

AUGUST 2013

the **Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce**  
**business**

**VIEW**



Horizon  
Shipbuilding  
**Expands**

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# WHY WE SUPPORT UNITED WAY



“The United Way of Southwest Alabama addresses many of the critical issues that are facing our community. By allowing Austal employees to give through the annual campaign and volunteer with partner agencies, the United Way provides a valuable outlet for us to give back to the community. They allow local donors and volunteers to identify which issues to tackle and what resources to allocate toward them. I can think of no other community organization that positively impacts so many different issues as does the United Way.”

- Donald Keeler, Vice President of Human Resources, Austal USA

“Our staff at Long’s understands the importance of caring for our community as a whole. The United Way provides us with a way to reach multiple areas of need with one gift. We know that our dollars are working in the most impactful and efficient way in our own community by funding strong and successful programs that improve health, education, financial stability and essential needs for our families, neighbors and friends.”

- Liz Freeman, Vice President of Administration & Technology, Long’s Human Resource Services



“The Mobile County Public School System has a long history of partnering with United Way. Both organizations recognize education as the foundation for sustaining quality in life and promoting economic development in the communities we serve. You can count on the school system and its employees to continue supporting the United Way, through the current campaign and beyond, because the United Way provides valuable services and support to our students and their families.”

- Martha Peek, Superintendent, Mobile County Public School System

“Mobile Gas takes pride in building relationships with organizations that believe in the same values that we have, such as leadership development, education and health & human services. When you look at the diverse organizations to which the United Way extends its services, our partnership was a perfect fit. The United Way is an organization that finds ways to uplift and empower others to live successful lives. Mobile Gas is glad to be a part of the vision to create a better community for everyone to live, work and play.”

- Mike Fine, President, Mobile Gas, A Sempra Company



“PNC has a long history of strengthening and enriching the lives of neighbors in our communities. Our philanthropic mission aligns perfectly with the United Way’s building blocks for a better life. When PNC employees give to United Way, they make a real difference in our communities by helping people achieve financial stability, promoting healthy lives and improving education which creates a better place to live and work.”

- Cedric J. Hatcher, Gulf Coast Regional President, PNC Bank

“Organized Labor and United Way officially began a lasting partnership over 70 years ago on August 17, 1942. The Southwest Alabama Labor Council, AFL-CIO and the United Way of Southwest Alabama have shared a partnership which began in 1964. We believe a higher standard of living will only be attained by working together to improve Education, Financial Stability, and Health Care. Over the years, our members have given generously to the United Way through volunteering, giving and advocating. We believe by continuing to support the United Way of Southwest Alabama, a difference can and will be made in our community.”

- Rick Lambert, President, Southwest Alabama Labor Council, AFL-CIO



“Thames Batré is proud to partner with the United Way. Every one of our 55 employees supports the United Way. We know the United Way brings together the most effective resources to make this a better community for all of us. As a locally headquartered company we value the fact that our resources are kept right here in southwest Alabama to help our friends and neighbors.”

- Allen H. Ladd, Vice President, Thames Batré Insurance

To find out how you or your company can help support United Way in building a better community please contact our office.  
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# Thank You for 22-Plus Years of Support

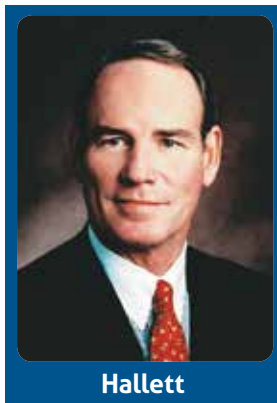
With mixed emotions on several levels, I retired from the Mobile Area Chamber on July 31. This post for the last 22 ½ years has been so much more than a mere job. Jobs can be anything and anywhere.

Having the opportunity to be intimately involved in so many activities, initiatives and adventures involving business and community leaders and elected officials to improve our economic options and quality of life has been very special indeed.

We have been faced with many challenges, from funding education to annexation to recruiting foreign companies to growing our community. We have been to Washington D.C. for many years to petition our congressional leaders for consideration for expansion of our port, contracts for local businesses with the military, investments in the University of South Alabama, and many other critical issues.

We had the opportunity to engage with and help bring into being Envision Coastal Alabama, the Gulf Coast Regional Chamber Coalition, All America City and the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, to name a few.

The common denominator has been working with people of all types who shared the will to make this region better than it was before. The only way to affect positive



Hallett

change in a community is by bringing our citizens together through collaboration and trust to enhance our future opportunities.

I will not miss going to the Atlanta airport so often. Nor will there be tears shed because my schedule will not include four to seven meetings a day. What will be most difficult will be not seeing so many people I deeply care about on a regular basis.

Mobile is a wonderful place to live and its best days are surely ahead. I feel truly blessed to have had the chance to

serve as president of the Chamber.

So as I transition out of this role as president of the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce, know you are in capable hands that will continue to pursue our mission and bring new energy to the Chamber.

Hiring Bill Sisson back in 2003 to lead our economic development efforts is proving to be one of my legacies, and now a decade later, after five years serving at the helm of the Mobile Airport Authority, he has returned to the Chamber. Bill's disposition, attention to detail and work ethic make him an ideal Chamber president, and our excellent staff is excited about his arrival, and ready to work on behalf of our members.



## the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce business

VIEW

### Cover

Horizon Shipbuilding expanded its facilities to accommodate new contracts. The 16-year-old Bayou La Batre company has more than 400 employees. See story on page 4.

Cover photo by Susan Rak Blanchard.

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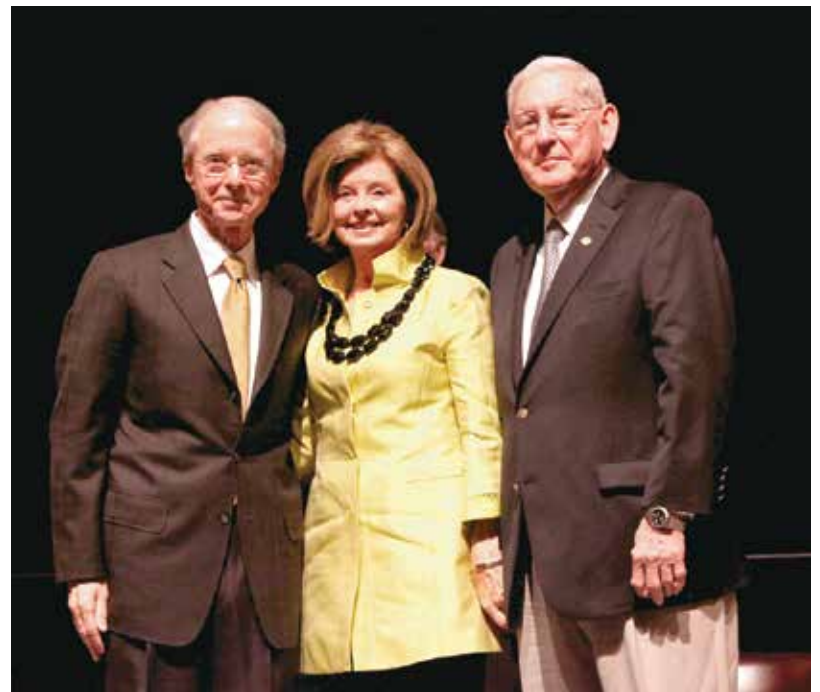
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# Business Briefs

**F**rom Bayou La Batre to Brookley Aeroplex and from west Mobile to downtown, a number of companies and organizations have good news to report. Here's the short and sweet of what you need to know about a variety of things going on in the business community.



## A Record Gift, 75,000 Degrees and Moulton Retires

The University of South Alabama's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year culminated with a monumental contribution and the issue of its milestone 75,000<sup>th</sup> degree.

Mobile businessman and philanthropist Abraham "Abe" Mitchell announced a record \$50 million gift to the university — half to endow a new academic scholarship program for students in all fields of study, and the other half to support the Mitchell College of Business.

The Mitchell family is the state's leading family in philanthropic support of a public university in Alabama, with a combined \$93 million donated.

University President Gordon Moulton retired July 1, following 47 years of service.

Among his key accomplishments: the university's enrollment increased by a third to 15,000, scholarships quadrupled, football and marching band kicked off, and more than \$500 million in construction projects were completed.

Campus improvements and initiatives include the USA Mitchell Cancer Institute, USA Technology and Research Park, USA Children's & Women's Hospital Expansion, Student Recreation Center, Shelby Hall (Engineering and Computing Sciences), the Mitchell Center arena and the Gordon and Geri Moulton Bell Tower and Alumni Plaza.



## Bayou La Batre Shipbuilder Expands

Horizon Shipbuilding recently tripled the company's production capacity by acquiring its "West Yard" facilities directly across from the original shipyard, according to company President Travis Short.

The Bayou La Batre-based shipbuilder added 22 acres to its footprint, including 3,000 feet of waterfront, three production bays and multiple launch ways.

The new yard accounts for approximately 25 percent of the company's 400 employees, and is being used to gear up for production of 40 crew boats over the next 20 months.



## BayFest's Noted Impact

Mobile's annual music festival rocked the city's bottom line by \$42 million last year, up more than 13 percent from the previous year, according to a University of South Alabama study. BayFest can also account for another \$34 million and \$24 million to the county's and state's economic impact respectively.

The study concludes 41 percent of attendees traveled from out-of-state to attend BayFest. Over 18 years, BayFest officials report in excess of \$350 million dollars were pumped into the Mobile economy.

This year's event is set for Oct. 4-6.

For the latest entertainment schedule, visit [www.bayfest.com](http://www.bayfest.com).

## Making the Grade

Standard & Poor's upgraded the Alabama State Port Authority's rating to 'A-' and the city of Mobile to 'AA-.'

The credit ratings are used by worldwide investors to access credit risk and an entity's ability to meet its financial obligations. Scores range from 'AAA' to 'D.'

## In the News

A *Forbes.com* article posted in May named Mobile as the No.1 mid-sized city for new manufacturing growth. Author Joel Kotkin writes, "Expanding investment from abroad, notably in aerospace and autos, has paced growth in other southern cities, notably Mobile, Ala., No. 1 in the mid-sized category, which has become a major production hub for Europe-based Airbus."

The top manufacturing large city is Houston-Sugarland-Baytown, Texas. Top mid-sized cities following Mobile are Savannah, Ga. (2); Lafayette, La. (3); Albany-Schenectady-Troy, N.Y. (4); and Tulsa, Okla. (5).



The June issue's cover story of *Business Alabama* explored the impact of Airbus on Mobile, the state and the Gulf Coast.

Alabama's growing aerospace and automotive industries, along with its thriving healthcare and financial sectors, are the focus of a 44-page special section in Delta's *Sky* magazine in June.



The timing was ideal as aerospace leaders from around the world flew to Paris in June for the 50<sup>th</sup> annual International Paris Air Show – the world's leading aviation and space industry event with more than 2,100 exhibiting companies.

## Hiring

AT&T is hiring 70 part- and full-time employees in the Mobile area to expand the company's coverage and boost capacity in urban and rural Alabama.

Overall AT&T is adding 350 jobs statewide after investing \$1.4 billion between 2010 and 2012 in its 4G LTE mobile Internet coverage and to enhance its wireless and wired IP broadband networks.

## Local Companies Begin Airbus Construction

The contractors responsible for phase I of the Airbus final assembly facility are in place and the project is officially underway.

Airbus first announced Alabama-based Hoar Program Management (HPM) will manage all design and construction aspects of its A320 family assembly line in Mobile. In that capacity, HPM then announced a steady list of Mobile and Alabama companies

would head up different aspects, including Hatch Mott MacDonald (HMM) in charge of overseeing the architectural and engineering partners on the project.

Other Chamber member companies awarded work are: Southern Earth Sciences, geotechnical engineering; Hosea Weaver & Sons, utilities and infrastructure; Gulf States Engineering, assisting with design of structural, mechanical, electrical, process and fire protection systems.

Hargrove Engineers and Constructors was selected to provide Airbus with architectural and engineering services for the flight line, final phase, gauging hangar and delivery center at the Mobile Brookley Aeroplex.

## Mobile Airport Logs Increase

The number of passengers at Mobile Regional Airport increased 5 percent when comparing January through April statistics from this year and 2012.

Mobile Airport Authority officials attribute the growth to recent economic development and support from local travelers, as well as promotions by airlines serving the airport.

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## Mobile Area Chamber Hires New Economic Developer



Thomas Tyson II recently joined the Mobile Area Chamber's economic development department as project manager. In this role, Tyson will recruit and assist companies looking to locate and/or expand in the Mobile area.

"The key in Mobile," says Tyson, "is to continue to learn about this region and maintain good working relationships with statewide economic developers. I look forward to being a part of the Mobile team."

He adds it is intriguing to work projects behind the scenes, and one of his favorite roles is having a hand in developing the local economy as well as helping companies expand or locate here.

Troy Wayman, the Chamber's vice president of economic development, says he is impressed with Tyson's wealth of knowledge and keen business sense. "He's been involved in a number of industry sectors and that experience will transfer well to Mobile, and that makes Thomas a great fit to our economic development team."

Previously Tyson served as project manager for the city of Opelika's economic development division, where he focused on recruiting companies and led the area's retention efforts of existing companies, including the auto supply company Mando America, and helped recruit Pharmavite, a \$75 million project bringing 280 jobs.

The Montgomery, Ala., native is a graduate of The University of Alabama and holds a bachelor's degree in finance with a concentration in real estate. After receiving his degree, Tyson was selected for a statewide internship with PowerSouth Energy.

The Chamber's economic development department oversees industry recruiting in Mobile County and works in partnership with the city of Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama Port Authority, Mobile Airport Authority and the Alabama Department of Commerce.

# Preparing Students for Careers in Education

*Editor's Note: In a continuing series, The Business View is highlighting signature career academies at local high schools. The program is a partnership between the Mobile Area Education Foundation and the Mobile County Public School System.*

Mary G. Montgomery High School's (MGM) Academy of Teaching and Learning recruits and trains students with an interest in a future career in pre-kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade education and/or higher education. The program is designed with a rigorous curriculum and field experiences to teach students about pedagogy (the art of teaching) and education career paths to help the students become competitive candidates for admission and scholarships at high-ranking colleges and universities.

Students have multiple opportunities to participate in project-based learning, community service and extracurricular activities that support teaching and learning. The educational cluster includes early childhood education, elementary education, secondary education and special education. MGM's goal is to engage all freshmen students in the program this fall. The school has approximately 2,000 students enrolled.



A student at Mary G. Montgomery practices as an instructor during class time.

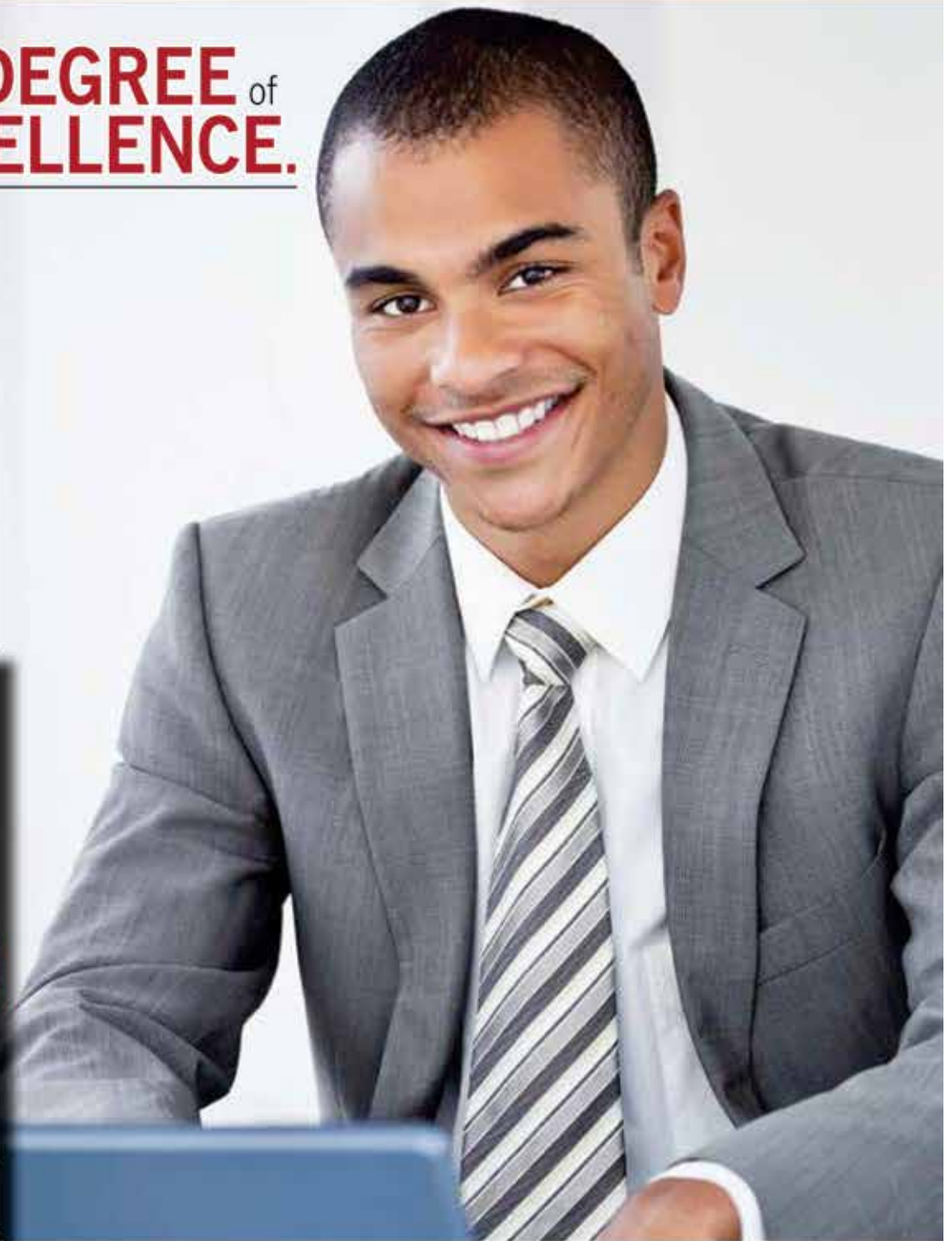




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# Austal Delivers Second JHSV to Navy

**The second Austal-built Joint High Speed Vessel (JHSV 2), was delivered to the U.S. Navy six months following the delivery of USNS Spearhead (JHSV 1). The USNS Choctaw County successfully completed acceptance trials in May and will sail away this summer.**

“The delivery of the USNS Choctaw County is a significant achievement for Austal and a proud day for the talented Austal JHSV shipbuilding team,” said Austal USA President Craig Perciavalle.

JHSV's are 338-foot-long aluminum catamarans designed to be fast, flexible and maneuverable, even in shallow waters, making them ideal for transporting troops and equipment quickly within a theater of operations. The ship has the ability to support a variety of operations, supporting the warfighter through traditional logistics missions, humanitarian support projects, disaster response or by supporting maritime law enforcement activities.

With the delivery of JHSV 2, Austal is currently under contract with the U.S. Navy to build eight 103-meter JHSV's under a 10-ship, \$1.6 billion contract and seven 127-meter Independence-variant Littoral Combat Ship-class (LCS) vessels,

six of which are part of a 10-ship, \$3.5 billion contract.

For the LCS and JHSV programs, Austal, as prime contractor, is teamed with General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems, a business unit of General Dynamics. For the JHSV program, General Dynamics is responsible for designing, integrating and testing the ship's navigation and communication systems, C4I and aviation systems. As the Independence-variant LCS ship systems integrator, General Dynamics is responsible for designing, integrating and testing the ship's sea frame control, navigation and communication systems, C4I and aviation systems.



## New Area CEOs Feted at Reception

In June, the Mobile Area Chamber hosted a reception – sponsored by Alabama Power – for new CEOs, Board of Advisors and general managers in the Mobile area. This event, hosted twice a year, included an overview of Chamber services and a welcome by Mobile Mayor Sam Jones and Mobile County Commissioner Connie Hudson.

Front row (left to right) are: Win Hallett, Mobile Area Chamber; Charles Hyland, Mobile Area Water & Sewer System; Connie Hudson, Mobile County Commission; Robert Wasden, Crown Products; and Rick Cooper, Columbia Southern University.

Back from (left to right) are: Michael Chambers, Swift Biotechnology and Chamber Chair-Elect; Lyman Ramsey,

Gulf Equipment Corp.; Clark Kelly, L & M Welding Supply; Robert Clapper, James B. Donaghey; Mark Bunting, WKRG-TV; John Weinacker, Weinacker's Montessori Schools; Bill Blackmon, First Community Bank; Lee Walters, Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood; Billy Williams, JESCO/Yates Construction; Elige Jones, Mobile Community Action; and Russell Golson, ExxonMobil.



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# Clarke to Represent House District 97

Adline Clarke joined the southwest Alabama state legislative delegation as its newest member following a special election on May 21. Clarke was elected to represent House District 97, filling the unexpired term of Dr. Yvonne Kennedy, who died last year.

A graduate of Mobile County public schools, Spring Hill College, Leadership Mobile and Leadership Alabama, Clarke is senior vice president of business and community relations for Mobile Development Enterprises, a subsidiary of the Mobile Housing Board. Also a small business owner, she has twice received the Chamber's Eagle Award for owning and operating Black Classics Books & Gifts, an African-American specialty bookstore and gift shop currently based in downtown Mobile's Urban Emporium gift shop and rebranded as Jambalaya.

Clarke was city editor, assistant city editor, business editor and education reporter for the *Mobile Press-Register*. She also served as an instructor at Bishop State Community College's Youth Entrepreneurial Academy and was on the Chamber's board from 1996 to 1998.

Clarke joins 19 other Alabama senators and representatives who comprise the Mobile region's three-county legislative delegation. Sworn in June 6, Clarke will serve the remainder of the 2011-14 legislative term. She will take her spot in the State House when the Legislature reconvenes on Jan. 14, 2014.



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**KOBY**



Providing great customer service is a top priority for the employees at Koby Import Auto. Pictured here are some of the dealership's employees. Pictured from left to right (front row) are: Mary Barras, Mark Craver, Joseph Moree, Roger Koby and David Lowther, (back row) Ryan Smith, Bruce Phichit, Blane Kirkland, Derrick Pickens, Craig Valenti, Charles Dixon and John Sellers.

## For Koby, Love of Cars is Key to Success

**Roger Koby** turned his passion for working on cars into a successful career that continues to evolve. As owner of Koby Import Auto, which now includes Subaru and Mitsubishi dealerships, Koby says that while the business side of selling cars is constantly changing, what stays the same is the enhanced customer service his dealership provides – and return customers are the proof.

“My goal is to build the relationship (with the customer) and help them find the right car, provide them with the right service on that car, and build value with the customer,” he said.

Koby Import Auto, located at 1431 East I-65 Service Rd. S., between Government Boulevard and Cottage Hill Road, is the Mobile Area Chamber's Small Business of the Month.

At 23, Koby opened an auto service business on Old Shell Road, where he worked as a BMW technician and did a

lot of restoration and body work on old BMWs and Porsches. From there, the business model moved Koby toward another business in the early to mid-1980s, where he was importing cars from Europe and doing “Department of Transportation and Environmental Protection Agency conversions” to make them street legal in the United States, then selling them.

In the mid-1990s, he moved the business to Government Boulevard, and for the next 15 years he sold and serviced luxury used cars and operated an auto detailing company.

In 2001, Koby purchased a Subaru franchise and brought the brand back to Mobile. From there, business has taken off, he says. With the nationwide popularity of Subaru brands such as the Forrester, Outback and Legacy, Koby's business has grown substantially each year. To date, he said, business is up 35 percent from a year ago.

Capitalizing on Subaru's success, Koby added the Mitsubishi franchise in April. It had been more than a year since there was an opportunity to purchase a new Mitsubishi in Mobile, Koby said. Some of the manufacturer's most popular models are the Outlander and Lancer.

To manage the company's growth, Koby's priority is to continue adding employees. To date, 28 people work at Koby Import Auto and at his separate car-detailing business, and he expects that number to grow.

“In adding the new franchises, the demand to provide service to those vehicles has increased,” he said. And who knows what Koby will look to add next, he added, since “there is room to grow in this location.”

The dealership is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the service department opens at 7:30 a.m.

Go to [mobilechamber.com/award.asp](http://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](mailto:drichards@mobilechamber.com).

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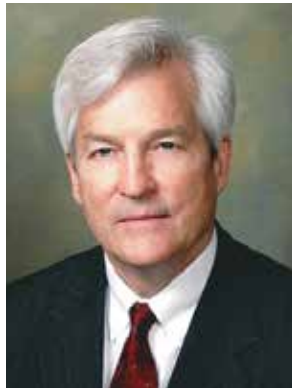
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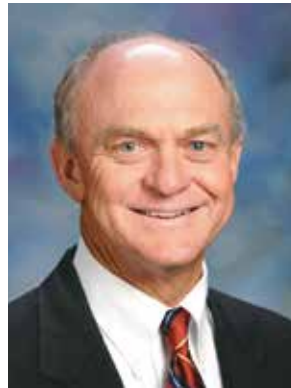
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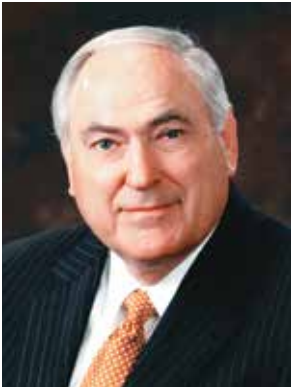
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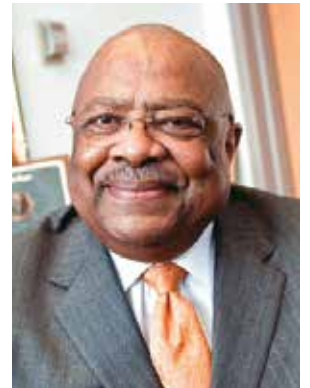
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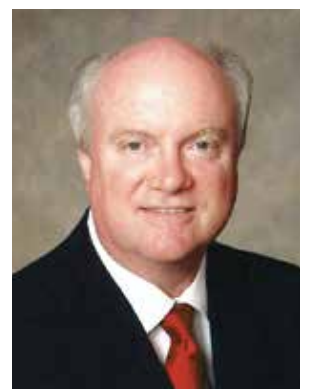
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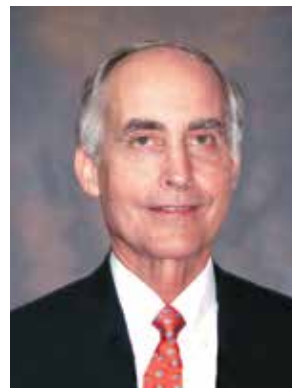
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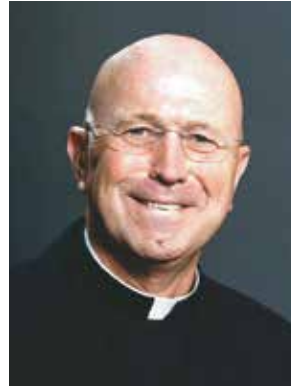
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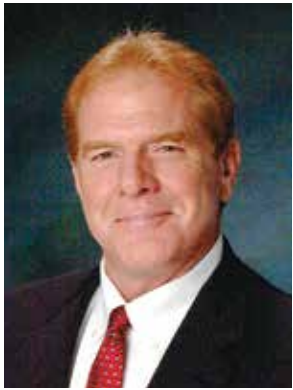
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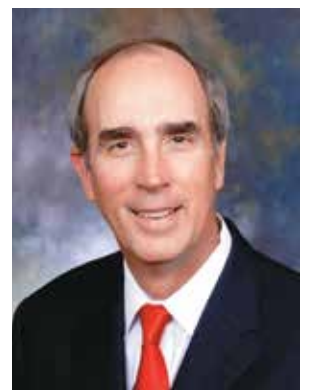
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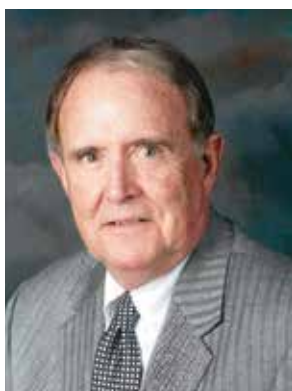
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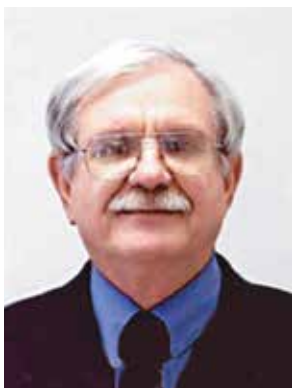
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# Alabama Associated General Contractors - Mobile Section



Alabama AGC-Mobile Section officers, from left to right (standing): **Jason Hillier**, Ogden Construction; **Milton Kopf**, Turner Insurance & Bonding Co.; **Norman Walton**, John G. Walton Construction Inc.; **Kim Smith Chastang**, Empire Concrete Pumping LLC; **James Riis**, Hanson Pipe & Precast, immediate past associate president; **Raymond Hatcher**, 1 Source Power & Equipment, associate vice president; **Ben Radcliff**, Ben M. Radcliff Contractor Inc.; and **John E. Murphy**, H. O. Weaver & Sons Inc., secretary-treasurer. Front row, from left to right (seated): **Michael Tew**, SJ&L Inc. Civil Contractors; **T. Vance McCown**, Vance McCown Construction Co. Inc.; and **John Walton**, John G. Walton Construction Inc.



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](mailto:kdewrell@mobilechamber.com).

**Company officials:** Alabama AGC - Mobile Section officers 2013: **T. Vance McCown**, Vance McCown Construction Co. Inc., president; **Allan R. Crow**, Robert J. Baggett Inc., vice president; **John E. Murphy III**, H. O. Weaver & Sons Inc., secretary-treasurer; **Jason P. Hillier**, Ogden Construction, immediate past president; **Kim Smith Chastang**, Empire Concrete Pumping LLC, associate president; **Raymond J. Hatcher**, 1 Source Power & Equipment, associate vice president; **James Y. Riis**, Hanson Pipe & Precast, immediate past associate president

Serving as president of the entire Alabama AGC chapter for 2013: **Michael B. Tew**, SJ&L Inc. Civil Contractors - Mobile.

Serving as chairman of the board chapter-wide: **John G. Walton**, John G. Walton Construction Inc. - Mobile.

Serving on the Alabama AGC chapter-wide board representing Mobile section: **Ben M. Radcliff Jr.**, Ben M. Radcliff Contractor Inc.

Lifetime national AGC directors: **Norman J. Walton Jr.**, John G. Walton Construction Inc. **Milton A. Kopf III**, Turner Insurance & Bonding Co.

Mobile Section, Alabama AGC staff: **Charlotte Kopf**, manager; **Katherine Galanos**, administrative assistant; **Carol Graham**, bookkeeper.

**Years in business:** 93 years (since 1920)

#### **Brief company description:**

Alabama AGC - Mobile Section is part of a statewide organization of qualified construction contractors and industry-related companies throughout Alabama and the panhandle of Florida, established in 1920. Members consist of some of the most successful and highly respected construction-related firms in the area including small and large, general, specialty and subcontractors, insurance, bonding, financial services and consulting and suppliers. Members are active in public and private markets.

#### **Why are you located in Mobile?**

"Alabama AGC has offices throughout the state and northwest Florida to service our members in each of these areas," says **Charlotte Kopf**. "Our Mobile office services the southwest Alabama area including Mobile, Baldwin, Choctaw, Escambia, Conecuh and Washington counties."

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

"AGC believes economic growth and development of Mobile is important to an enhanced future for our member companies," said Kopf. "The services and information the Chamber provides help keep us informed as to new developments and opportunities available within our area."

#### **What do you see as Mobile's greatest potential?**

"Mobile has much to offer, including an international spirit along with Southern hospitality and friendliness; two major interstate highways intersecting our city; access to five major railways; access to our deep-water port which is internationally respected; two airports; three major universities; and Brookley Aeroplex, which offers tremendous potential especially now that Airbus has chosen our city," said Kopf. "The weather is good the majority of the year, allowing for numerous outdoor recreational activities. We are in close proximity to the beautiful Gulf Coast beaches. Mobile is affordable and is a leader in economic expansion along the Gulf Coast."

**Length of continuous Chamber membership:** Since 1973

## 2014 Legislative Session Planning Begins

The Chamber's local Governmental Affairs subcommittee, led by Chairman **Kathryn Drey** with Jones Walker, met to discuss local topics in preparation for the development of the 2014 legislative agenda. Guest speakers from the city of Mobile have attended the committee meetings including **Laura Clarke**, director of urban development, who provided an overview on an initiative to address blight within the downtown core, and Citismart coordinator **Bill Harkins**, who presented a report on the city's financial outlook and an update on projects funded by the 1-cent sales tax. Other topics discussed by the group included the status of the proposed I-10 Mobile River Bridge; the city's permitting ombudsman program; and the Marketplace Fairness Act.

## Transportation Coalition Meets

This spring, the Chamber's Transportation Coalition convened for a special presentation by **Kevin Harrison**, transportation planner with the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission.

Harrison briefed coalition members on new and innovative transportation planning techniques implemented by the Mobile

Metropolitan Planning Organization to address urban density.

## Chamber Attends Coastal Recovery Meeting

Several members of the Chamber's staff attended the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council public meeting in May. During this meeting, the council named the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as its program administrator. A 10-member committee of state and local political leaders, the council is in charge of distributing the fine money paid to Alabama by BP as a result of the 2010 oil spill. The council also named Dauphin Island Sea Lab as its Center for Excellence, which will offer research grants from 2.5 percent of the RESTORE Act trust fund.

## ED Team Meets Site Selection Consultants

The Chamber's economic development project managers and vice president traveled to Atlanta for the annual Southern Economic Development Council's Meet the Consultants Forum. The conference featured 20 site selection consultants who spoke on current topics in the site selection field. In addition to attending the conference,

the Chamber, along with Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance, Alabama Power and PowerSouth, hosted a dinner for several of the consultants.

## Chamber Co-Led Trade Mission to Korea and China

Along with the Alabama Department of Commerce, the Chamber sponsored a trade mission to Seoul, Korea, and Shenyang, China. The Seoul portion of the trip included participation in the annual Trade Winds Conference. The delegation of nine participants representing six organizations met with senior foreign commercial officers from throughout the Asian region and participated in one-on-one matchmaking appointments.

## Disaster Preparedness for Small Business Owners

In April, the Chamber's small business development department held a training session attended by 25 member businesses on surviving disaster and crisis. The session, facilitated by **Walt Dickerson**, president of Diversified Emergency Management Associates LLC, included a panel presentation by **Jimmie R. Bryant**, retired fire chief, Monroe, La.; **Lee Helms**,

former director of Alabama Emergency Management Agency; **Richard Johnson**, public works director for the city of Daphne; and **Charlie Story**, retired vice president of Degussa Corp. The seminar was designed to help business owners prepare for, respond to and recover from any emergency or disaster.

## Washington County Economic Developer Graduates From Selective Program

**Austin Monk**, director of Washington County Economic Development Initiative, graduated from The Delta Leadership Institute in July. The program was



Monk

administered through The University of Alabama's Department of Continuing Studies in partnership with the Delta Regional Authority, an organization designed to leverage federal dollars to improve rural communities in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky and Tennessee. Monk represented Washington County, Ala., which is a part of the Delta Regional Authority.

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## SCORE News

To better serve its clients, the SCORE office is now located on the first floor of the Chamber. Office hours remain the same — 9 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays. SCORE counselors provide free, confidential consulting to new entrepreneurs and small business owners on a variety of topics. This spring, more than 25 clients were counseled. The organization is looking for more volunteer counselors.

## Junior League Partnering with Chamber on Award

The Junior League of Mobile (JLM) was selected as the co-presenter of the Chamber's 2013 Corporate Community Service Award. Established in 1999, the award is given annually to a business selected by a panel of judges as the most outstanding contributor of community service through employee volunteer involvement during the year. As co-presenter, JLM will chair the 2013 selection process. Award applications are open to all Chamber members. This year's application deadline is Sept. 6, with the award presented at the Chamber's annual board of directors and advisors meeting in November.

## Business Spotlight of the Month The Patterson Group



The Patterson Group, opened in 1994, is a marketing, public relations and training firm specializing in developing awareness campaigns. The firm partners with consultants across the nation to serve its clients in a variety of areas from marketing to event management. Pictured are: **Tenaysha Carroll**, left, director of

special events, and **Nathaniel Patterson**, managing partner, who has more than 30 years of business and marketing experience.

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

## Ambassador of the Month



**Phil Domke**

Phil Domke has volunteered in many capacities for the Mobile Area Chamber since he moved to Mobile in 2003. He has been an ambassador since 2010. "I was looking for the opportunity to network, both with other ambassadors and with new businesses in the community, and also to support the Mobile Chamber," said Domke. He is the Chamber's Ambassador of the Month.

A native of Kentucky, Domke is vice president for commercial lending at BancorpSouth Bank, where he helps clients with banking services to help maintain and grow their businesses. He and his wife, Deborah, also own Domke Market in west Mobile.

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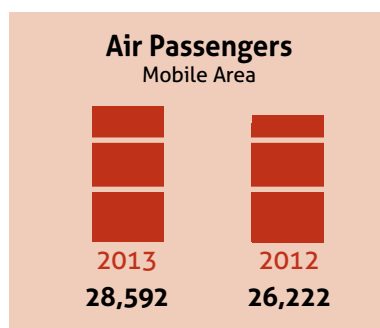
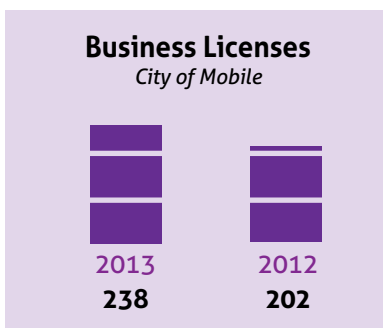
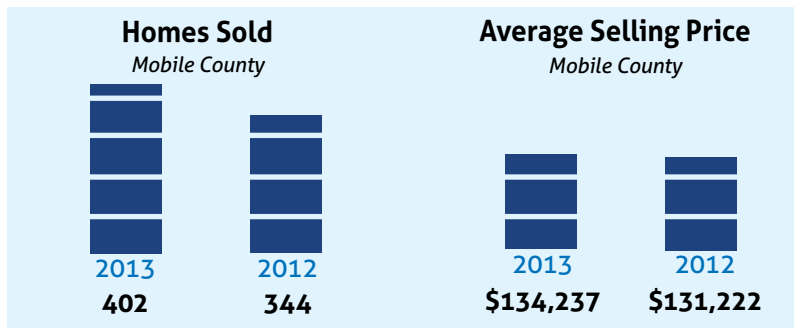
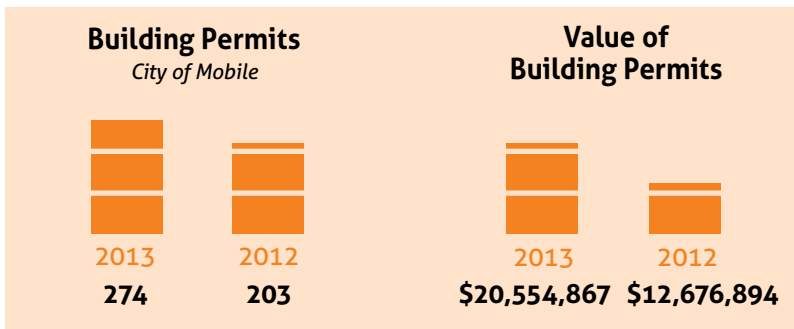


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# Economic Indicators

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

## May 2013 vs May 2012



# Calendar

6

## PORK & POLITICS IN THE PARK

Don't miss this opportunity to "ham it up" with local, state and federal officials and candidates to find out where they stand on the issues you care about.

**When & Where:** 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. - Battleship Memorial Park - Aircraft Pavillion

**Cost:** \$20

**Contact:** Carolyn Hunt at 251-431-8621 or chunt@mobilechamber.com. *Reservation and cancellation deadline is Aug. 1.*

**Sponsors:**



**Food by:** The Original HoneyBaked Ham Co.

**Soft drinks by:** Buffalo Rock - Pepsi

**Beer by:** Gulf Distributing

**Desserts by:** Cakes by Judi

**Photography by:** Jim Owen Studios

7

## COFFEE WITH THE CHAMBER

Start your day with the Chamber and enjoy a light breakfast and beverage while you network with other business professionals.

**When & Where:** 7:30 to 9 a.m. - Panera Bread, 3961 Airport Blvd.

**Cost:** There is no charge to attend.

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

**Sponsor:**



7

## HEALTHCARE REFORM – ARE YOU READY?

You need to understand the impact healthcare reform will have on your business and the consequences of noncompliance.

**When & Where:** 8 to 10 a.m. - Chamber, 451 Government St.

**Speakers:** T. Wayne Bowling, Brian Brouckaert and Beth Calametti, all with Willis

**Topic:** Healthcare Reform Law Will Not be Repealed – Get Your Business Ready

**Contact:** Brenda Rembert at 251-431-8607 or brembert@mobilechamber.com

*No charge, but space is limited and registration is required.*

**Sponsor:**



13

## WOMEN'S ROUNDTABLE \*Members Only

A bi-monthly forum exclusively for Chamber member women business owners and managers.

**When & Where:** 8 to 9 a.m. - Chamber, 451 Government St.

**Cost:** No cost to attend, but seating is limited.

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

**Sponsor:**



For information on Chamber events, visit [events.mobilechamber.com](http://events.mobilechamber.com).

## 20

### EXECUTIVE ROUNDTABLE *\*Members Only*

A monthly forum for Chamber member small business owners and managers

**When & Where:** 8 to 9 a.m. - Chamber, 451 Government St.

**Speaker:** Johnny Gwin, creative director, art director and partner, Hummingbird Ideas

**Topic:** "Are You Social? Why Social Media for Business Isn't Going Away?"

**Contact:** Brenda Rembert at 251-431-8607 or [brembert@mobilechamber.com](mailto:brembert@mobilechamber.com)

*No charge, but seating is limited.*

**Sponsor:**



## 21

### GCTC LUNCH

A bi-monthly lunch hosted by the Gulf Coast Technology Council

**When & Where:** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Five Rivers Delta Resource Center

**Speaker:** Jim Hlavin, Federal Bureau of Investigation

**Topic:** Cyber Security

**Cost:** \$15 members/\$20 potential members and includes lunch

**Contact:** Cesny Soffronoff at 251-431-8636 or [csoffronoff@mobilechamber.com](mailto:csoffronoff@mobilechamber.com)

*Reservations required, cancellations after Aug. 16 not reimbursed to cover lunch cost.*

**Sponsor:**



## 22

### BUSINESS EXPO LUNCHEON

**When & Where:** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Arthur R. Outlaw Mobile Convention Center

### BUSINESS EXPO

**When & Where:** 1 to 6 p.m. - Arthur R. Outlaw Mobile Convention Center - Exhibit Hall

### EXPO AFTER HOURS

**When & Where:** 6:30 to 8 p.m. - Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel

*See page 14 for more information on all Business Expo events.*

## 27

### FORUM ALABAMA - GOV. ROBERT BENTLEY

A periodic event featuring speakers on topics of importance to Chamber members.

**When & Where:** 7:30 to 9 a.m. - The Battle House Renaissance Mobile Hotel & Spa

**Topic:** Gov. Bentley will share his perspective on the 2013 legislative session and other business topics including state budgets, economic development initiatives, oil spill recovery efforts and a variety of infrastructure enhancements.

**Cost:** \$25 members/\$35 potential members

**Contact:** Carolyn Hunt at 251-431-8621 or [chunt@mobilechamber.com](mailto:chunt@mobilechamber.com)

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# Member News

## WHO'S NEW

Mobile-based **Volkert Inc.** named **Jerry Stump PE** its corporate chief operations officer. Stump, a 30-year industry veteran, earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Tennessee and a master's degree in engineering management from the University of Louisville.



Stump

**Mobile Bay Convention & Visitors Bureau (MBCVB)** named **Ron McConnell** vice president of convention sales and services.



McConnell

McConnell joined the MBCVB in 1996, after serving in an executive capacity with Morrison's Restaurants Inc. for more than 20 years.

**Century 21 Meyer Real Estate** hired **Karen Still** as administrative assistant on the Pete Vakakes team. Still earned a bachelor's degree in communications from LaGrange College in LaGrange, Ga.



Still

**Premier Medical Eye Group** welcomed **Dr. Melissa Hoercher**, a graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry. She has more than 15 years of clinical experience diagnosing and treating a variety of eye conditions.



Hoercher

**Alabama State Port Authority** named **Frank Fogarty** vice president for trade and development. A Mobile native, Fogarty has a bachelor's degree from the University of South Alabama and is a graduate of the University of Tennessee Executive Development Program. He brings 38 years

of professional experience in domestic and international trade, terminal operations and stevedoring in U.S. ports.

**The Mobile Public Library** hired **Scott Kinney** as its new director. Kinney earned bachelor's degrees in business administration and psychology from the University of Nebraska and a master's degree in library studies from Florida State University.



Kinney

The **Salvation Army of Coastal Alabama** added a new vehicle to its disaster fleet. Much smaller than the organization's current canteen, the Chevrolet 3500 truck will be able to access hard-hit areas with debris and downed power lines that cannot currently be reached, and can haul 250 hot or cold meals per trip.

**The Architects Group (TAG)** announced Taylor-White Elementary School will be the first school in Mobile County with a tornado shelter meeting FEMA 361 and ICC-500 standards. TAG's design of this prototype school will be repeated at Calcedaver Elementary School, near Citronelle.

**Franklin Primary Health Center Inc.** has opened its North Baldwin Family Medical Center at 201 D'Olive St. in Bay Minette. **Dr. James Devaney** is the physician on staff, and regular office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 251-964-4011.

## BUSINESS ENDEAVORS

Mobile-based **Scotch Gulf Lumber Co.** partnered with Canadian-based **Canfor Corp.** Canfor will increase its interest in Scotch Gulf for three years until it reaches 100 percent. Company officials are committed to the long-term viability of the employees, vendors, suppliers and customers that support Scotch Gulf and plans are to retain the current 450 employees, management and systems.

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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.

### INCOME

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.

### GENDER

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.

### LAGNIAPPE READERS ALSO:

- 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
- 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

### EDUCATION

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 average.

### OCCUPATION

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

### HOME OWNERSHIP

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 above market average.

### DINING

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 resident to eat at a fine dining restaurant.

### CELL PHONES AND COMPUTERS

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.

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

## WELL DONE

Senior Bowl Executive Director **Phil Savage** will be a regular panelist on the new show *NFL Insiders*, a one-hour weekday professional football-themed show, set to debut Aug. 5 on ESPN. The year-round program will focus on the biggest NFL news stories, including front office decisions, coaching moves, trades, free agency and the NFL draft.



Savage



Gaillard

A documentary film based on *In the Path of the Storms*, a book co-authored by University of South Alabama writer-in-residence **Frye Gaillard**, was

nominated for a regional Emmy for Outstanding Achievement, Television Programming Excellence in the category of Documentary-Cultural.

**Agency Verge** advertising and marketing firm won one gold and three awards of merit in healthcare marketing at the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Healthcare Advertising Awards. Verge was honored for its work for University of South Alabama Mitchell Cancer Institute.

**Matt Bean** of **Driven Engineering Inc.** earned the professional engineer designation. He is the fourth PE on staff at Driven, which is licensed to provide consulting engineering in Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, Oregon and Washington.



Bean

Sales associate **Jeremy Sullivan** with **Century21 Meyer Real Estate** earned the Create 21 certification. This flagship course educates both new agents or experienced agents who want to improve their fundamentals of real estate with the latest tools, technology and best practices.



Sullivan

## COMMUNITY NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert A. Meisler donated \$70,000 to the **University of South Alabama (USA)** to establish the Bert and Fanny Meisler Visiting Professor of History and Jewish Studies. This new program offers courses that examine the role of Judaism and of the Jewish people in Western civilization from antiquity to the present time.

The city's Regional Senior Community Center changed its name to **Connie Hudson Mobile Regional Senior Community Center**, in honor of Mobile County Commissioner **Connie Hudson**. Hudson was instrumental in fundraising for the project, and the foundation she established continues to support the center.

**Carrie Elizabeth Crook**, a senior at **UMS Wright Preparatory School**, received the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors Alabama's annual Image Builder Scholarship of \$1,000 for academic achievement.



Crook

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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](mailto: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.



# New Members

If you know a company interested in benefitting 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](http://www.mobilechamber.com).

## J.O. Acree Co. Inc.

Kit Arbour  
P.O. Box 7068  
Mobile, AL 36670-0068  
251-473-3764  
[www.joacree.com](http://www.joacree.com)  
*Insurance*

## Airbus Americas Inc.

Allan McArtor  
2550 Wasser Terrace Ste. 9100  
Herndon, VA 20171-6177  
703-834-3499  
*Aircraft Manufacturing*

## the Broken iPhone

Mark Bodiford  
3700 Government Blvd., Ste. E  
Mobile, AL 36693-4306  
251-289-9675  
[www.thebrokeniphone.com](http://www.thebrokeniphone.com)  
*Cellular Telephone Service & Repair*

## Butler & Co. of Mobile Inc.

Gary Patrick  
128 E. I-65 Service Rd. N.  
Mobile, AL 36607  
251-471-4455  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Butler-Company-of-Mobile-Inc/186134968072661>  
*Industrial Equip/Supplies-Wholesale*

## Central Holidays

Marco Evangelista  
250 Moonachie Rd.  
Moonachie, NJ 07074-1378  
201-228-5302  
[www.centralholidays.com/acce/index.html](http://www.centralholidays.com/acce/index.html)  
*Tours, Operators, Promoters*

## Complete Dental of Mobile

Shaun Small  
5651 Three Notch Rd.  
Mobile, AL 36619-1617  
251-661-1003  
[www.completdentalofmobile.com](http://www.completdentalofmobile.com)  
*Dentists*

## Deep Water Horizon Support Services Inc.

William R. Kleinschrod Jr.  
P.O. Box 82091  
Mobile, AL 36689-2091  
251-591-4475  
*Litigation Support*

## EcoSouth Services LLC

George Waters  
P.O. Box 220  
Axis, AL 36505-0220  
251-675-9800  
*Landfills*

## Fine Line Design LLC

Joy Roberts  
412 Dauphin St., Ste. BB  
Mobile, AL 36602-2426  
251-219-6356  
*Interior Designers*

## Gallo Mechanical LLC

Don Rhoads  
33542 Alder Cir.  
Spanish Fort, AL 36527-9083  
251-533-0977  
[www.gallomechanical.com](http://www.gallomechanical.com)  
*Auctions-Real Estate*

## Jerry Gerritsen Real Estate Inc.

Jerry Gerritsen  
56 St. Joseph St., Ste. 402  
Mobile, AL 36602  
251-635-3180  
[www.jerrygerritsen.com](http://www.jerrygerritsen.com)  
*Real Estate Office*

## Granger, Thagard & Associates Inc.

G. W. (Bill) Thagard  
1806 Oxmoor Rd.  
Birmingham, AL 35209-3506  
205-410-6751  
[www.gtauctions.com](http://www.gtauctions.com)  
*Auctions-Real Estate*

## Greater Mobile Laser & Aesthetic Center

Darlene Miller  
4402-B Old Shell Rd  
Mobile, AL 36608-1912  
251-445-7546  
*Medical Service*

## Horizon Research Group Inc.

Elizabeth A. Hess  
108 W. I-65 Service Rd.  
Mobile, AL 36608-5902  
251-345-6800  
*Research Services*

## Hydroprocessing Associates LLC

Brad Alidor  
6016 Hwy. 63  
Moss Point, MS 39563  
228-475-2971  
[www.hpa-usa.com](http://www.hpa-usa.com)  
*Blasting & Painting*

## Jemison Marine & Shipbuilding

Kelley Jemison  
P.O. Box 645  
Bayou La Batre, AL 36509  
251-824-7878  
[www.jemisonmarine.com](http://www.jemisonmarine.com)  
*Ship Builders & Repairs*

## Kay Jewelers

Beatrice Pevey  
3404 Bel Air Mall G-9  
Mobile, AL 36606  
251-471-5820  
[www.kay.com](http://www.kay.com)  
*Jewelry*

## L R Enterprise LLC

Wayne Stewart  
5751 Hwy. 45  
Eight Mile, AL 36613  
251-725-1369  
*Steel Fabricators*

## LA+SOUTH

Thomas P. Doyle Jr.  
354 Dauphin St.  
Mobile, AL 36602  
251-431-7174  
*Landscape Architects*

## LCM Motorcars

Haley Kirby  
5711 Hwy. 90 W.  
Theodore, AL 36582-1674  
251-602-5050  
[www.lcmmotorcars.com](http://www.lcmmotorcars.com)  
*Automobile Dealers-Used Cars*

## Bradford B. Liles DMD PC

Bradford B. Liles  
5721 Hwy. 90 W., Ste. A  
Theodore, AL 36582-3601  
251-653-1300  
[www.dentistinmobile.net](http://www.dentistinmobile.net)  
*Dentists*

## Mary's Southern Cooking

Felicia Bloxon  
3011 Springhill Ave.  
Mobile, AL 36607-1801  
251-476-2232  
*Restaurants*

## Master Boat Builders Inc.

Garrett Rice  
P.O. Box 702  
Bayou La Batre, AL 36509-0702  
251-824-2388  
[www.masterboat.net](http://www.masterboat.net)  
*Ship Builders*

## MetLife

Ward Muller  
7112 Oak Circle Dr. W.  
Ste. B2  
Mobile, AL 36609  
251-491-0221  
[www.metlife.com](http://www.metlife.com)  
*Financial Advisors*

## Morrisette & Co Catering d/b/a Delta Fish House

Clifton Morrisette  
5 Taylor Pl.  
Mobile, AL 36608-2496  
251-709-4735  
*Caterers*

## Polysurveying of Mobile Inc.

Brett Orrell  
5588 Jackson Rd.  
Mobile, AL 36619-2021  
251-666-2010  
[www.polysurveying.com](http://www.polysurveying.com)  
*Surveyors*

## Print King

Tommy King  
3170 Dauphin St.  
Mobile, AL 36606-4056  
251-478-7772  
[www.print-king.net](http://www.print-king.net)  
*Printing*

## Fred South Construction

Fred South  
1112 Dauphin St.  
Mobile, AL 36604-2512  
251-533-2635  
*Building Contractors*

## Linda C. Sowell, Rodan + Fields

Linda C. Sowell  
620 Maria Dr.  
Satsuma, AL 36572-2928  
251-554-3497  
[www.lindacsowell.myrandf.com](http://www.lindacsowell.myrandf.com)  
*Skin Care*

*As of May 31, 2013*

# Anniversaries

Members Are Our Greatest Asset! Please show your support through the patronage of these businesses.

## 30 YEARS

Bradford Health Services

## 20 YEARS

Keith Mosley Construction Inc.

## 15 YEARS

Apartment Finder of Mobile & Baldwin Counties

## 10 YEARS

Graham Brown & Dutton PC  
Leaf & Petal Florist & Gift Shop  
Sawyer Furniture Co. Inc.

## 5 YEARS

ADS Fire & Security Systems  
Allied Waste Services/BFI  
BELFOR USA  
Birmingham Rail and Locomotive Co.  
Dueitt's Battery Supply  
Emma's Harvest Home  
Ershigs Inc.  
Gardberg & Clausen PC  
GCR Tires  
Grandview Pointe Apartments  
Greater Mobile Urgent Care  
Gulf Coast Bio Clean  
H & H Electric Co. Inc.  
JADE Consulting LLC  
Port City Metal Fabrication LLC  
Walmart Neighborhood Market #4657

## 1-4 YEARS

Alebamon Marine Services LLC  
Alkhateeb International LLC  
American Cancer Society  
Apex Global Logistix LLC  
ASF Intermodal LLC  
Barton & Shumer Engineering LLC  
Bayside Rubber & Products Inc.  
BP Gulf Coast Restoration Organization  
— Alabama  
The Bull  
Burton Property Group  
Campus Book Store  
Charleston Apartment Homes  
Comfort Keepers  
Country Gables Assisted Living  
Courtyard Mobile/Daphne Eastern  
Shore Marriott

Dealers Auto Auction of Mobile LLC  
Edward Jones Investments - Rob Hanner  
elg HANIEL  
Don Ellington CFO Services  
Glenn Crane & Rigging  
Gulf Coast Medical Evaluation Center  
BL Harbert International LLC  
Immediate Care of the South  
Brian Knotts Agency Inc.  
Kumon Math and Reading Center  
Lap's Grocery & Grill  
Master Marine Inc.  
Maxum Industries LLC  
Mayfield & Associates  
McPherson Oil Co.  
Mensura Capital LLC  
Milling Commercial Realty Inc.  
Mobile Bay Institute

Railroad Resource LLC  
Retirement Advisors Inc.  
Ryerson Inc.  
Servisfirst Bank  
Shireman Building Contractors  
Sovereign Consulting Inc.  
Springhill Primary Care  
Theodore Services  
Monarch Direct US Food  
Pat Peck Nissan  
Rich's Car Wash  
Stirling Properties LLC  
The University of Alabama  
W&O Supply  
Walmart Tillman's Corner



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# believe in **mobile** belong to the **chamber**

## **connect ... succeed ... grow**

At the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce, our goal is simple – to help your business grow. Membership links you with resources and contacts for success during challenging times. Join us. Get involved in the Gulf Coast's most dynamic business community. Connect to our more than 2,100 members – network, ask questions, learn, share insights and form important business relationships. Believe in a strong future for Mobile. Belong to the Chamber – because it's good for business and good for Mobile.

