session, many high priority agenda items passed and other legislation failed to pass both houses.

### Historic Tax Credits Passes

HB281 passed both Houses and will be signed by the governor. This legislation by Rep Victor Gaston was regarding to the extension of Historic Tax Credits. Originally, a 7 year extension amended the legislation to 5 years. The Alabama's Historic Tax Credit law, combined with the Federal Historic Tax Credit, provides great incentive for developers to rehabilitate historic structures which are much more expensive to develop than new construction. Alabama's income tax mirrors the federal income tax credit that currently exists and over 30 states have enacted similar legislation. The economic impact of this tax credit and the restored buildings has been studied and repeatedly established as generating jobs, expenditures, sales and income taxes, and enhanced ad valorem taxes, all well in excess of the tax credits granted for the projects.

### Reauthorization of the Alabama Jobs Act and Growing Alabama Credit Passes

HB192 by Rep. Poole to reestablish and expand the Alabama Jobs Act and the Growing Alabama Credit for attracting new and expanding businesses. Legislation has been filed to renew and revamp state tax incentives for businesses. It includes new credits for women- and minority-owned enterprises, increasing the cap on one of the state's "backbone" incentives and giving a break to automakers who will ship vehicles out of the Port of Mobile. Incentivize minority and women-owned businesses with a jobs credit against utility taxes. The credit would be worth 4% of the wages paid to eligible employees during the prior year.

### COVID Civil Liability Protections

SB30 by Sen. Orr to provide civil immunity for business entities, health care providers, educational entities, churches, governmental entities, and cultural institutions operating in this state, as well as individuals associated with these entities, from certain damages claimed by individuals who allege that they contracted or were exposed to Coronavirus during a declared state of emergency House Judiciary Committee).

### Funding for Strengthen Alabama Homes Failed to Pass in Senate

HB188 passed the House and failed to pass in the Senate--by Rep Chip Brown to increase funding Strengthen Alabama Homes Fund from 25% to 50%. Last year's hurricane season was a tough one with Hurricanes Sally and Zeta causing extensive damage to Coastal Alabama, but those with FORTIFIED Home program fared well. Alabama leads

the nation in Fortified homes--with more than 16,000--partly because many local building codes in coastal Alabama now require Fortified roofs for new homes and replacement roofs, and because in 2011 the state of Alabama created a program called Strengthen Alabama Homes to encourage homeowners to upgrade their existing roofs to Fortified certification. The Strengthen Alabama Homes grant program has upgraded over 3,100 homes to a FORTIFIED Roof. If you view [Smart Home America](#) interactive map to see the number of FORTIFIED homes in cities near you and see the list of the Top 20 FORTIFIED Cities of 2020 --15 of the top 20 Counties are in Coastal Alabama.

### Gambling Package

The House of Representatives tried to get a deal the Senate passed revamped gambling package in the final days of this legislative session. The House had a substitute ready for the floor on last few days of the session. The House Democrats wanted more money for Medicaid expansion and language for minority owners and contractors to be included in the substitute. The Republican leadership tried to work out a compromise but could not find a middle ground. With one hour left in the second to last day of session, a special order calendar was announced with a constitutional amendment for a lottery and language for the governor to make a pact with the Poarch Creek Indians, without enough time to fully debate the speaker pulled the plug on gambling for this session.

## DIPLOMAT SPOTLIGHT

### AMY RAINWATERS

Amy is a Mayo Clinic Certified Wellness Coach serving individuals and small businesses, who believes health should be integrative and holistic. After working in the technology world for 20 years, she realized just how important health is to individuals AND to the profitability of companies.



Amy enjoys long walks on Dauphin Island, solving puzzles, binge-watching TV, (*Psyche* reruns anyone?) and traveling internationally. She is the proud mother of two daughters and an energetic "faux" Rottweiler named Tiberius Kirk.

*Amy Rainwaters, MSOL, NBC-HWC*

### AMY RAINWATERS COACHING

*Life, Health and Business Solutions*

[www.amyrainwaterscoaching.com](http://www.amyrainwaterscoaching.com)

[amy@amyrainwaterscoaching.com](mailto:amy@amyrainwaterscoaching.com)

513-225-8206

## NEW CHAMBER PARTNERS

### **CSL PLASMA**

1971 GOVERNMENT STREET  
MOBILE, AL 36606  
(251) 355-1343

### **HOMESTEAD RV COMMUNITY**

10550 PIONEER ROAD  
THEODORE, AL 36582  
(251) 973-2484

### **KFIN PRODUCTIONS LLC**

507 CHURCH STREET  
MOBILE, AL 36602  
(251) 209-1735

### **MOBILE AREA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS**

2827 AIRPORT BOULEVARD  
MOBILE, AL 36606  
(251) 479-8654

### **MOBILE ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION**

563 MICHIGAN AVE  
MOBILE, AL 36604  
(251) 408-1694

### **THE PACT THEATRE COMPANY**

5025 COTTAGE HILL ROAD  
MOBILE, AL 36609  
(251) 307-5056

Coffee and Networking  
at the Southwest Mobile  
County Chamber

Join us June 15, 2021  
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM  
5055 Carol Plantation Road  
Mobile, AL 36619  
251-666-2846

*Bring your Business Cards!!!*

**CONSIDER SPONSORING AN EVENT LIKE  
COFFEE WITH THE CHAMBER  
CALL THE OFFICE AT 251-666-2846**

## 2021 CHAMBER RENEWALS

Franklins Starter & Alternator  
Regions Bank - Tillman's Corner  
Thompson Wealth Management

WALA Fox 10



**SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY**  
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

### **CORPORATE SPONSORS**

#### **DIAMOND**

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#### **GOLD**

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Polysurveying  
The Grounds

#### **SILVER**

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CRE - Mobile  
Family Security Credit Union  
Huntington Learning Center  
Loper Law, LLC  
Mission 1st Mortgage  
Mobile Memorial Gardens Cemetery  
Rock & Roll Off's  
Sheila Clark Realtor - Keller Williams  
Uniti Fiber

#### **FRIENDS OF THE CHAMBER**

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Cockrell's of Theodore  
Dick Russell's BBQ  
Gwyn Howard Family  
Kalifeh Bedsole Adams PC  
Katherine Hankins MS  
Mobile Roofing & Construction  
Proshield Pest Control



Cloverleaf Baptist Church invites all children ages 2-12 to join us for "Mystery Island" June 14-18 as we track down the one true God together! Each night, kids will learn more about one of God's amazing attributes as they sing songs, play games, construct crafts, and best of all, hear relevant Bible lessons.

Register today at [www.cloverleafbaptist.myanswers.com/mystery-island/](http://www.cloverleafbaptist.myanswers.com/mystery-island/) or call 251-661-1883 for more information.

Dates: **June 14-18, 6:15 pm - 8:45pm**  
 Location: **6500 Three Notch Road | Mobile, AL 36619**

# THE CORNER

SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce  
**Newsletter Advertisement**

The monthly newsletter is distributed to over 2500 Individuals and Businesses each month through e-mail. This is a great way to get your name and business out there. Consider placing your ad today!

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## MISSION FORWARD

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