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# Cover

It's a holiday version of Made in Mobile as this issue features just a few things made locally by Mobile Area Chamber members. On the cover is Susan Stanfield owner/designer of SugarLots, a west Mobile mini mall-type gift shop full of homemade crafts and gifts. See pages 17-19 for story. Photo by Jeff Tesney Photography.





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> the business VIEW is published monthly, except for the combined issue of December/January, by the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce 451 Government St. Mobile, AL 36602 251-433-6951 www.mobilechamber.com ©2013

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# Bayer CropScience Selects Mobile for \$500 Million Project

\$500 million investment by Bayer CropScience at Evonik's south Mobile County plant was recently announced.

The project, a production facility for an herbicide glufosinate-ammonium, marketed in the U.S. under the brand name Liberty, is expected to be operational in the fourth quarter of 2015, in time for the 2016 growing season.

The company will manufacture its herbicide using a by-product of Evonik, and the co-location was one of Mobile's advantages in site selection.

Mobile Area Chamber Vice President of Economic Development **Troy Wayman** said the Bayer announcement has been months in the making. Coupled with the massive capital investment Bayer is bringing to Mobile, Wayman said the company expects to hire 180 workers with average annual wages of \$75,000. The project's location — on the campus of Evonik (Degussa) is a win-win for both companies as Evonik manufactures some of the chemicals going into the herbicide, cutting down on Bayer CropScience's transportation cost.

"With about (\$500 million) earmarked for this new facility, this is the biggest single construction project in the history of Bayer CropScience," said CEO Liam Condon at Bayer's annual press conference in Monheim, Germany, in September. He said this new facility will contribute significantly to the company's target of more than doubling global product supply for this important active ingredient.

Condon explained the increased production of Liberty will help to fight weed resistance, a key challenge for

modern agriculture. Demand for this product has grown so much that it is necessitating this expansion. Today, about 50 percent of U.S. farmers have experienced weed resistance on their fields, and the situation is worsening further not only in the United States but also around the world.

As a result of the accelerated investment program, the production volume of key active ingredients for crop protection products is expected to increase significantly. "Many industries today are facing overproduction. At Bayer CropScience, we are in a completely different situation: A growing global population, changing diets and increasing weather volatility are affecting food supply and need to be addressed today," said Condon.

You'll see this symbol with stories featuring Chamber initiatives.



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# Merger of Two Real Estate Firms Creates NAI Mobile

What happens when the guys who have leased 65,000 square feet in the RSA Tower, sold 15,000 acres of timberland and helped recruit Publix to Mobile join forces under a national real estate flag?

Allan Cameron and his partners are excited to find out. They have their sights set on achieving the same market share held by the NAI New Orleans affiliate roughly 40 percent.

Mobile-based real estate firms Peebles & Cameron and Gleason & Roberds merged to form NAI Mobile, a locally owned office of the internationally managed network of real estate companies.

The new firm's partners are John Peebles, Tommy Gleason, Jay Roberds, David Dexter and Cameron.

Each brings a different area of expertise and together they have more than 90 years of commercial and industrial real estate experience. The new full-service firm will offer its customers corporate and consulting services, industrial and retail

representation, development, investment opportunities and marketing.

Their efforts, the team says, will be enhanced by the technology of NAI Global and its name recognition, as well as the resources and experience of its 300-member firm network on five continents. "We can theoretically provide real estate services throughout the world," says Cameron.

Cameron also expects the association with NAI will help the company in its staff

NAI first contacted Peebles and Cameron about joining the network based on the company's relationship with another national firm. As the two prepared for the transition, they looked to expand their services and sought out Gleason, Roberds and Dexter.

The NAI Mobile team will move its offices early next year to a 4,000-squarefoot space in the historic DeBrier Building at 56 St. Emanuel St.



Two local real estate firms merged to form NAI Mobile. The local office is affiliated with an international network of real estate companies. Pictured in the historic DeBrier's building being restored to share with Red Square in downtown Mobile from left to right is Pete Riehm, Jay Roberds, Tommy Gleason Jr., Allan Cameron Jr., David Dexter and John Peebles.



# **Worlds of Opportunity**

More than 11,000 eighth graders from Mobile and surrounding counties learned about possible careers at the fourth annual Worlds of Opportunity career expo at the Mobile Civic Center Sept. 25 and 26. A project of the Southwest Alabama Workforce Development Council, and managed by the Mobile Area Chamber, this hands-on expo exposes students to careers available locally and demonstrates what each career involves through an interactive, engaging series of activities. Pictured here are Calloway-Smith Middle School students learning the importance of wearing safety equipment through a series of races in the construction world.

# Red Square **Transforms** Internally & Externally

Mobile-based Red Square Agency has a transformation underway that will affect both agency operations and from where the agency operates.

CEO and Executive Creative Director Rich Sullivan announced the launch of two new divisions: Red Square Gaming, catering to the casino industry; and RSQ, a project-based digital creative group. The divisions are autonomous, fully staffed and will operate under their brand names.

Sullivan believes specialization is the answer to making his agency stand out among the competition.

"Moving advertising forward starts with blowing up old models and strategically reconstructing better ones – and it begins with us," says Sullivan.

The rebranding of the agency, Red Square Gaming and RSQ will be completed this fall.

Next year brings additional change for Red Square, when the agency moves its headquarters to the DeBrier Building at 54 St. Emanuel St. in downtown Mobile. The new digs will include 15,000 square feet - the majority of it for offices, and amenities such as an auditorium, creative lab, conference room and patio are also part of the restoration.

NAI Mobile, will take the remaining 4,000 square feet for its new offices.

Red Square continues to hire as its client list grows, and currently has approximately 70 employees.



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# Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Leads Efforts to Restore Three Mile Creek

Pestled in the northernmost reaches of the city of Mobile, Three Mile Creek is a precious environmental jewel that served as the city's lifeline until World War II. The waterway previously served as Mobile's primary source of drinking water for most of the 1900s.

Over time, however, its environmental integrity has been lost due to decades of pollution, coupled with the negative effects of urban growth and development.

Despite its current condition, many envision a restored Three Mile Creek offering endless environmental, recreational and economic opportunities to greatly benefit the entire Mobile region.

The Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP), in conjunction with 25 other local, state and federal partners and community leaders, including the Mobile Area Chamber, are working to complete a comprehensive watershed management plan aimed at restoring it to an attractive public access area, encompassing biking and walking trails.

"Three Mile Creek and its watershed provide an extraordinary opportunity to turn what is now a community liability into a community amenity similar to 'river walks' that we see in other communities," said MBNEP Executive Director Roberta Swann. "By restoring water quality and expanding recreational amenities along this historic, cultural and environmental resource, Three Mile Creek can become a unique, urban ecotourism destination

Community leaders envision an attractive public access area with biking and walking trails.

Before

Afte

ultimately benefitting Mobile's overall economy and quality of life."

"Mobile Area Water & Sewer System has always been committed to protecting water resources for future generations," said MAWSS Director Charles Hyland.

In addition to MAWSS, this MBNEP initiative received support from the EPA Climate Ready Estuaries Program, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management and the Mobile County Commission. These organizations have invested \$250,000 for the initial planning phase. The plan will recommend ways to reduce and prevent trash and litter, improve water quality, provide recreational opportunities and amenities, enhance aesthetics and restore ecological integrity and function to this urban stream.

The Chamber is working with the MBNEP to raise community awareness of

creek restoration efforts. The collective goal is to develop a sustainable community of wise stewards that bring about economic and recreational opportunities throughout the Three Mile Creek watershed.

"We are a partner in the MBNEP's upcoming cleanup day in the Toulminville community," said **Shayla Jones Beaco** the Chamber's director of local affairs. An event is slated for Saturday, Nov. 23 at 8 a.m. and is a neighborhood cleanup. It will have a conservation component too, educating residents how trash and other

pollutants are carried from land to our waters. Interested volunteers should contact Kelley Barfoot at 251-431-6409 or kbarfoot@mobilebaynep.com.

# What can my business do to help?

- Include Three Mile Creek information on company literature including website, newsletters and customer materials;
- Incorporate the TMC initiative into your company's community service programs;
- Sponsor environmental education materials for local K-12 schools:
- Sponsor workshops to train volunteers to become water quality monitors;
- Recruit other corporate partners to assist with cleanup events and activities:
- Sponsor TMC trail components including, boat launches, picnic areas, pathways, etc.;
- Donate cleanup materials and supplies; and
- Sponsor operation of water/land trash collecting vehicles – boat could have sponsorship name.





# Mobile to Celebrate Veterans Day

**BayArea Veterans Day Commission** will honor James **McEachin** as Patriot of the Year and will recognize him and the local Veteran of the Year during its



# luncheon to be held on Monday, Nov. 11, as part of the city's Veterans Day activities.

McEachin is a Silver Star, Purple Heart and Combat Infantryman Badge veteran of the Korean War, as well as an accomplished actor and award-winning author. He is perhaps best known for his television roles on "Perry Mason," "Matlock" and "The Rockford Files," in the movie "Play Misty for Me" and as Harry Tenafly in "Tenafly." With "Tenafly," he was the first African-American actor to have his own show on NBC.

The Veterans Day celebration begins at 10 a.m. with a parade through downtown Mobile. The luncheon is set for noon at Fort Whiting at Brookley Aeroplex. A Freedom Celebration follows the luncheon at 3 p.m. at USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park Pavilion and a concert by the Mobile Pops at 7 p.m. at the park. All events are free to the public except lunch, which is \$18 per person or \$144 for a table of eight. On Sunday, Nov. 10 at 2 p.m., the South Alabama Veterans Council will hold a dedication ceremony for Flags of Glory, a Veterans Day Salute at Mobile Memorial Gardens, 6100 Three Notch Rd. More than 250 full-sized U.S. flags will be on display to honor area Veterans.

McEachin was selected for his bravery and loyalty in the service of his country during the Korean War. In 2003, he was the honored guest at the dedication of the Korean War Veterans Memorial at USS ALABAMA Battleship Park. He received the Distinguished Achievement award from Morgan State University in Baltimore in 2005 and became an Army Reserve Ambassador.

# Facts About Mobile's Military Impact

There are more than 71,000 retired Veterans in Southern Alabama.

The city of Mobile has been designated one of America's "Coast Guard Cities.'

More than 20,000 Veterans have, or will come back home to Alabama from Middle East combat zones.

The Coast Guard payroll for the Mobile area is more than \$59 million with an economic impact of more than \$82 million.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has more than 1,100 employees working in its Mobile office.

Source: AL Dept. of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Coast Guard

# on Monday, Nov. 11

# **Fast Facts**

**What:** Veterans Day Activities

When: Monday, Nov. 11

**Events: Veterans Day Parade** 

10 a.m. - Government Street (free to public)

# **Veterans Day Luncheon**

Noon - Fort Whiting at Brookley Aeroplex

# **Freedom Celebration**

3 p.m. - Battleship Memorial Park (free to public)

# **Mobile Pops Concert**

7 p.m. - Battleship Memorial Park (free to public)

Cost: Luncheon \$18 per person or \$144 for a table of eight

Info: Register for the luncheon online at

www.events.mobilechamber.com or contact Carolyn Hunt at chunt@mobilechamber.com or call 251-431-8621 wth payment information. Payment required at time of reservation No refunds after Wednesday, Nov. 6.



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# small Business

of the month



# Beaufort Engineering Services

# Finds Going Green is Good for Business

Looking for green and sustainable solutions in building design and construction isn't just good for the environment. Beaufort Engineering Services (BES) Inc. believes it's also good for business.

"BES made green and sustainable design and construction a core part of our business several years ago simply because it is the right thing to do," said William Walter Bolton, president and CEO of the firm. "We have a committed goal of designing all projects to be sustainable, environmentally friendly, and to meet energy efficiency standards. We want to be innovators in reducing energy use and eliminating waste from the construction process. In utilizing green and sustainable processes, we increase the value we offer our clients by providing healthier and more efficient buildings for their use."

BES, the Mobile Area Chamber's Small Business of the Month, is a veteran-owned firm providing full architecture, engineering and construction services, with a 22-person corporate office in Fairhope and offices in Beaufort, S.C. and Johnson City, Tenn. The company was founded in 1976 as Charles C. Baggs & Associates in Beaufort, S.C., later changing its name in 1979. Bolton became a partner in 2000 and full owner of the firm in 2006.

The company's portfolio includes a blend of federal contracts and local commercial projects.

Bolton said BES' ability to see a job through from conception to completion with an in-house staff of professional architects, multidiscipline engineers and construction managers sets it apart from competitors.

"Our ability to provide turn-key architecture/engineering/construction services as a one-stop shop provides a convenience for our client that is not offered at many firms," he said, adding that the firm features on-staff certified LEED Accredited Professionals, Green Globes Professionals and Evidence-Based Design Accreditation and Certification personnel.

"Our mission," Bolton said, "is to build long-term client loyalty by providing the highest level of professional expertise with an emphasis on developing personal relationships." That emphasis can be seen in the firm's involvement in several charitable and civic endeavors, such as the Habitat for Humanity, the Fairhope Mayor's Advisory Board, the Fairhope Tree & Park Committee, volunteer art workshops at Fairhope Intermediate School and volunteer work at Historic Blakely State Park and in Biloxi after Hurricane Katrina. "We feel that it is part of our duty to lead by example in charity and civic pro bono work," Bolton said.

Bolton sees renewable energy and energy conservation as a major focus in his industry over the next decade, and BES is structured to be at the forefront of this ongoing trend.

"Our goal is to provide designs with the long-term advantages of minimal environmental impact and beneficial life cycle owner experience," he said. "This underlying goal of providing a facility that demonstrates a functional, cost effective and sensible response to meeting the owner's goals and the needs of the public at large for years to come is paramount to the design process and the implementation of that design."

Go to mobilechamber.com/award.asp to submit a Small Business of the Month nomination, or contact Danette Richards at 251-431-8652 or drichards@mobilechamber.com.



Center for Professional Development

The Faulkner State Center for Professional Development (CPD) provides support of economic growth through professional development, recreational classes and workforce training initiatives. The College provides quality professional education to individuals and corporate clients to enhance careers, foster workforce development and provide community enrichment.

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# Chamber Chase

Campaign Chairman **Daniel Dennis, Roberts Brothers Inc.** 

# Surpasses \$1.55 Million Goal

IN MAY, the Mobile Area Chamber's annual total resource campaign, Chamber Chase, kicked off WITH A GOAL OF RAISING \$1,550,000

in memberships, sponsorships, advertisements and donated goods and services. Under the leadership of chairman Daniel Dennis, Roberts Brothers Inc., an enthusiastic group of 62 volunteers not only met the goal, they once again exceeded it.

Over 15 weeks the volunteers, representing 32 member companies, exceeded the goal by raising \$1,563,192 through new member dues, sponsorships and advertising contracts used for publications such as The Business View and Guide to

Mobile and also donated goods and services from member businesses. Volunteers recruited 76 new members and 13 of the teams exceeded its goal.

"This was our 17th campaign and every year our volunteers have done better than the previous year", said Carolyn Golson, vice president of membership. "Their hard work and dedication makes our organization better able to do the work that will keep our region moving forward." "Our volunteers did the heavy-lifting ... they understood the importance of Chamber Chase, not only

> to the Chamber itself, but to Mobile as a whole," added Dennis.

Golson says Chamber Chase offers unique networking opportunities for the volunteers, a fun competitive spirit, and a great social outlet as well. "The real goal is to bring in new members to the Chamber and raise resources that ultimately come back full circle to the business community through the work of the Chamber," she said.

"As we look upon what needs to be done to maximize the opportunities in front of us, there is no question that we can elevate our region to the next level. But, we must

have an engaged and strong Chamber of Commerce," said Dennis.

To learn how your company can get involved in Chamber Chase, contact Golson at 251-431-8622 or cgolson@mobilechamber.com.







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# TOP **Campaign Producers**

Top Overall Produce	rs
Sherry Coker	\$107,443
Linda Faulkner	\$64,373
Spangar Wiggins	<b>©E1 ∩0</b> /

# **Top Cash Producers**

# 

# **Top New Member Producer** Jason McKenzie, PNC Bank

# **Top Overall Producing Teams**

Hancock Bank	\$203,156
Regions Bank	\$146,031
Servisfirst Bank	\$108,338
Evonik Corp	\$64,373
Arkema Inc	\$58,221

# **Top Cash Producing Teams**

Regions Bank	\$113,231
Hancock Bank	\$63,525
Alabama Power	\$55,350
Arkema Inc	\$55,021
Trustmark Bank	\$53,934

# **Top Rookie Volunteer** Ryan New, BBVA Compass Bank

# **Teams Over Goal** Alabama Power Arkema Inc. BancorpSouth **BBVA Compass Bank** Hancock Bank **iBERIABANK** International Shipholding Corp. LLB&B Inc. Real Estate Mobile Gas Regions Bank Roberts Brothers Inc.

# **Community Bank \$5,471**



Servisfirst Bank

President & CEO

Captain Jennifer Bergoon ......\$5,471

# CorroMetrics Services Inc. \$12.845



**Harrietta Eaton** CE0

Harrietta Eaton ......\$12,845

# Alabama Power Co. \$57,650



Mike Saxon Mobile Division Vice President



**Sharon Murrill** Captain

Dawn Bush	\$26,040
Sharon Murrill	\$31,610

# BB&T \$35,635



Edward H. O'Gwynn III Paul Stanley Market President



Captain

Jennifer Gontarski	\$5,100
Mark Spivey	\$5,720
Paul Stanley	\$16,176
Team Credit	\$8,639

# **Century Bank** \$7,880



Peter vanLingen II President



**Janet Johnson** Captain

Janet Johnson.....\$7,880

# Crow Shields & Bailey \$13,609



Kenny Crow Jr. Managing Partner



**Lott Brigham** Co-Captain



Colleen Macon Co-Captain

Nikki Allen	\$190
Lott Brigham	\$3,382
Ryan Damrich	\$190
Kristi Daughtery	\$3,557
Colleen Macon	\$5,935
Jenna Summersell	\$355

# Arkema Inc. \$58,221



John Lakenan Plant Manager

**Judy Smith** Captain Terri Owler .....\$40,396 Judy Smith.....\$17,825

# **BBVA Compass Bank** \$21,070



**Mark Fillers** 

Market President	Captain
Ryan New	\$14,705
Jahn Paton	\$1,365
Toam Crodit	<b>\$5 በበበ</b>

BancorpSouth \$55,225



Captain

**Terry Harbin James Alexander** Market President James Alexander ...... \$40.225 Christa Hilburn......\$7,500

# Blue Cross/Blue Shield of AL \$14,150

Virginia Knight ...... \$7,500



**Clay Walden** District Manager



**Kay Williams** Captain

(av Williams	 \$14	150
tay vviillailis	 Ψ14,	IJU



# Evonik Corp. \$64,373



**Bonnie Tully** Vice President & Site Manager

Linda Faulkner Captain

Linda Faulkner ......\$64,373

# Hancock Bank \$203,156





G. Robert Baker Jr. Spencer Wiggins

South Alabama Captain Region President Jimmy Campbell ......\$15,380 Jamie Horton .....\$24,000 Paige Ingram.....\$15,000 John McCrory ......\$28,900

Ross Seifert .....\$42,356

Spencer Wiggins ......\$55,459

Team Credit.....\$22,061

# **iBERIABANK** \$15,376





**Laura Searcy** 

**Russ Ford** Regional President, EVP

Captain

Laura Searcy.....\$15,376

# **Jeff Tesney Photography** \$5,050





**Jeff Tesney** Owner

Elissa Tesney Captain

Elissa Tesney......\$5,050

# **Lewis Communications** \$3,630





**Ellen Praytor Wingard** SVP, Managing Director

**Jennifer Foster** Captain

Team Credit.....\$3,630

# Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce Board **\$**18*.*169



**Daniel Dennis, Roberts Brothers** Captain

Team Credit ......\$18.169

# International Shipholding \$26,500





Erik Johnsen President

Sheila Dean-Rosenbohm Captain

Sheila Dean-Rosenbohm.....\$26,500

# LLB&B Inc. Real Estate **\$21,322**



**Melissa Morrissette** Captain

Melissa Morrissette ......\$21,322

# Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors \$53,742

Gary Adams	\$2,003
Karyl Hanisch	\$41,857
Millie Sue Hawk	\$310
Kasie Irby	\$2,000
Marylee Kilday	\$5,400
Jannea Rogers	\$800
Team Credit	\$1,372

# Mobile Gas Service Corp. \$51,364





Mike Fine President

**Harris Oswalt** Captain

Harris Oswalt	\$50,884
Marcus Stacey	\$480

# **PNC Bank** \$24,686





**Cedric Hatcher** Regional President

**Jason McKenzie** Captain

Jason McKenzie.....\$17,800 

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# Chamber Chase

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**Big Communications** BIS Office Systems Bishop State Community College BL Harbert International

BLP/Mobile Paint Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama Blue Haven Pools BMW of Mobile

Bounce Back Youth Leadership Foundation Brantley & Associates Real Estate BrightStar Care of Mobile Broussard's Piano Gallery and Academy H. Radcliff Brown Jr. DMD Budget Blinds of North Mobile Buffalo Rock-Pepsi Buffalo Wild Wings

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Southeast Inc. Central Holidays CG Group Inc. Chef Rob & Co. Chicken Salad Chick

Chick-fil-A Chill Yogurt Café Chris & Carla's Catering & Heavenly Ribs Cintas Corp.

Citrin, Rihner & Gupta Cardiology PC Clark Personnel Services Claudio's Spring Hill Italian Bistro Clear Channel Radio

Cleveland the Florist Coastal Bank & Trust Coastal Clinical Research Inc.

Coastal Courier Coastal Human Resources Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated

Cockeyed Charlie's Sports Bar Colonial Trailways Columbia Southern University Comcast Communication Commodore Steel Buildings

Commonwealth National Bank Community Bank Community Coffee Co.

Complete Dental of Mobile Consumer First Mortgage Content Fresh Continental Motors

Copy Products Co. CorroMetrics Services Dr. Chris Corsentino & Associates

Cream & Sugar Creative Catering Credit Central #26797 Credit Central #26798

Critter Gitter Pest Control CrossCountry Mortgage Cunningham Bounds Cypress Employment Services LLC

Dade Paper Co. DailyAccess Corp Deep Water Horizon Support

Services Delphia Consulting Denise Harris-NAIFA/Mobile Devin Ford Photography

DiRecManagement Inc. Dixie Trucks Don's Catering

Dorsey & Dorsey Engineering DQ Grill & Chill **DRC Security Services** 

DSILLC

DuPont Crop Protection EcoSouth Services EcoView Windows of Mobile Elements Therapeutic Massage Empower Your Life Encore Rehabilitation **ENGlobal Corporation** Equity Technologies e-worc Web & New Media Explosive Signs & Graphics **Express Employment Professionals** ExxonMobil Family Security Credit Union Felder Services Filters-Now.com Fincher & Assoc. Fine Line Design

Fiver Rivers Delta Resource Center Floor Trader

Flowerwood Management Co. Fluid Engineering FMS Engineering Food for Less

Frank R. Friedman Fred South Construction Fremin's Contractor Services LLC FusionPoint Media

G & K Services Co. G.A. West Gallo Mechanical Gardberg, Clausen & Kemmerly PC

Genesis Technical Staffing George McAlman-National Association of Real Estate Brokers

Georgia Roussos Catering Gigi's Cupcakes of Mobile Gill Development Glenn Crane & Rigging Glenn Shepard Seminars Global Security International Goodwill Easter Seals Grand Band Entertainment Granger, Thagard & Associates Greater Gulf State Fair Greater Mobile Laser &

Aesthetic Center Greg's Professional Barber & Beauty Salon

Gulf Coast Air & Hydraulics Gulf Coast Angel Network Gulf Coast Canteen Vending and Coffee Services

**Gulf Coast Containers** Gulf Coast Dermatology & Skin Care Gulf Coast Exploreum

Science Center Gulf Coast Office Products Gulf Distributing Holdings

Gulf South Pipeline Gwin's Commercial Printing H & H Electric Co. H.H. Jordan Construction

Hackbarth Delivery Service Hafez Corporation d/b/a McDonald's Hampton Inn & Suites Mobile Downtown/Historic District

Hampton Inn & Suites Providence Park Hampton Inn N. Mobile/Saraland Hancock Bank

Hand Arendall LLC Harbor Communications Hargrove Engineers + Constructors

Hatch Mott MacDonald Healing Touch Chiropractic HealthSource of West Mobile Helmsing Leach Herlong Newman

& Rouse Heroes Sports Bar & Grille Hilton Garden Inn/Hampton Inn & Suites Orange Beach

Hilton Pensacola Beach Gulf Front **HKA Enterprises** Home Mortgage of America

Homewood Suites by Hilton-Mobile East Bay Daphne Horizon Research Group

House Call LLC HUR International **Hunter Limousines** Hurricane Electronics Hydroprocessing Associates IDeACOM of the Gulf Coast Indus Travel **INEOS Phenol** Infirmary Health Information Transport Solutions Inner Parish Security Corp. InShapeMD International Shipholding InXpress Itex Gulf Coast ITT Technical Institute J. Hilburn Men's Clothier J. Townsend Personnel J.O. Acree Co. Jaguar IMG Sports Marketing Jeff Tesney Photography Jemison Marine Jerry Gerritsen Real Estate Jim Owen Studios JMF Solutions Joe Jefferson Players Joe Lewis Music Studio Johnstone Adams LLC Jones Walker Jot Worthy Communications JubileeScape Kahn Swick & Foti Kay Jewelers Dr. Charles Keith Keith Mosley Construction Keith R. Scott Associates Kona Ice Azalea City Krispy Mixes Inc. L R Enterprise L&M Welding Supply LA+SOUTH Lamar Advertising Lassere's Catering LCM Motorcars Leaf & Petal Florist & Gift Shop Legacy Bar & Grill Leroy Hill Coffee Co. Life + Legacy Benefits Bradford Liles DMD Linda C. Sowell Rodan + Fields Little Flower Catholic School Little Monkey Toes LLB&B Inc. Real Estate Logical Computer Solutions Long's Human Resource Services Lovely J's Lumpkin & Associates M&M Constructioin Materials M. Washington & Associates Marine Well Containment Co. Mary's Southern Cooking Massage Envy Spa Master Boat Builders McAleer's Office Furniture MCG Business Solutions Meador Warehousing Mediterranean Sandwich Co. Melting Pot Merchants Transfer Mercy LIFE of Alabama MetLife Michael's Arts & Crafts Mill & Marine Supply Mississippi Export Railroad Mitsubishi Polysilicon Mitternight Mobile Airport Authority Mobile Area Association of Realtors Mobile Area Water & Sewer System Mobile Bay Parents Magazine Mobile BayBears Mobile County Public School System Mobile Gas

Mobile Infirmary

Mobile Marriott

Mobile Mask

Mobile Popcorn Co. Mobile Screen Print & Embroidery Mobile SPCA Mobile Symphony MobileALtogo.com Morrissette & Co. Catering Musial Dental Center Naman's Catering Navigator Credit Union New Horizons Credit Union Office Solutions & Innovations Offshore Inland Marine & Oilfield Old Shell Rd. Small Animal Hospital Omega Properties/Mobile's Best Storage  $\\0\\mniTranz$ Optera Creative Organic Soil Restoration Outback Steakhouse Outokumpu Stainless Padgett Business Services Page & Jones Panini Pete's Papa Murphy's Performance Contractors Phelps Dunbar Physicians' Pain Specialists of Alabama Pickers Paradise Pilot Catastrophe Pioneer Pool Products **PNC Bank** Pollman's Bake Shops Polysurveying of Mobile Port City Medical Port City Rentals Precision Tool & Grinding Premier Medical Management Premier Roofing Principal Financial Group Print King Prism Systems Providence Hospital Prudential Cooper & Co. Quality Bookkeeping & Tax Service Quality Valve Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers Regions Bank Remington College Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel Robert J. Baggett Roberts Brothers Roberts Brothers Commercial & Property Management Roberts Brothers-Joe Gerard Robertson Gallery Rock Creek Golf Club Roly Poly Ron's Catering Room Service Rowe Surveying & Engineering Co. Royal Cup Coffee Russell Thompson Butler & Houston S. Baker Medical S/M Warehouse Safe Archives Safety Plus Sanders Hyland SB&T Bank ServisFirst Bank SH Enterprises Shell Chemicals Sign Pro Skyline Gulf Coast SMG Mobile Convention &

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Southern LED Solutions Southern Light Southern Smiles Splash Duo-Coolrayz Band Spot of Tea Springhill Medical Center SSAB St. Luke's Episcopal School St. Mary Catholic School Star Service State Farm - Makeda Nichols Strategic Wealth Specialists Strojny & Strojny Financial Services Sunrise Network Solutions Supreme Medical Surgical Innovation Synergy Financial Solutions Take 5 Oil Change Tanner's Pecans Taylor Martino PC Technology Integration Group **Telecom Agent Solutions** The Broken iPhone The Computer Crew The Factory Connection The Grounds Guys of South Mobile The Hungry Owl The Ladd Firm The National Flight Academy The Original HoneyBaked Ham Co. The Royal Scam The Salvation Army of Coastal Alabama The SSI Group Threaded Fasteners ThyssenKrupp Steel USA T-Mobile Toni Riales Photography Trademark Promotions Transworld Business Advisors of Alabama TruFund Financial Services Truland Homes Trustmark Bank Tyndall Federal Credit Union Tyner's Catering University of Mobile University of South Alabama University of South Alabama Technology & Research Park USA Children's & Women's Hospital USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park Vance McCown Construction Vending for U Verizon Wireless - Z Wireless VIC Companies Virtual Contact Group Vision Environments Volkert Inc WALA FOX 10 Walks & Wags Wal-Tech Valve Walter Haffner Co. Ward International Trucks WAVH FM Talk 106.5 Weinacker's Montessori School Wells Fargo Wesco Gas & Welding Whites Sitting Service White-Spunner Construction Wilkins Miller Hieronymus William H. Philpot Willis of Alabama Wintzell's Oyster House WKRG-TV WNSP FM & WZEW FM Wolsley Industrial Group

Zimlich Patio & Garden

# Regions Bank \$146,031



**Brian Willman** South Alabama Area President

Trish Banker	\$26,027
Julye Clark	\$21,950
Bernard Moseby	\$440
Stephen Schlautman	\$9,750
Team Credit	\$87,514

# ServisFirst Bank \$108,338



**Bibb Lamar** 



Chairman & CEO Region President Φ407 440

Snerry Coker	\$107,443
Becky Minto	\$475
Jay Weber	\$420

# Wells Fargo \$3,735





**Chuck Harmon Belinda Shoub** Market President Captain Belinda Shoub......\$1,235 Team Credit .....\$2,500

# Roberts Brothers Inc. \$20,136





**Daniel Dennis** President

Ann Akeridge

Captain \$569

Ann Akridge	\$569
Sandy Frost	\$4,180
Tricia Graham	\$2,201
Anna Luce	\$4,090
Bernadette Windle	\$5,565
Team Credit	\$3,530

# **Trustmark Bank** \$54,534





Mike Fitzhugh South Alabama Region President

Captain

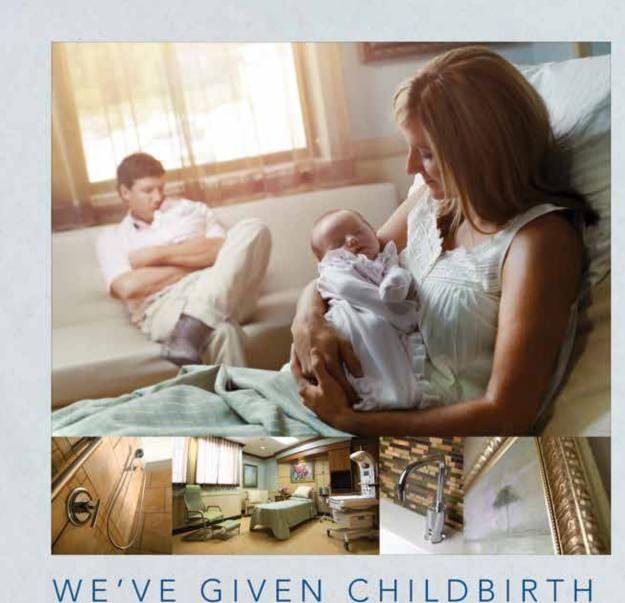
0	
David Hagan	\$20,000
Lisa Owen	\$20,400
Team Credit	\$14,134

Member Investment	\$187,903
Board of Advisors	\$281,961
<b>Advertising in Chamber</b>	
Publications	\$56,067
Sponsorships of Projects/Events	
and In-Kind	\$530,215
Donations of Products/	
Services	\$507,046

**FINAL TOTAL** \$1,563,192



More than 60 volunteers representing 32 Chamber member businesses, exceeded its \$1.5 million goal in recruiting new members, selling sponsorships and ads, and securing needed donated goods and services.



# WE'VE GIVEN CHILDBIRTH THE SPA TREATMENT.

Every surface is newborn in our Family Plaza suites, from glass tiles and spacious shower to spa-grade linens. The nursery barrier has been replaced by the luxury of seamless,

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en hanced accommodations for dad.

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Mobile's newest birthing center treats
our newest families.

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Family Plaza

Mobile Infirmary

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# How \$100 is spent in Mobile

# Think before you click!

All of us are busy, but before you pull out your laptop to order Christmas gifts, think about how your support, or lack of it, impacts Mobile and your quality of life.



For every \$100 spent at a local independent business, \$68 is invested into the Mobile economy through payroll, taxes and expenditures.



\$43 stays in the Mobile economy when \$100 is spent at national chain stores.



If you shop out of town or online, there is no contribution to the Mobile economy.

Source: www.the350project.net

# Shop Local

# on Small Business Saturday

ove over, Black Friday. Forget about Cyber Monday. There's a new shopping wave gaining momentum – Small Business Saturday, and this year's date is Nov. 30. It's the day dedicated to checking off your Christmas shopping list with presents found at local shops, boutiques and stores.

And if you've never thought about how your gift-giving impacts the local economy, now is a good time. The more local ties the store, gallery or restaurant has, the more is invested back into Mobile, according to The 3/50 Project, launched by Cinda Baxter in 2009.

By Baxter's calculations, every \$100 spent translates into \$68 by way of taxes, payroll and other expenditures when buying at locally owned, independent stores and \$43 at national chains located in Mobile. If shopping via Internet, the total drops to zero.

So, in the spirit of buying local, *The Business View* put together a few ideas from local Mobile Area Chamber members.



Robertson Gallery Art is a great investment and would be an amazing family purchase. www.robertsongallerymobile.com

SugarLots Décor Holiday wreaths and other decor make great gifts for the hard-to-shop for in-laws who seem to have everything. www.facebook.com/SugarLotsDecor



Jewelry is a perfect gift for any woman, girl or infant –

from custom-designed rings to first set of pearls to

dress pins for hand-smocked and lace gowns.

www.friedmansjewelers.com

# **More Gift Ideas**

- Breakfast, lunch and/or dinner from a local restaurant
- Massage or Spa Day
- · Green plants that will last long after the holidays
- Coffee and homemade danishes
- Deliver a catered meal
- On-location family photo
- Membership to a museum or a gym
- Tickets to a show, the theatre, symphony, ballet, opera, sporting event, park, music festival or gardens
- Chartered or dinner cruise
- Magazine or newspaper subscription
- Design a family T-shirt or coffee mug
- Certificate for a house cleaning, car wash or oil change
- Basket of items made in Mobile - Leroy Hill coffee, China Doll rice, Krispy Mixes spices

Search the Mobile Area Chamber's membership directory for these and more ideas on where to shop local, www.mobilechamber.com.



Henry O'Connor President Community Bank Mobile

Michael Fitzhugh Regional President South Alabama

Executive Vice President Commercial Banking Manager

Kevin Carey Executive Vice President Private Banking Manager Mobile

Lee Mitchell Executive Vice President Real Estate Banking Manager Mobile

# When it comes to banking, there's no substitute for experience.

When you bank with Trustmark, you're banking with one of the region's most experienced and trusted banking teams. You'll also recognize a few familiar faces. After all, our leadership team has been serving South Alabama for years and offers in-depth knowledge of the Mobile area.

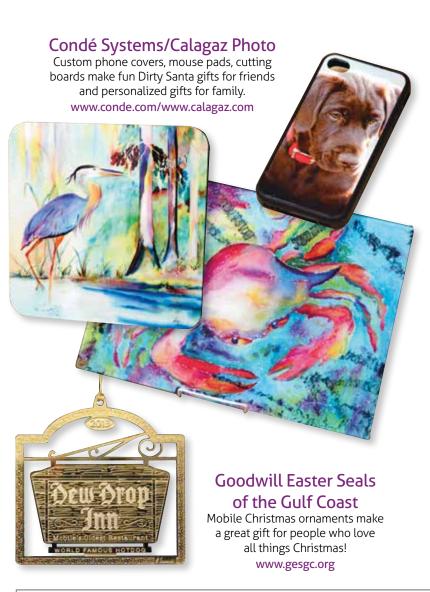
So come let us put our experience to work for you. Call or drop by your nearest Trustmark location today, or visit us online at trustmark.com.



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# **12 Holiday Marketing Tips for Local Businesses**

Target Marketing and Bronto released a checklist to help businesses plan their holiday marketing efforts. Here's a sample from each of the 12 sections.

- 1 Create a "Holiday Emergency Contact List," including your team members and related vendors, so it will be easy to reach them outside of business hours if needed.
- 2 Offer customers options by gift recipient, price, top rated products and personal picks based on your best sellers.
- 3 Add a specialized footer to your email highlighting store hours, gift cards and shipping deadlines.
- 4 Segment email subscribers based on levels of engagement, and resend to those who opened but did not click or clicked and did not purchase.
- **5** Launch an email campaign featuring a countdown to Christmas promotion or daily deal.
- 6 Offer a flash sale a limited time offer.
- 7 Consider that social media will likely be one of your "largest revenue drivers," and make sure your call to action is clear.

- 8 Identify mobile opportunities, from QR codes to texting coupons.
- **9** Ask "Who are my best customers?" and "What did they buy?" Use the information to drive repeat sales.
- 10 Send a holiday greeting card/ message – these messages typically have high open rates even among those with no promotions.
- 11 Build post-holiday and New Year strategies centered on your return policy, in-store specials and clearance sales.
- **12** Send shipping-focused messages in this order: last day for standard shipping, last day for priority shipping, last day for overnight shipping, all shipping guarantees expired - pick up in-store and online gift cards.

Download the 16-page report and other resources at www.bronto.com/ holiday.



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# MAKE CUSTOMERS FEEL MORE WELCOME. LEAVE THE LIGHTS ON FOR THEM.

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Alabama Power offers our customers solutions for a better workplace. Experts in our custom-designed lighting program can audit your facility's current lighting needs and design, install and maintain a system that's automatic from dusk to dawn, without timers or switches. The cost is a flat monthly fee that includes the electricity, bulb replacement, the works. Find your solution for a better place at 1-888-430-5787 or AlabamaPower.com.



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# Choose a bank that takes the time to understand you and your business.

In order to grow your business, you have to take advantage of new endeavors. Marine and Industrial Supply Company understands that more than most. They recognized the opportunity of pursuing more global ventures. But that required large amounts of capital on short notice. Worried about getting lost in the shuffle of a big bank, they approached Coastal Bank & Trust. Coastal took the time to learn the complexities of their business. Coastal quickly understood their cash flow needs and were able to accommodate short and long term capital needs. Coastal was also able to handle international transactions as well as provide treasury management support. But the real difference wasn't the size of the bank — it was the partnership. Visit us at **coastalbankandtrust.com**.



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# Chamber@WORK

# **Chamber's Air Service Task Force Expands**

The Chamber's air service task force recently formed a special subcommittee to address transportation access issues at Mobile Regional Airport. The effort is being led by Dave Trent, Airbus Americas Engineering Center; and the Chamber's transportation coalition, chaired by Steele Holman with Zieman, Speegle, Jackson & Hoffman. Its participants include representatives from the Mobile Airport Authority, Alabama Department of Transportation, ALDOT, Mobile's MPO, and both the city of Mobile and Mobile County engineering departments. The subcommittee identified preliminary recommendations to enhance traffic access along critical routes leading to and from the airport and will reconvene regularly to explore other traffic access alternatives.

# **Chamber Hosts Southeast Asia Briefing**

In conjunction with the Alabama Department of Commerce and the Export Alabama Alliance, the Chamber hosted Wanwemol Charukultharvatch, senior

commercial specialist in Bangkok, Thailand, with the U.S. Commercial Service, for a market briefing on Southeast Asia. She serves as primary liaison between the Embassy and both the Royal Thai Government and the Thai private sector. The state of Alabama and the Chamber will lead a trade mission in late March 2014 to Jakarta, Indonesia and Bangkok. For more information, contact Christina Stimpson at 251-431-8648.

# **Chamber Co-Sponsors Workshop on Credit Insurance**

The Chamber hosted Warren Bares of J. Maxime Roy Inc. for a workshop entitled "How To Grow your International Sales by Offering Credit Terms but Minimizing Risks." Bares, a leader in the Southeast on export credit insurance and an authorized broker for the Export-Import Bank of the U.S., spoke to 15 people interested in learning how credit insurance could expand their export sales. The program was sponsored by the Mobile Area Chamber, Alabama International Trade Center and Alabama Small Business Development Center Network, in cooperation with the Export-Import Bank of the United States and the Small Business Administration.



# NASA Conference Draws More than 200

In September, the Chamber hosted a business-to-business forum connecting more than 200 small- to medium-sized businesses with representatives from NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, Stennis Space Center, Michoud Assembly Facility, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Mobile District and more than 20 of their prime contractors and other agencies. The day-long forum began with informational presentations regarding the process of doing business with NASA. The afternoon gave attendees the opportunity to speak one-on-one with individual representatives to learn more about their specific purchasing needs. Within a week of holding the forum, meetings were already taking place between attendees and the purchasing agents. NASA expects to return to Mobile to repeat the session in 18 months.

# INFIRMARY OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Infirmary Occupational Health is the leading occupational health program on the Gulf Coast with three clinics and a 24-hour network treatment program. We provide the highest quality occupational health, workers' compensation injury treatment, therapy and wellness services. Our goal is to provide a safer, healthier and more productive workplace for you and your employees.

# Our Services:

- Workers Compensation Services
- · On-site Wellness
- Rehabilitation Therapy
- · Drug and Alcohol Screening Services
- Physical Exams
- Testing and Evaluation
- Travel Medicine
- Consultation

For more information on services and programs offered, call 251-433-3781.

# Infirmary Occupational Health Locations:

305 N. Water Street Mobile, AL 36602

5320 Hwy. 90 Svc. Rd. Mobile, AL 36619

7101 Hwy. 90, Ste. 101 Daphne, AL 36526





During his speech at the Mobile Area Chamber's Forum Alabama in August, Gov. Robert Bentley covered several state and local issues. Bentley commented on the continuous progress he sees every time he flies over Mobile Bay, boasted on Alabama's job recruitment efforts and said the state's largest road repair program means \$50 million for Mobile County. Pictured from left to right with Bentley (third from left) is Chamber President Bill Sisson, Alabama State Port Authority Director/ CEO Jimmy Lyons and Chamber Board Chairman and Alabama Power Vice President - Mobile Division Mike Saxon.

# **Corporate Community Service Award Workshop Held**

The Junior League of Mobile facilitated the Chamber's 2013 Corporate Community Service Award workshop in late summer. More than 15 Chamber member companies participated in the training session on how to enter the competition. The winner will be presented at the Chamber's November board meeting, and recognized during the annual meeting in January.

# **Chamber Participates in Member Grand Openings and Ribbon Cuttings**

Chamber staff and ambassadors helped cut ribbons and celebrated grand openings at Gordon Oaks, C Spire Wireless and Lovely I's. If your business is a member and you would like assistance with planning a grand opening or ribbon-cutting event, contact Dawn Rencher at 251-431-8649 or drencher@mobile chamber.com.

# Chamber@WORK

# **Petition Support for Bridge Growing**

The Chamber's community and governmental affairs department launched a grassroots campaign to increase awareness of and support for the I-10 bridge and Bayway expansion. During the Chamber's Business Expo in August, more than 200 people signed a Chamber petition in support of this project. By attending community events and speaking to civic clubs, the department and Chamber volunteers are continuing to solicit support for this critical infrastructure project from individuals, groups and associations and government.

# **Chamber Appoints Several Members to Historic** Commission

The Chamber recently appointed Ben Cummings with Cummings Architecture Corp. and Jennifer Roselius with Hand Arendall to serve as its designees on the Mobile Historic Development Commission (MHDC). MHDC is a department of the city of Mobile, under the direction of an independent volunteer commission, and is composed of representatives of various civic and public entities working to protect and enhance Mobile's historic resources.

# **Ambassador** of the Month



Photo by Jeff Tesney Photograp!

As development director for Victory Health Partners, Kim Garrett raises awareness and support for Victory's ministry, and manages more than 60 volunteers. The clinic provides affordable, quality healthcare services for lowincome, uninsured individuals who do not qualify for government assistance. The staff is comprised of volunteer medical professionals.

Garrett is the Chamber's Ambassador of the Month. According to the Texas native, being an ambassador is an opportunity to continue raising awareness about Victory and to network with other local companies.

**OPENING SOON IN SPRINGHILL** 

# BETTER RATE GUARANTEED NOW. **OPPORTUNITY FOR BETTER RATE LATER.**

# STEP UP CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

MONTH

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# Chamber@WORK

# **Business Spotlight of the Month:** Hampton Inn & Suites Mobile **Downtown/Historic District**



The Hampton Inn & Suites Mobile Downtown/Historic District is a 149-room, full-service hotel located at 62 N. Royal St., one block north of Government Street. Providing leisure and business travelers with a variety of services, the hotel has both traditional rooms and family suites,

meeting room space and laundry services. Pictured is Sales Manager Stephanie Ward.

The Business Spotlight of the Month is selected at random from a business card drawing at the Chamber's monthly Business After Hours event.



# **Board of Advisors**



Robert G. Mayes Jr. is co-founder and president of Columbia Southern University (CSU, one of the nation's first online universities). A pioneer in online education with 15 years of experience in the distance learning industry. Mayes has served as president of CSU since 2005. He holds an associate's degree from Faulkner State Junior College, a bachelor's degree from Columbia Southern and a master's degree in business administration from Capella University. He serves on the accrediting commission of the Distance Education and

Training Council (DETC), a nationally recognized accrediting agency. He is also a DETC business standards evaluator, Business Standards Committee member and Finance Committee member. Mayes is on the board of the Alabama Association of Private Colleges and Schools, and is board chairman of South Baldwin Christian Academy. He is also CEO of Columbia Southern Education Group, the parent company of Columbia Southern University and Waldorf College.



Robert Wasden is vice president/ general manager of Crown Products, a company providing promotional products nationwide. The company was purchased by EBSCO Industries of Birmingham in 2005. Previously with EBSCO, Wasden has worked with Crown since the acquisition. He previously volunteered with Lakeshore Foundation in Birmingham, a nonprofit organization serving people with physical disabilities throughout Alabama and around the world.



John P.B. Weinacker is president and owner of Weinacker's Montessori School. He has a bachelor's degree in economics and a master's degree in business administration from The University of Alabama, and a master's degree in teaching from Spring Hill College. He holds Montessori credentials for birth through age 12, and administration and Class A teacher certification for the state of Alabama. Weinacker's Montessori School was a U.S. Chamber of Commerce 2013 Blue Ribbon Small Business award winner, and the 2012 Mobile Area

Chamber small business of the year. Weinacker has served as chairman of the Chamber's Executive Roundtable and as a member of the state of Alabama Department of Human Resources Childcare Partnership board of advisors. He has also served as president of Montessori Educators of Alabama and the Gulf Coast Child Development Association, and as a member of Mobile United, the National Association for the Education of Young Children, National Association of Child Care Professionals and the American Montessori Society.

For more information about the Chamber's board of advisors, contact Katrina Dewrell at 251-431-8611 or kdewrell@mobilechamber.com.

# Quite an accomplishment MAKING YEAR YEAR and still going strong! • Full-Service Printing Direct Mail Posters & Banners

# **Emily McGrath**

# Named Project Coordinator

Suffice to say, it was a busy summer for Emily McGrath. The Mobile Area Chamber's new project coordinator graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics from Vanderbilt University in May, got married in June and moved to Mobile in July. And just after the move, she put on her networking hat, and in less than six weeks, found "the perfect job."

Although it was her new husband who brought them to Mobile – he's a first year medical school student at the University of South Alabama, McGrath says the move to Mobile has been great, and she's been blown away by "how much there is to do here."

"I wanted to live and work somewhere that I could be a part of the community, while using my economics degree," she said. And in the Chamber's economic development department, she will work hand-in-hand with the project managers who are charged with recruiting new



companies to Mobile and assisting existing industry with expansion projects.

McGrath will oversee administrative services for both Mobile County's Industrial Development Authority and the city of Mobile's Industrial Park Board. She will also provide staff support for the Gulf Coast Technology Council and

OffshoreAlabama.com, two Chamber initiatives working with Chamber members businesses in the technology and oil and gas industries, respectively.

Troy Wayman, the Chamber's vice president of economic development says McGrath's energy, and successful internships made her the right candidate for the job. "She's a terrific addition to our team, and has been able to jump right in, and get to work," he said.

To reach McGrath, contact her via email at emcgrath@mobilechamber.com or via phone at 251-431-8651.





Larinda Gann











Leigh Hill Cell - 454-1987





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Jackie McCaleb







Mamun Siddig Cell-391-2047



Tangie Stallworth







ast travelers on Mobile Area Chamber group tours rate Italy as their No. 1 destination for a return trip. In response, the Chamber has lined up an outstanding tour of Sicily on the southern "boot tip" of Italy from April 22-28, 2014. You are invited to join us.

The trip costs \$2,640, based on double occupancy, and a single room rate is an additional \$300. The price includes roundtrip airfare from Mobile, hotel accommodations, an English-speaking tour guide, motorcoach transportation, many meals, air taxes, fees and surcharges and hotel transfers. While the majority of the trip is filled with group tours, guests can also take optional tours.

The trip will be limited to around 25 people, and a deposit of \$400 per person is required to hold a spot. To learn more, contact Leigh Perry-Herndon by e-mail, lherndon@mobilechamber.com, or call 251-431-8645.

# THE SICILY TRIP INCLUDES:

# DAY 1 - Depart Mobile for Italy via overnight flight.

DAY 2 - Arrive in Palermo: Balance of the day at leisure, with an evening welcome cocktail orientation, followed by dinner.

DAY 3 - Monreale Cathedral and Palermo Old City Tour: Travel to Monreale and view the Norman Cathedral, famous for its Byzantine and Sicilian mosaics. Continue to the Old City of Palermo. Norman Palace and the cathedral. The afternoon is at leisure to explore Palermo on your own.

DAY 4 - Marsala Wine Tasting and Lunch, Valley of the Temples Tour. Depart Palermo for Agrigento: En route, view the famous Temple of Segesta, constructed in the 5<sup>th</sup> Century B.C.; savor the islands' landmark windmills and salt mines, passing by Marsala, famous for its namesake Marsala

wine; and stop for a wine tasting with local specialties in one of the area's wineries. Finally, continue to Agrigento to visit the area's most celebrated site, the Valley of the Temples, where you will see some of the largest and best preserved temple ruins outside the mainland of Greece.

# **DAY 5 - Mount Etna, Arrive in Catania:**

Visit the slopes of Mount Etna, the highest active volcano in Europe. Ascend the mount to reach the Silvestri Craters, and walk about the varied layers of lava that have solidified over the centuries. Continue to Catania, one of Sicily's most important cities for more than three millennia.

DAY 6 - Catania City Tour: Stroll the city of Catania, including its famous open-air market, then explore the city on your own or take an optional tour to Taormina.

DAY 7 - Full Day in Catania: Spend a full day at leisure to explore the area on your own, or take an optional tour to Siracusa.

DAY 8 - Return to Mobile



# Making the wisest investment of all.

BB&T proudly supports schools and educational programs across our community. The future belongs to those who are best prepared for it, and we want to give our children the knowledge they need to grow into leaders and role models. Sharing knowledge has always been at the heart of the BB&T philosophy. It's as true today as it was 140 years ago: our goals are to help students and parents reach theirs. BBT.com



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# How Veterans Can Put Their Small Business in the Spotlight

If you've planned your new small business thoroughly, you've learned a lot about your prospective customers even without meeting them. You know where they're located, what their needs are, their buying habits and what influences them, and why they may be attracted to your products and services.

And if you're a veteran or were disabled while serving in the armed forces, you have an advantage. Federal agencies and private businesses are required to utilize veteran- and service-disabled veteranowned small businesses to satisfy government contracting requirements. Many private-sector businesses and individual customers also give veteranowned enterprises priority when purchasing goods and services.

Of course, being a veteran-owned business is not enough to start generating revenue; you must still offer products and services that are competitively priced, and

provide a level of expertise, quality and reliability that sets your company apart from competitors.

It's also essential that customers know about your veteran-owned business and what you have to offer. This can be particularly challenging, given that you may be entering a market that is large and diverse in both size and geography, and want to focus your limited startup resources on the most promising marketing opportunities.

Fortunately, several online channels specifically developed for veteran-owned businesses make it easy to spread the word for little or no cost.

For example, there are the Vendor Information Pages of www.vetbiz.gov, managed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Center for Veteran Enterprise. With this free service, VA-verified businesses can register and create profiles that spotlight their location, size, experience and other features that may be of interest to customers.

Two other valuable online directories are www.buyveteran.com, part of the National Veteran-Owned Business Association's Buy Veteran campaign that promotes veteran-owned businesses to both public- and private-sector consumers; and www.veteranownedbusiness.com. Both include easy-to-use search features that allow users to identify veteran-owned businesses that meet specific needs.

In addition to online directories, trade shows and exhibitions are designed to help veteran and disabled veteran-owned businesses connect with prospective customers and each other. The largest of these, the National Veteran Small Business Conference and Expo, is held each year at a different location around the country.

Sponsored by the Department of Veterans Affairs, in partnership with the Veteran Federal Interagency Council,

the event combines a small business conference with training on a variety of topics with exhibit halls for displays and networking.

Other exhibitions spotlighting veteranand service-disabled veteran-owned businesses are held on a local and regional basis. Internet searches and local VA offices can provide information about these, including location and registration/ exhibition requirements.

Another great source where veterans and civilians – can learn about small business marketing opportunities is SCORE, a nonprofit organization that offers resources, training and workshops, and free, confidential counseling.

Contact the Mobile SCORE chapter, housed at the Mobile Area Chamber for free and confidential counseling at 251-431-8614, or visit online at www.mobile.score.org.







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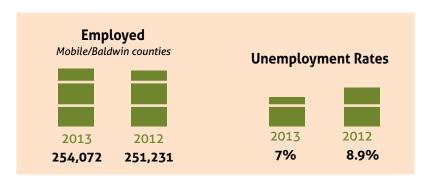
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# Comparative

# Economic **Indicators**

The Mobile Area Chamber's research division collects a variety of statistics each month.

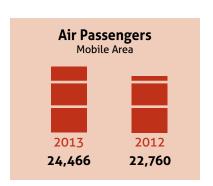
# August 2013 vs August 2012











# Delaney Development Inc.



Founded in Mobile, Delaney Development owns, operates and manages residential, commercial and timberland related property interests in Alabama, Florida and Mississippi. Pictured here, from left to right, are Scott Delaney, Billie Delaney, Robert S. Frost, Jimmy Delaney, Darlene D. Frost, Billy Delaney, Mary Helene Delaney, Karen Ann Delaney, Richard Delaney, Lisa Stuart, Billy Frost, Juli Chambliss and Michael Delaney.

**Company officials:** Robert S. Frost, chief executive officer; Scott Delaney, vice president commercial properties; Michael Delaney, vice president timberlands; Edward ("Billy") Frost, vice president construction; Richard Delaney, vice president financial operations; Karen Ann Delaney, vice president marketing; Lisa Delaney Stuart, vice president accounting; and Juli Frost Chambliss, vice president human resources

**Years in business:** Approximately 60

# **Brief company description:**

Delaney Development Inc. was established by E.E. Delaney, but most older Mobilians remember the early years of the business as an appliance and car dealership located on Broad Street, known simply as "Delaney's." The company has long been involved with the sale, development and leasing of commercial and residential properties within the Mobile community and multifamily residential properties. Currently, Delaney Development owns, operates and manages residential, commercial and timberland-related property interests in Alabama, Florida and

Mississippi, as well as timber in other parts of Alabama. Delaney Development gives back to Mobile and its surrounding areas through its charitable E.E. Delaney Foundation Inc.

# Why are you located in Mobile?

"Having been founded in the city of Mobile, the business has grown primarily in this area," said Robert S. Frost, chief executive officer. "The entire Delaney family has witnessed the many years of changes and expansion of the city, and has enjoyed the warm hospitality and charm of Mobile and its people. There is no better place to live and work than Mobile, and with the company's third generation of Mobilians now guiding the future of the company, we hope to continue what has been a longstanding record of successful business and community support."

# Why do you support the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce's Partners for Growth initiative?

"The Chamber does an excellent job of promoting the city of Mobile and its growth," said Frost. "In this day and age, we can either wait for something good to

happen, or we can try and make something good happen. This initiative is a proactive step to go out and sell this city and its people in order to attract new business or programs. Such efforts help all of us, either directly or indirectly. We believe, as a business operating in this community, these efforts should be supported for the long-term success of Mobile."

What do you see as Mobile's **greatest potential?** "Diversification of opportunities combined with its location allows Mobile to be attractive to a wide range of businesses, both small and large," said Frost. "When you think about the number of different types of businesses and attractions in this community, such as the port, steel manufacturing, shipbuilding, aerospace and aircraft manufacturing, chemical industry, recreational attractions, sporting events such as the Senior Bowl and the BayBears, outstanding medical facilities and educational institutions, there are so many opportunities for added growth in goods and services."

**Length of continuous Chamber** membership: Since 1986



Partners for Growth (PFG) is the Mobile Area Chamber's long-term economic and community development program. For more information, contact Katrina Dewrell, the Chamber's investor relations coordinator, at **251-431-8611** or kdewrell@mobilechamber.com.



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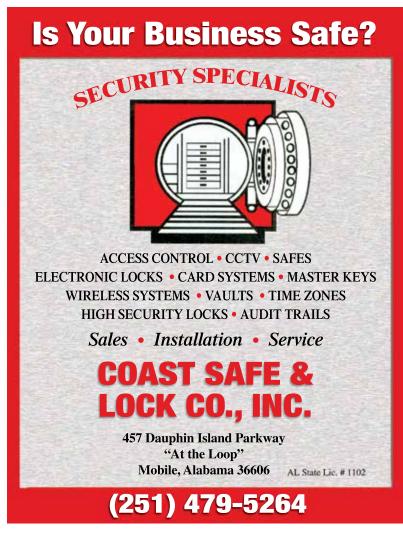
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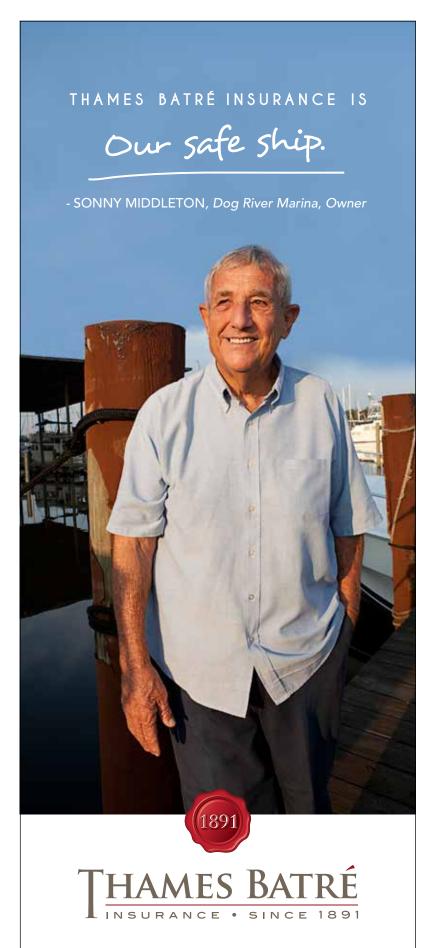
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Lagniappe has 48,801 print readers each issue, and 95,226 print readers over 6 months, representing a readership gain of 22% over last year.

# **AGE OF READERS**

Lagniappe's average reader is 46 years old, with 74.7% of our readers' aged 35 or older.

Our readers have an average household income of \$75,451, more than \$17,000 above the market average of Mobile and Baldwin counties. 24,5% of Lagniappe households earn \$100,000 or more annually.

56.1% of Lagniappe's readers are women, 43.9% are men.

# **AUTOMOTIVE**

16.9% of our readers plan to buy a new vehicle in the next year, more than 5% over the market average. 23.5% plan on buying a used car in the next 12 months, over 7% more than the market average.

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68.5% of Lagniappe's readers have some college education or above. 21.4% have college degrees

and 13.2% have post-graduate degrees as well, nearly double the market

Lagniappe readers' occupations are 55.5% white collar, 28.1% blue collar.

73.8% of Lagniappe's readers own their own homes, and 24.7% rent their residence. Our readers' average home value is \$241,630, more than \$55,000

Lagniappe's readers love restaurants. 96.5% went to a restaurant in the last month. 89.1% have been to a sit down restaurant in the last 30 days, and are 25% more likely than the average

HOME OWNERSHIP

above market average.

Lagniappe's readers are well connected. 95.9% own mobile phones, with 61.4% owning smart phones, nearly 15% over the average Mobile/Baldwin resident. 77.4% of our readers own home computers, 7% above the market average.

resident to eat at a fine dining restaurant.

- Spend an average of \$141 per week on groceries Are 50% more likely to eat seafood
   Represent 88% of the micro-brew buyers in the area Are 44% more likely to purchase liquor and wine
- riquor and wine

   Spend over \$3,000 per year on home improvements Are 80% more likely to have a 401K plan

   Are 150% more likely to have an IRA Are 78% more likely to own stocks or stock options

(\*Scarborough Research, CSA, Release 2, Oct. 2011 - Sept. 2012)



# Calendar

# **NOVEMBER**

For information on Chamber events, visit events.mobilechamber.com.

# **VETERANS DAY LUNCHEON**

See story on page 8.

When: Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Where: Fort Whiting Auditorium at Brookley Aeroplex

Cost: \$18, person or \$144 for a table of 8

Payment required at time of reservations. No refunds after Nov. 6.

Contact: Carolyn Hunt at 251-431-8621 or chunt@mobilechamber.com

# **NETWORKING@NOON** \*Members Only

Make 40-plus business contacts in 90 minutes over lunch.

When: Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Where: Chamber, 451 Government St.

Cost: \$10, Payment required at time of reservations. No refunds after Nov. 8.

Contact: Kelly Navarro at 251-431-8638 or knavarro@mobilechamber.com



**Lunch by:** Panini Pete's

# **EXECUTIVE ROUNDTABLE** \*Members Only

A monthly forum for Chamber member small business owners and managers

**When:** 8 to 9 a.m.

Where: Mobile Area Chamber, 451 Government St. **Speaker:** Mike Lee, president, Page & Jones Inc. **Topic:** I-10 Mobile River Bridge Project

Contact: Brenda Rembert at 251-431-8607 or brembert@mobilechamber.com No charge, but seating is limited.

Sponsor: [8]

BancorpSouth<sup>\*</sup>

71

# **BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**

When: 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Where: WKRG, 555 Broadcast Dr.

**Cost:** \$5 for members, \$10 potential members Contact: Kelly Navarro at 251-431-8638 or knavarro@mobilechamber.com Reservations are not needed.

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# Member News

# Who's New

E-worc web & new media hired Lacy Duke as graphic designer/project coordinator. Duke holds a bachelor's degree in graphic design from the University of South Alabama. While a student at USA, she served as art director for *Oracle*, USA's literary magazine.

Centre for the Living Arts welcomed Emily Foster Day as director of development. Day has a bachelor's degree in art history from the University of Virginia and a master's degree in arts administration from Boston University.

Mobile Lumber & Millwork promoted Travis Henderson to manager of its sister store, Grand Bay Lumber. Henderson is a recent graduate of Dale Carnegie Training.

Faulkner State Community College hired Joli Jones as director of its center for professional development. She will work with the area chambers of commerce to promote continuing education and training for business and industry classes. The Mobile Airport Authority hired Russell Stallings as director of capital projects and improvements. Stallings will coordinate the Airbus construction project and oversee other construction and renovation projects.

# BUSINESS ENDEAVORS

The SSI Group (SSI), a Mobile-based provider of healthcare revenue and payment cycle management solutions, announced it acquired Claimsnet.com. With the acquisition, SSI will offer new transaction options and enhanced analytic tools.

EADS (European Aeronautic Defence and Space Co.), the parent company of Airbus, changed its name to Airbus Group and combined its space and military units into one division.

TAG/The Architects Group provided the interior design, tree house design and art selection for University of South Alabama Children's and Women's Hospital's new tower. University of South Alabama
Children's and Women's Hospital nearly doubled in size with a \$72.6 million, 195,000-square-foot expansion. USA
Health Systems, the USA Foundation and private gifts funded the project that added space for the hospital's neonatal and pediatric intensive care units, increased the number of operating rooms and the size of patient rooms. Also, two family rooms were created by Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mobile.

DQ Grill & Chill opened at 617 Celeste Rd. in Saraland off I-65 at exit 15, in the Flash Market Travel Plaza. The new, 2,500-square-foot restaurant is open Sunday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Mobile Regional Airport is offering a new express parking PASS card, making for quick entry and exit through designated parking lanes. Patrons can sign up for a membership card, linked to the credit card of their choice, and swipe it instead of waiting in line to pay. Receipts will be sent via e-mail.

# WELL DONE

*Inc.* Magazine recently ranked four Mobile companies on its list of the nation's 5,000 fastest-growing companies. Aaron Oil Co. was ranked No. 3,582, Callis Communications was ranked No. 3,399. Hargrove Engineers + Constructors was ranked No. 2,451, and Southern Light was ranked No. 2,715.

Attorneys Jaime W. Betbeze and James F. Watkins of Maynard, Cooper & Gale PC were recognized as leading lawyers in their area of practice in the 2014 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*®. Betbeze practices admiralty & maritime law, and Watkins practices banking and finance law and financial services regulation law.

The report named Maynard Cooper as one of its "Litigation Powerhouses." In addition, Corporate Counsels ranked the firm in the top 10 percent for securities litigation, according to the *BTI Litigation Outlook 2014*.



The Bay Area Food Bank was named to the list of "10 Top-Notch Charities" out of nearly 7,000 nonprofits rated by Charity Navigator. The food bank ranked first in Alabama, with an overall rating of 69.83 out of 70. The food bank serves a 24-county area spanning South Alabama, South Mississippi and the Florida Panhandle.

# **COMMUNITY NEWS**

The Dauphin Island Sea Lab Foundation (DISLF) presented two awards at the second annual Marine Environmental Awards luncheon. The recipient of the award for an individual was long-time environmental advocate, developer and community activist Arthur "Skipper" C. Tonsmeire III. The organization recipient of the 2013 Marine Environmental Award is Dog River Clearwater Revival. This group of volunteers has implemented successful and diverse programs all focused on the foundation's mantra: Healthy Waters, Healthy People.

Employees of **DEX Imaging** and Thompson Engineering donated school supplies to Denton Middle School as students began the 2013-14 school year.

Officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corp. (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 semifinalists in the 59th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Six St. Paul's seniors were on the list, the most at one school in Mobile County. They are: Abigail Lindsay Blankenship, Holly Nicole Friedlander, Alexandra Louise Goodwin, Katherine Baylor Jeffries, Jessica Renee **Knezha** and **Danielle Celeste Graves** Williamson.

Pen Air Federal Credit Union sponsors free financial literacy programs for local middle school and high school teachers and students through a partnership with Banzai, a national interactive, online financial literacy program for students and teachers.

Submission deadline for Member News is two months prior to publication. News releases should be one or two brief paragraphs. Photos must be professional headshots, labeled with the person's last name, and must be 300 dpi at full size and saved in an eps, tiff or jpg format. Send your information to news@mobilechamber.com.

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The Mobile Area Chamber was awarded a five-star rating by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the highest designation given. Of the 6,936 chambers in the U.S., only 301 are accredited, and of those only 43 have achieved five-star distinction.

The Mobile Area Chamber has been accredited by the U.S. Chamber since the designation's inception more than 40 years ago.

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# **New Members**

If you know a company interested in benefiting from Chamber membership, contact Rebecca Milam at 251-431-8647 or Tricia Bradley at 251-431-8642. View the complete membership directory at www.mobilechamber.com.

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WEAR - TV 3 (Florida)
Williams Financial Group LLC
Worthy Insurance Agency

# **Building For Lease**



# **Location:**

456 Civic Center Drive

### Size

Approximately 5,000 square feet Short-term lease proposals welcome

### Features:

Vaulted ceilings
Five private offices
Custom cubicles
Large conference room
Storage area
Kitchen/breakroom
Gated secure parking
Close proximity to Brookley Aeroplex

Availability: Immediately



# **Contact:**

Joe Mareno, Mobile Area Chamber, 251-431-8624, jmareno@mobilechamber.com Janet Keene, Bender Realty, 251-445-2468, janet@benderrealestategroup.com

# SEE MOBILE DIFFERENTLY and get a new perspective on what it has to offer

# Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce 177<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

Tuesday, January 28, 2014 • 5:30 - 8:30 pm Mobile Civic Center

Tickets are \$50 or \$485 for a group of 10 (Chamber members), \$60 for potential members

RSVP to 251-431-8606 or email cwilson@mobilechamber.com

www.mobilechamber.com



# believe in mobile belong to the chamber

# backed by more than 175 years of business advice

The Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce has been around for more than 175 years, so we've had time to build a reputation as the area's most trusted source of business information. National studies have shown businesses and consumers are much more likely to think favorably of a company that belongs to a chamber of commerce and 63 percent more likely to buy goods and services from chamber members. Chamber membership does more than add credibility and boost your image in the community, it shows you believe in Mobile and are working to build a stronger future for our area. Belong to the Chamber – because it's good for your business and good for Mobile.

