

the **businessVIEW**



One Step
Closer to
I-10 Bridge

How **Industry**
Impacts
10K Students

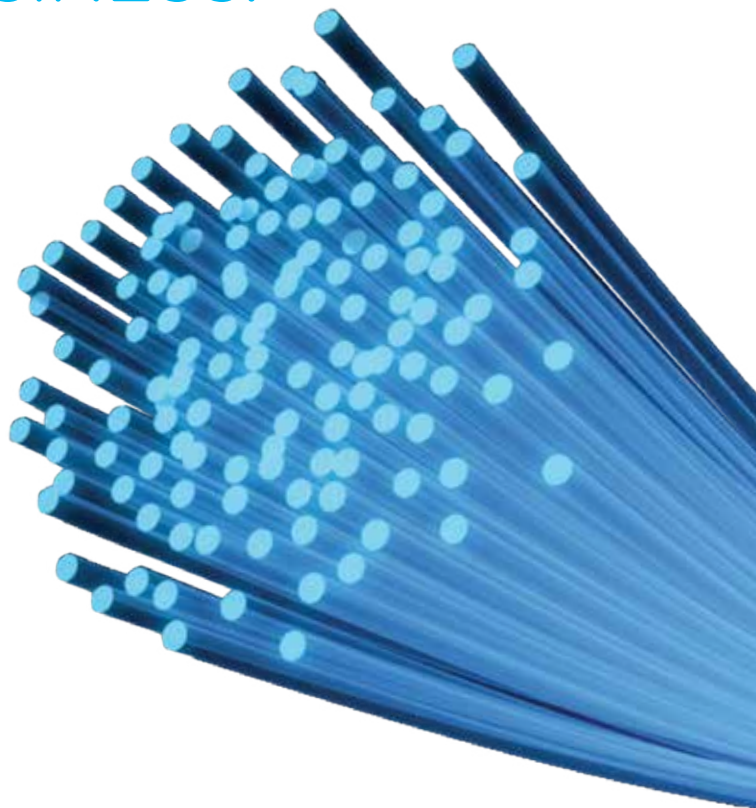
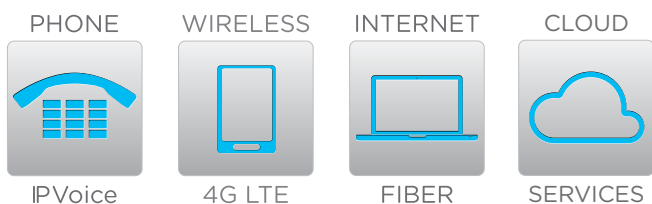
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From the Publisher - Bill Sisson

Getting a New Workforce Ready

As you may have heard, manufacturing is booming around Mobile. Thousands of jobs have been added in our shipbuilding and steel-making industries, and we are quickly becoming one of the world's newest aviation/aerospace centers.

All this growth has meant big challenges for us in workforce development. Not only have job openings jumped into the hundreds, but a significant number of our skilled laborers, such as welders, will reach retirement age within the next five years. It's imperative that we prepare our workforce in a hurry to meet this demand – and we're doing just that.

The many organizations working on education and workforce development are partnering to align the training system to effectively provide the skilled workforce needed in Mobile's current economy. This includes the K-12 systems throughout the region, organizations such as Southwest Alabama Workforce Development Council, Mobile Area



Education Foundation, Mobile Works, the Mobile Area Chamber, and the community college systems and universities.

Alabama Industrial Development Training (AIDT) continues to provide nationally renowned training and retraining for immediate hiring needs of our new and existing industry. AIDT now has four locations throughout our region, ensuring that all our

business sectors can benefit from their excellent programming, which is customized for new and existing industry.

In this issue, you'll learn more about how our workforce development system is enabling us to fully capitalize on the region's economic growth. Keeping our workforce skilled means that planes and boats, and the good-paying jobs of those who work on them, will continue to be a vital part of our regional economy for years to come.



5



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ON THE COVER

Will work for a ride! Pictured on the cover are Delta Bike Project partners Jenn Greene, Thomas Carpenter and Jeff DeQuattro. Learn more about this program on page 16. *Photo by Jeff Tesney.*

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One Step Closer



News broke in late July that the U.S. Federal Highway Administration approved the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a new I-10 bridge and Bayway expansion. The statement addresses the potential effects of the proposed project.

In concert with the statement release, the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) set two public hearings for Tuesday, Sept. 23 at the Alabama Cruise Terminal and Monday, Sept. 29 at Five Rivers Delta Resource Center. Both meetings will be from 5 to 8 p.m.

Residents are asked to provide feedback by reviewing the study at a public location – one is housed at the Mobile Area Chamber, 451 Government St. – and/or attending public hearings in Mobile and Baldwin counties. ALDOT also

has a copy of the impact statement online at www.MobileRiverBridge.com.


Mike Lee with Page and Jones chairs the grassroots Build the I-10 Bridge Coalition. He is encouraging attendance at the public hearings, so officials can hear from those for as well as opposed to the I-10 bridge.

“It’s hard to find a negative in this,” Lee says. “I suppose one of the only things would be that it’s not free,” he says referring to the local share of funding that would have to be raised.

What’s happens after that? The feedback will be funneled into a revised study, and then the design and engineering phase begins to determine the specifications and, for example, if and how bike lanes will be included. It’s a process

that could take up to two years, and construction is estimated at four to six years. The result will be a new Mobile River Bridge, expanding I-10’s capacity by six lanes (three in each direction) and a bayway expansion to eight lanes total.

The preferred location for the six-lane bridge begins at Virginia Street, crossing the Mobile River just north of the Mobile Cruise Terminal and joins the Bayway near the AIDT Maritime Training Center.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is housed at the Mobile Area Chamber, 451 Government St., and at www.mobileriverbridge.com. If you’re interested in joining the grassroots effort to have the bridge built, go to: www.facebook.com/BuildTheI10Bridge. 


Czech Republic Engineering Firm Expands to Mobile

Inter-Informatics Group, a leading provider of engineering design services in the field of aerospace and other disciplines, found a home at Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley, and is locating staff from the Czech Republic.

Radek Rezny, the company’s project manager, says a presence in Mobile is necessary for its work with Airbus Americas Engineering. “We are establishing a design center in the vicinity of our customer in Mobile, which will ensure more flexible and operative availability of the engineering services we already provide for Airbus and other customers; and have also commenced marketing and business activities towards new acquisitions from this territory.”

Although starting small, Rezny says the company will hire five people in the first year, and their presence will grow as their work increases.

“This is one example of a company taking a chance to grow its business with Airbus,” says Thomas Tyson, an economic development project manager for the Mobile Area Chamber. “This location will allow Inter-Informatics the opportunity to expand its business services to other customers throughout North America while ensuring their services to Airbus here in Mobile.”

Inter-Informatics Group established its U.S. branch in Florida earlier this year, and has offices in Germany, France, Slovakia and Romania. 

AIDT Opens Aviation Training Center





Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey (right) was in Mobile recently to cut the ribbon on Alabama Industrial Development Training's (AIDT) \$7 million Alabama Aviation Training Center at Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley. The center was built to boost Mobile's aviation workforce and help train future employees for the Airbus Final Assembly Line.

Pictured with Ivey are (from left to right): Lee Hammett, AIDT; Greg Canfield, Alabama Department of Commerce; and Ulrich Weber, Airbus.

Alabama Industrial Development Training held a grand opening in July for its \$7 million Alabama Aviation Training Center located at Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley. The facility, along with the existing Enterprise State Community College Alabama Aviation College located adjacent to the center, will provide training to help ensure a successful startup for the Airbus A320 Family Assembly Line, as well as assisting other aerospace companies in the region with workforce needs. The facility was designed by Mobile-based Watermark Design Group.

"The center will aid unemployed individuals whose jobs have fallen victim to economic downturns," said **Bridget Wilson**, director of the Chamber's workforce development department. "Secondly, our future economic competitiveness and success are linked to the skills and quality of our workforce."

AIDT provides customized training at no cost to qualifying companies, conducts pre-employment selection and training, leadership development and assessments in industrial safety, industrial maintenance and process improvement. 

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

Airbus Holds C212 Aircraft Operators Conference in Mobile

In efforts to improve and expand its maintenance and repair business, Airbus Defense and Space's U.S. military aircraft unit held its first operators conference in Mobile. The event drew close to 30 business and government owners of C212 aircraft fleets from five different countries.

"The conference allowed closer interaction with our clients and showcased our services and capabilities, in order to improve our overall operations and increase our business to help expand our footprint and workforce in Mobile," said **Juan Uriarte**, head of Airbus Defense and Space U.S. military aircraft services.

In February, Airbus added a 7,500-square-foot component repair facility at its maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) delivery center located at Mobile Regional Airport.

New services include hydraulic, avionics, composite and structural repairs, painting, component exchange and highly skilled engineering support.

"This is one example of a company taking a chance to grow its business with Airbus and create or expand its work in the North American market," says **Thomas Tyson**, an economic development project manager for the Mobile Area Chamber.

The company is able to provide technical and engineering services support to all operators of Airbus Defense and Space military aircraft products in North America and the growing South American market, and may support the Airbus A320 Family aircraft assembly line, currently under construction in Mobile.



Juan Uriarte, president of Airbus Military North America (left), greets City of Mobile Mayor Sandy Stimpson. Stimpson gave the official welcome to attendees at a recent conference held in Mobile and attended by C212 aircraft fleet owners.

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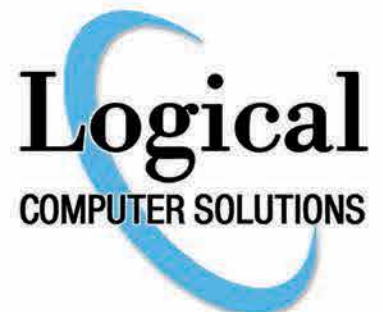
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Keeping Mobile's Streets and Waterways Clean

Everyone has seen “that” driver zooming down the interstate and throwing a cigarette butt thoughtlessly out the window. Like many, he or she may not be aware of where it goes, what harm it causes or just how unsightly it can look.

Thanks to volunteer groups like the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, numerous clean-up efforts take place annually in shopping centers, parks and waterways. Although temporarily successful, the efforts solve only part of the problem.

Aiming to stop trash and debris at its source, the city of Mobile recently enacted a litter ordinance and, shortly thereafter, a storm water ordinance, both focusing on enforcement with an educational outreach component to engage citizens, businesses and other organizations.

“We’re raising expectations here,” says **Dianne Irby**, the city’s director of planning and development. “This is not about a spot check. It’s about doing the right thing.”

For businesses here’s what you need to know:

Litter Ordinance

City officials say the greatest impact of the litter ordinance will be a cleaner city, but the ordinance may affect some property owners in ways not outlined in previous regulations. The city has designated a 90-day period for education and warnings. Irby says beginning Oct. 1, enforcement begins and fines will be levied for violations.

Key areas of change include:

- the requirement of businesses to have litter receptacles (including those for cigarettes) on commercial premises and at entrances;
- junk vehicles will no longer be allowed on residential or other property;
- multi-family residences, places of assembly and commercial premises must be free of litter, with the responsible party specified as the property owner;
- all commercial dumpsters must be enclosed; and
- cigarette butts are now prohibited from being deposited on city streets, alleys and ditches.

Storm Water Ordinance

In an effort to fulfill obligations laid out by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) to control the flow of pollution into storm drains and waterways, the city of Mobile recently revised its storm water management and flood control ordinance, including an updated Storm Water Management Plan.

The new ordinance strengthens the city’s authority to sample, inspect and enforce storm water management efforts.

Other changes include heightened requirements on new large construction or redevelopment sites performing land disturbance of one acre or more, as well as requiring commercial, industrial and high-risk facilities such as a chemical plant seeking ADEM permits.

As recommended by ADEM, these entities will be required to implement and maintain best management practices (BMPs), with preventive practices.


Key areas of change include:

- sweeping or vacuuming leaves instead of putting them down storm water drains;
- removing litter daily from premises;
- regularly removing sediment and debris from parking lots; and
- keeping dumpster areas clean and tidy.

Previously, the city failed to meet the 2012 Storm Water Management Plan goals and as a result adopted the 2014 plan. The city will pay ADEM a fine of \$135,000, purchase one or more litter boats in 2015 to address the flow of litter in its waterways, and purchase and install a large litter trap on a tributary to Dog River.


For more information about compliance, visit www.cityofmobile.org.

TWO MORE REASONS TO CHOOSE THE BEST

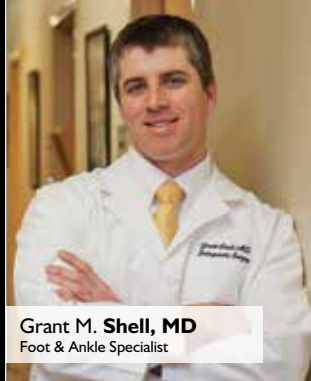


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MCPSS Students Earn 7,307 Career Credentials

Thousands of Mobile County Public Schools students have a leg up in the job market after earning national certifications while still in high school. In fact, the number of credentials earned – 7,307 – was more than double the aggressive goal the system set for its students to receive this year.

School Superintendent **Martha Peek** said these national certifications – ranging from certified nursing assistant to construction and manufacturing to restaurant management – help students immediately get jobs. It was the teachers working in the career technical education division that made it happen.

Faulkner Career-Technical Center welding instructor **Tim Devargas** motivates students by posting paycheck stubs of his former students on

a bulletin board. Welders, for example, make between \$18 and \$30 an hour, and Devargas has several students who have gone straight to work at Ingalls, Austal and G.A. West.

One of his students, **Tyler Graham**, graduated from Mary G. Montgomery High School and received four career certifications in welding and construction as well as an OSHA 10-hour safety card. He trained at AIDT at night while still in high school and went straight to work at Ingalls after graduation.

The most popular certification – earned by 1,990 students – was NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research), which is required by most construction, manufacturing and shipbuilding companies.

Other certifications included American Welding Society, Serve Safe (restaurant manager), Alabama Board of Cosmetology and Barbering, Landscape Management, EverFi Financial Literacy, Microsoft Office Specialist and Army/Navy JROTC Completion Certificates.

“This increase in credentials represents the commitment of students and faculty members, along with business and industry, to begin preparing now for the job market,” said **Bridget Wilson**, director of the Mobile Area Chamber’s work force development department. “These programs will reduce recruitment costs and improve productivity, as well as increase our economic competitiveness due to ready and skilled entry-level positions.”

Continental to Buy Southern Avionics

Continental Motors Group Ltd. announced this summer that its Fairhope maintenance, repair and overhaul subsidiary Mattituck Services Inc. (MSI) will purchase Mobile-based Southern Avionics and Communications Inc.

The acquisition will add avionics and aircraft interior maintenance, repair and overhaul capabilities and expand its service presence at the rapidly growing Mobile Downtown Airport, according to **Rhett Ross**, director of Continental Motors Group and vice president of AVIC International. With the Southern Avionics facility adjacent to the Airbus A320 Family Assembly Line, Ross is also hoping to extend the company’s business in pilot training, fuel services, avionics services, wiring harnesses and special aviation manufacturing.

A 33-year-old company, Southern Avionics is considered a regional leader in avionics sales, installation and service. It employs 14 people at its Brookley facility. The company represents most major avionics manufacturers worldwide through distribution or other agreements, and services aircraft ranging from small personal aircraft to large corporate jets.

Tom Greer, president of Southern Avionics and Communications, said, “This is a great opportunity for Southern Avionics customers to get one-stop shopping for all their aircraft needs. And for our employees, this represents a great

growth opportunity with one of the most exciting OEMs (original equipment manufacturers) in the industry today.”

The transaction is expected to close during the third quarter of 2014.





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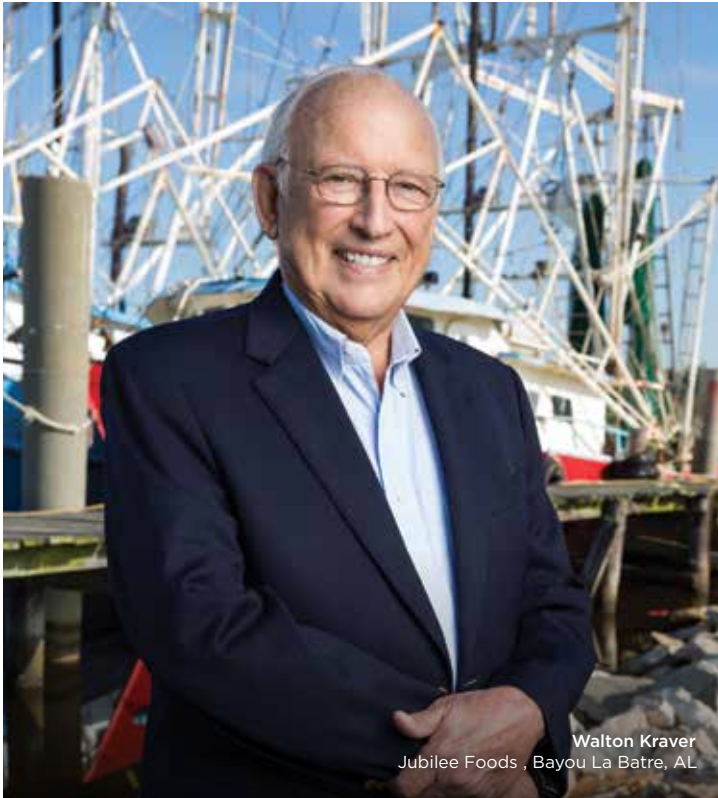
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Susan Carley, sitting on right, and her team have a lot to offer – coffee, dessert, breakfast and lunch in the heart of the Oakleigh district. Cream & Sugar has a nationwide demand for an assortment of its cake ball flavors.

Everyone Needs a Little Cream & Sugar

Susan Carley and her husband, Kevin, love coffee.

“Our earliest days together in New Orleans were spent hanging out together in coffee shops on Magazine Street,” Susan Carley said. “When our first child was born, we were living in Atlanta and our favorite outing was to get her all dressed up and go hang out at Caribou Coffee.”

So it was only natural that after moving back to Mobile in 2003, they should open a coffee shop of their own. After opening the Palette Café in the Mobile Museum of Art in 2007, the couple started looking for sites for a second location. They found a building in the Oakleigh Garden District that had formerly housed Guido’s restaurant, and had originally been a house connected to a corner store.

“It always intrigued me that the charming cottage home with the front porch and stoop that had been built in 1876 was overshadowed by the corner store which had the

intriguing corner entrance,” she said.

While they leased out the portion of the building with the corner entrance, now Kitchen On George, the Carleys decided the house with the porch was the perfect space to open a coffee and dessert shop. That shop, Cream & Sugar, has now been in business nearly five years and is the Mobile Area Chamber’s Small Business of the Month.

“We knew the neighborhood and the Midtown community would embrace a locally-owned coffee shop, and it did,” said Carley, who runs the business. “It blossomed from just coffee and dessert to now serving breakfast and lunch seven days a week.”

Carley credits the setting for part of their success – the quaint cottage with its picket fence, original floors, a loft for book clubs and outdoor seating on the porch. Another part of their successful formula is what’s inside the building – expert baristas

churning out coffee drinks made from locally roasted beans, and a menu that features breakfast burritos with Conecuh sausage, crab quiche, Cammie’s Old Dutch ice cream and cake balls in 25 flavors.

“We were the first to introduce cake balls to Mobile back in 2009,” she said, “and we are now selling them online nationwide.”

The shop has become home base for Mobilians on Bikes, a group that gathers there regularly for bike rides through Midtown and downtown. “The biking community, with their regular rides and supportive spirit of Midtown, really kept us going during the first few years as we tried to build our repeat business in an area that gets no drive-by traffic,” Carley said. “Without the bikers, we may not have made it to our five-year mark.”

Carley says a business plan is important for new entrepreneurs, and flexibility in that plan is sometimes necessary. Original estimates for

customer traffic at Cream & Sugar were off and they had to spend more time and money on marketing and advertising to get the word out. Now the business has a strong enough customer base to stay open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week, with hopes of adding even later hours.

“We had to try harder to get the people in the front door,” Carley said. “But once they stepped in Cream & Sugar, they were usually hooked. Our repeat business is awesome and our regulars are incredibly supportive.”

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COMMUNITY INDICATORS

Academic, social, & motor skills level
 8th grade math scores
 High school graduation rate

3rd grade reading scores
 11th grade ACT scores



FINANCIAL STABILITY

Individuals can achieve economic self-sufficiency when empowered with the right resources, skills, and tools.

✓ PRIORITIES

- Workforce development
- Financial literacy and planning
- Non-emergency income support

COMMUNITY INDICATORS

Poverty rate
 Housing as a percentage of household income
 Unemployment rate

Number of unbanked households
 Tax returns prepared & income generated
 Foreclosure rate



HEALTH

Good health is the foundation for being a productive citizen with a better quality of life.

✓ PRIORITIES

- Promoting healthy behaviors
- Access to quality healthcare and prescription drugs
- Access to addiction, behavioral, and mental health counseling

COMMUNITY INDICATORS

Adult smoking rate
 Percent uninsured
 Adult obesity rate
 Physical inactivity rate

Number of poor physical & mental health days
 Excessive drinking rate
 Number who could not see a doctor due to cost



ESSENTIALS

Individuals cannot succeed without life's basic essentials.

✓ PRIORITIES

- Food
- Shelter
- Emergency financial assistance
- Disaster relief and recovery

COMMUNITY INDICATORS

Pounds of food distributed
 Food insecurity rate
 Number of people who receive disaster relief

Number of chronically homeless
 Number of people who receive financial assistance

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Revamping Mobile's

Economic Development Web Presence

The Mobile Area Chamber's drive to transform its website into a clean, lean and easy-to-navigate source of business information completed its final push with the launch of a new section for economic development in July.

The section provides extensive information and resources for businesses locating or expanding in Mobile, including infrastructure, workforce development and international trade. Additions include an interactive demographics dashboard with continuously updated statistics on population, housing, jobs and labor presented in charts and graphs. Visitors will also find a new suite of downloadable maps.

The redesign polishes the region's web image and strengthens the resources prospects need, says **Troy Wayman**, vice president, economic development. "We wanted simple but very effective, and that's what we achieved."



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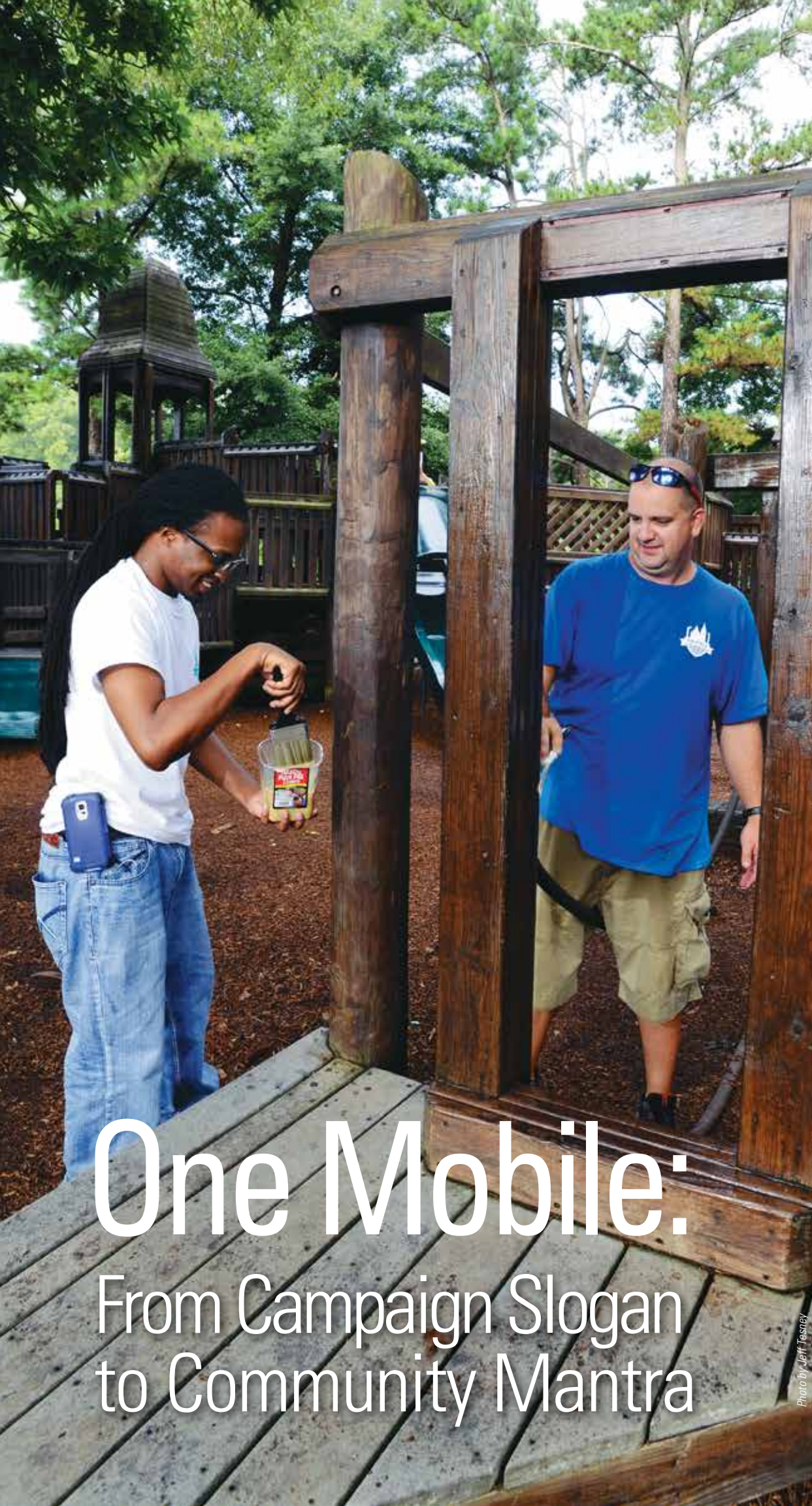
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Just right for you





“What if I’m the one with the solutions? What if I’m the one with the right idea? What if I’m the one our future has been waiting for?”

A diverse group of local citizens ask these three questions in a promotional video produced to inspire others to find an effort or activity to plug into, says **Elisabeth Hanes**, one of the volunteers helping coordinate the One Mobile community service effort. Though the group is nonpolitical, its name was taken from Mayor **Sandy Stimpson’s** campaign slogan.

The Business View asked Hanes a few questions to help readers understand what the organization is, why it exists and how they can get involved.

What is One Mobile, and what is the organization’s vision for the future?

“One Mobile is more of a movement than an organization. We are a privately-funded, citizen-run nonprofit established to encourage ideas and facilitate collaboration among Mobilians.

“Our vision is to empower community building through collaboration between individuals, businesses, nonprofits and community groups because together we can do more.”

How did One Mobile grow from a campaign slogan?

“Our group was inspired by the vision of one, unified Mobile. Our slogan is ‘Many Voices, One Mobile.’ We believe that by providing a platform for people to share their ideas and work together to see them become realities, our city will only grow.”

Who is involved, and who can join?

“One Mobile is guided by a steering committee of a diverse set of individuals dedicated to ensure Mobile’s various community interests are represented.

“Every Mobilian can join the movement. One Mobile is every Mobilian because everyone’s voice and ideas matter regardless of gender, race, national origin, religion, political beliefs or disability.”

One Mobile: From Campaign Slogan to Community Mantra

Photo by Jeff Tesney

How do people get involved?

“Citizens can get involved with One Mobile through a variety of ways. The main way will be through our website onemobile.org, scheduled to launch in the fall. We currently have a Beta site, but our full site will allow residents to share ideas and work with those who have similar interests.”

How will the organization impact Mobile?

“One Mobile is impacting the community through service projects. Our July service projects at Maitre Park and Medal of Honor Park helped enrich both of those areas.”

“Additionally, One Mobile is working to educate Mobilians about local businesses, nonprofits and history, and encourage pride in our hometown through social media. Our use of social media has helped several nonprofits increase their volunteer numbers, event turnout and general community awareness of their organization.”

“Through empowering citizens’ ideas, initiatives like One Fit Mobile created by **Cindy Ross**, owner of **Bodies By Cindy**, have been born. One Fit Mobile is now educating our community about health and wellness, providing free fitness classes and a weight-loss challenge program for Mobilians.

“We also coordinate quarterly service projects, partner with



Photo by Jeff Tesney

Mobile’s existing nonprofits and give Mobilians more opportunities to connect with each other. These services are open to anyone.”

What do you want the business community to know about One Mobile?

“We hope to provide resources for businesses who want to develop their corporate citizenship. Businesses are always welcome to join our service projects.”

“Additionally, our website will have ‘community involvement

blueprints’ for business. These will include case studies documenting the success stories of other local businesses’ community involvement and templates providing information

on how to replicate similar programs and projects in their own business.”

One Mobile can be found at www.onemobile.org.

One Mobile is a grassroots organization working to identify volunteer activities that Mobilians can connect to and provide a forum for project ideas where they can find others who share their passion. In July, a group of volunteers revitalized the children’s area at Medal of Honor park on Hillcrest Road, pictured in the photos on these two pages. In addition to clean up and painting the equipment, they recreated the wall with children’s handprints because the original one was vandalized. A similar project went on simultaneously at Maitre Park on Halls Mill Road.



Photos by Jeff Tesney

Delta Bike Project gets traction from One Mobile



Photo by Jeff Tesney

In its effort to promote existing organizations and help Mobilians find a cause to connect with, One Mobile has helped Delta Bike Project. The nonprofit organization is dedicated to bicycle transportation in Mobile, offers tools and knowledge for do-it-yourself bike repairs and low-cost bikes that have either been donated or recycled.

Jeff DeQuattro, one of the founders and executive director of Delta Bike Project, says of the One Mobile boost, “We’ve been promoting them and they are promoting us so it’s a great synergy. We got a couple dozen new Facebook likes (from One Mobile publicity), a lot of new followers and probably some bike donations.”

By day, DeQuattro is coastal projects manager for The Nature Conservancy in Alabama. When he moved to Mobile, he needed a hobby. He bought a bike and taught himself how to rebuild it. Then a friend needed some help with his dad’s old bike. As his hobby grew to expertise, DeQuattro started getting requests for service. The organization immediately transformed from being a place where people could work on

bikes to including a program where people who couldn’t afford a bike, could earn one through service projects.

The Time is Money program lets people earn a bicycle or parts for their work, and has distributed more than 70 bikes to Mobile’s community in need. We’re about “do it yourself,” says DeQuattro. “It’s an empowering experience.”

DeQuattro explains automobile ownership is not an option to certain populations and is costly to low income groups such as youth and elderly. The secondary advantages to biking, he adds, are that it’s good exercise, reduces traffic, is good for the environment and fun.

“We do things so the community can get out there and apply for jobs or get something to eat or just to have fun.”

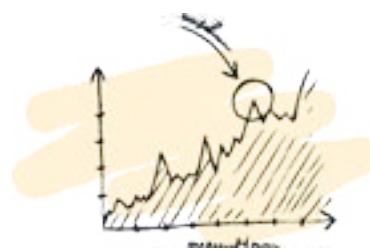
Delta Bike Project is located at the corner of St. Francis and Warren streets, and survives on donated bikes. “No matter what shape they are in, we can use them.” Contact them at www.deltabikeproject.org or 251-348-0872.



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WORLDS OF OPPORTUNITY

Introducing Students to Industry in a Unique Way



Over the past four years, more than 40,000 eighth-grade students, teachers, school administrators, parents, industry leaders and volunteers have gathered for a two-day career expo to create awareness among students and educators about local job options. This year's event will be held Sept. 24 and 25 at the Mobile Civic Center.

The Worlds of Opportunity Career Expo, a project of the Southwest Alabama Workforce Development Council (SAWDC), is a fast-paced, fun, educational, hands-on opportunity where students learn about a variety of jobs available in the Mobile area directly from the people who work in those industries. Students may ask questions about the work, pay, education and training needed and get their hands on an interactive activity related to each industry.

The expo is open to students from the eight-county workforce development Region 9 including Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh, Escambia, Mobile, Monroe and Washington counties.

Featured industry sectors are:

- Aerospace & Aviation
- Automotive Technology
- Communication
- Construction
- Energy
- Engineering & Design
- Healthcare
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Manufacturing
- Public Services
- Safety
- Shipbuilding & Repair

The Mobile Area Chamber has been a part of Worlds of Opportunity since its inception. As project manager, the Chamber brings business and industry together and facilitates the event on behalf of SAWDC.

Bridget Wilson, the Chamber's director of workforce development, said she looks forward to another great experience for local students to become engaged, exposed and encouraged about future career paths.

"Each year, we are lucky to have such great industry partners who are creative and active to get the students interested in their industry by showing them what it takes to do their jobs," she said. "It's amazing how much effort is put into this event, and we are seeing the results of our efforts as those students who first went through this program are starting to graduate high school and are looking for jobs." ○○



The Worlds of Opportunity Career Expo brings together partners and volunteers from 12 industries in the Mobile area. The hands-on expo gives students the chance to learn more about jobs local employers say they will need in the future.

AEROSPACE & AVIATION

Alabama has plenty of opportunities for highly-skilled, hard working professionals who are interested in designing, building and working on aircraft. In this world, students are introduced to riveting airplane bodies and hearing a loud jet engine.

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

It's the job of trained auto and body technicians to keep vehicles running safely and efficiently. In this world, students get an inside look at a car's engine and onboard software systems.

COMMUNICATION

We are all communicators; whether it is with spoken or printed words, gestures or even behavior. In this world, students will sit at a TV anchor desk, while others tweet messages or meet radio disc jockeys.

CONSTRUCTION

A team of construction professionals built every structure, residential community, park, hospital, roadway or shopping mall you can see. In this world, students will paint, lay bricks and steer an excavator.

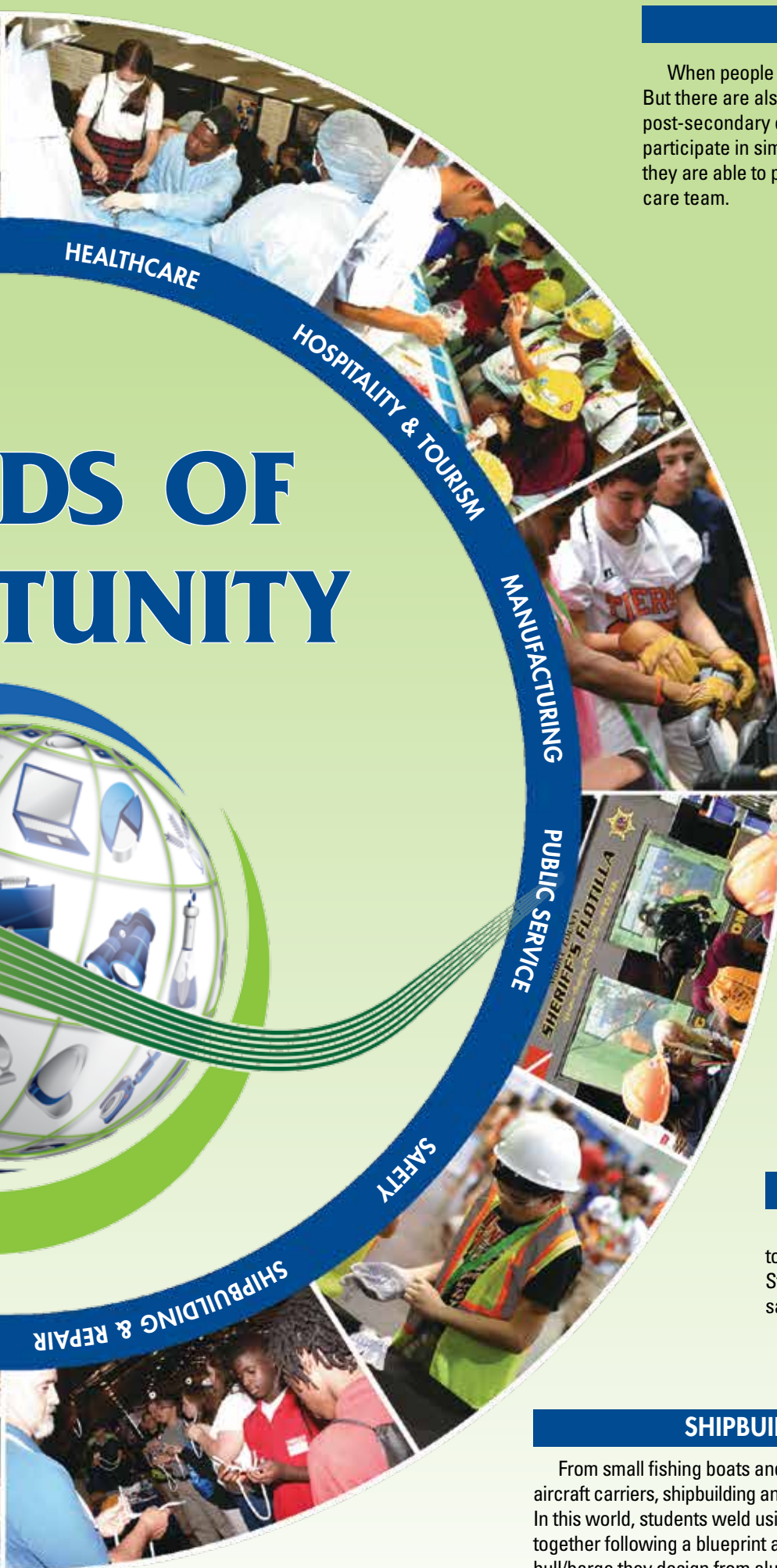
ENERGY

Energy workers use skills in math and science to analyze and solve problems and provide power. In this world, students learn about gas and electric power, discover the technology used in metering and line locate tasks, put on safety gear, ride a bike generator, and see the differences in transmission and distribution power lines.

ENGINEERING & DESIGN

High-rise buildings and space ship require the expertise of architects, engineers and designers. In this world, students learn the practical and technical side of engineering through rocket launching, a pulley playground system and a computer bridge competition.





HEALTHCARE

When people think of healthcare, they generally think of doctors and nurses. But there are also many other exciting jobs in healthcare with a variety of post-secondary education requirements. This world allows students to participate in simulations of childbirth, surgery, pharmacy and therapy where they are able to perform different jobs as a member of a multi-discipline patient care team.

HOSPITALITY & TOURISM

Tourism accounts for more than 162,000 Alabama jobs. In this world, students try to balance a tray of glasses across a room, land a hole-in-one on a putting green and even try their hand at icing a cake.

MANUFACTURING

Manufacturing jobs are in high-demand at area companies. Students in this world control and monitor processes and equipment within his/her sphere of work to achieve the best possible production results with regard to quantity, quality and the environment.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Law enforcement officers/deputies patrol the streets and neighborhoods to maintain a safe environment. Students in this world may speak to a SWAT team member about what it takes to do their job. They can also try their skills with a weapon on a video shooting range, or see what type of equipment correction officers use on a daily basis.

SAFETY

Safety professionals work with companies and industries to help keep employees safe in a variety of working conditions. Students in this world race the clock – and each other – to don safety gear and try their hand at safely breaking a pane of glass.

SHIPBUILDING & REPAIR

From small fishing boats and mega yachts to cargo ships and gigantic aircraft carriers, shipbuilding and repair offers many career opportunities. In this world, students weld using a virtual welder, fit pieces of angle bar together following a blueprint and test displacement/buoyancy from a hull/barge they design from aluminum foil.

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 Akzo Nobel
 Alabama Associated General Contractors
 Alabama Aviation Center
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Katherine Pittman

Company: Mobile United

Title: Executive Director

Hometown: Mobile

Education: Pittman earned a bachelor's degree in art history from Birmingham-Southern College.

First job: Her first job was in legal support services.

Previous experience: She has worked as a paralegal for Maynard, Cooper & Gale in Birmingham, and Johnstone Adams in Mobile, and as a mortgage originator and branch manager at Bank of Mobile. Pittman previously served as administrator for Leadership Mobile.

Accomplishments: She is involved in the Alabama Coastal Foundation, Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee, the Coalition Against Bullying, Underage Drinking Taskforce and the Alabama Community Leadership Network.

Secret to success: "Finding balance in all aspects of my life has served me well," she said. "Seeking that perfect balance between work, family and friends is what matters most."

Brief company description: Mobile United is a membership organization that creatively addresses the issues that face the Mobile community in an effort to improve the quality of life for all citizens. Mobile United is the home of Leadership Mobile, Youth Leadership Mobile and Live Better Mobile programs.



SSAB is the leading producer of high-strength steel sold all over the world. At the Alabama plant are, (front row from left) Alan Byrd, Larry Gohagan, George Chapman, Mark Bush, Jill Vinson, Shannon Johnson, Greg Manfredi and (back row) Jeff Lascari, Dan Hrynizak, Trent Thomas, Bruce Byrd, Justin Ward, Scott Kelley, Victor Clark, Ken Ferguson and Bud Long.

Company officials: **Chuck Schmitt**, president; **John Carroll**, vice president, environmental, health & safety; **Jeff Moskaluk**, chief commercial officer; **Sheila Williams**, vice president, human resources; **Paul Wilson**, vice president, operations; **Michele Klebuc-Simes**, vice president and general counsel; **Mark Bush**, operations manager, Mobile; **Ed DiCiccio**, operations manager, Montpelier

Years in business: Established in 2001

Brief company description:

SSAB is a global leader in high-strength steel. Its vision is to create a stronger, lighter and more sustainable world.

Why are you located in Mobile?

“Of the four states we were considering for this facility, Alabama was very aggressive and organized in its program to attract SSAB, formerly IPSCO,” explained Bush. “Beyond that, it offers a variety of shipping options – truck, ship and rail; a good employment base; and an excellent quality of life. A stable power grid and a geographic location convenient to our customer base are also key considerations.”

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

“We support the initiative in order to further develop the greater Mobile area,” said Bush. “For our facility to remain successful and be able to continue to draw a skilled

workforce, we need a healthy strong community. In the 15 years since starting construction of the plant, we have seen Mobile grow and attract many world-class companies. I think the Partners for Growth initiative has played a vital role in that development.”

What do you see as Mobile’s greatest potential?

“The Mobile site has proven to be an ideal site to serve the Southeast and Gulf Coast states,” said Bush. “It was anticipated that this part of the United States would have strong industrial growth, and that has come to fruition.”

Length of continuous Chamber membership: Since 1999



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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Contact: J. Burruss Riis, RSA Tower, Suite 30200, 11 North Water Street, Mobile, AL 36602.

Farnborough Air Show



A delegation from Mobile attended the Farnborough Air Show in July to promote the region as an ideal location for additional aerospace investment. Pictured above from left to right are: Sen. Jeff Sessions, Mobile City Council President Gina Gregory, Mobile County Commission Attorney Jay Ross and Hand Arendall's Preston Bolt.



During the Farnborough Air Show, nearly 25 appointments were made by Mobile Area Chamber economic developers for local business and industry executives and elected officials to meet with potential aerospace companies and suppliers. Pictured are Claudia Zimmermann with Alabama Power (left) and Mobile City Council member Fred Richardson (right) meeting with a prospect.

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Chamber Small Business Owners Meet

Members of the Chamber's Executive Roundtable, a group of small business owners and managers, attended a presentation by Glenda Snodgrass on "Protecting Personal Information in the Digital Age." More than 15 member businesses were represented.

Gulf Coast Technology Council Members Discuss Cyber Security

During a bi-monthly meeting of the Chamber's Gulf Coast Technology Council, attendees heard a presentation by Dr. Todd Andel with the University of South Alabama's School of Computing, who spoke on cyber-security vulnerabilities, critical infrastructure and medical devices. In addition, Andel discussed research being done to address these exposures and how foundational cyber-security education fits into the solution.

World Trade Week in Mobile

The Chamber's trade division held the 2014 World Trade Week Reception & Symposium to celebrate the success of Alabama's globally engaged companies, trade organizations and other stakeholders who promote and facilitate international trade in Alabama's economy. The events were well attended, with 93 registered for the reception and 79 for the symposium. The symposium featured presentations from Greg Canfield, Alabama's Secretary of Commerce; Robert Stackpole, U.S. Commercial Service; Leslie Schweitzer, Capitalize LLC; and Christopher Wenk, U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Both events were held at the Battle House Hotel and Spa.

Work on Oil Storage Tanks Continues

The Chamber has convened and facilitated a number of meetings to discuss recommendations made by the citizen ad hoc committee (appointed by the Mobile City Council) regarding above-ground petroleum storage tanks in

industrial areas. The Chamber continues to meet with stakeholders and other interested parties as research continues on this issue.

Chamber Names New Board of Advisors

New Board of Advisors members are Bagby & Russell, Briggs Equipment, DocRX, Express Employment, General Dynamics (Advanced Information Systems), Kellsinc Inc., Mobile Asphalt, Mobile Lumber & Millwork, PANGEATWO, Spring Hill Nursing Manor and Turner Supply. The total number of Board of Advisors is 257.

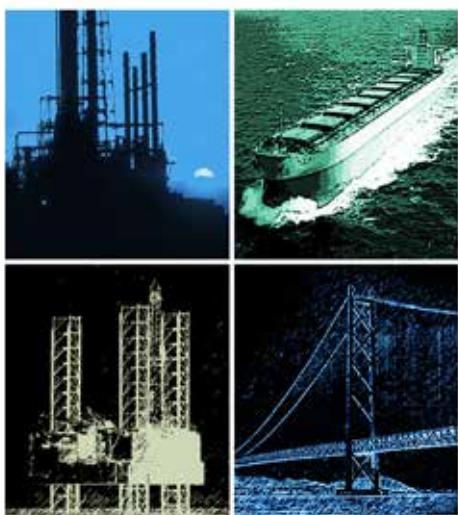


Virginia Knight, BancorpSouth, participated in Chamber Chase, a campaign to bring in new members, event sponsors and advertisers. Look for more about this year's campaign in the November issue of *The Business View*.

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A group of public and private representatives from the Dominican Republic visited Mobile to learn about U.S. port operations and trade opportunities. Dominican business and government leaders discussed with their Mobile counterparts ways to strengthen Dominican Republic customs and border management policies based, in part, on U.S. practices.

20th ANNIVERSARY

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A LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS WILL BE SOLD.

AMBASSADOR of the month



As district community development coordinator for **LifeSouth Community Blood Center Inc.**, **Angela Williams** educates potential donors and the community about blood donations and LifeSouth while acquiring new accounts. Since joining the ambassador program in 2009, she also shares the benefits of becoming a Mobile Area Chamber member. The Mobile native is the Chamber's Ambassador of the Month. "Being an Ambassador enables me to be an integral part of the business community," Williams said.

Ambassadors are volunteers working for Mobile Area Chamber member businesses. They support the Chamber by visiting members, assisting with event registrations and attending ribbon-cuttings. To learn more about this program, contact Dawn Rencher at 251-431-8649 or drencher@mobilechamber.com.

Horizon Research Group LLC



Horizon Research Group LLC is a clinical research company based in Lafayette, La. The company has approximately 43 years of combined clinical trials experience, with specialties that include allergy, asthma, oncology, sleep disorder, dermatology, pain management and podiatry. For more information, visit www.horizonresearchgroup.com.

The company has five locations in Louisiana and one in Mobile at 108 I-65 Service Rd. Staff members pictured (from left): Anna Brunson, Beth Nelson, Dr. Christopher Hickey, Liz Hess, RN and Tina Jackson.

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

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Thomas W. Bender III MD, a Mobile native, was appointed by the Hon. Sonny Callahan to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy, where he earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and pre-medicine. Bender attended the Tulane University School of Medicine, and spent one year stationed at Keesler Air Force Base (AFB), where he completed a surgical internship. He was a general medical officer at Maxwell AFB in Montgomery for almost five years before returning to Tulane to complete his residency in dermatology. Bender then

served as chief of dermatology at Eglin AFB for five years. He returned home to the Mobile area in January of 2009 and joined the staff of Providence Hospital. He established Advanced Dermatology and Skin Care Centre in 2010, and has clinics in Providence Park, Bay Minette and Daphne.



Monty P. Hamilton is chief executive officer of Rural Sourcing Inc. (RSI), providing competitive onshore alternatives to traditional IT outsourcing. He is a sought-after speaker on the topic of outsourcing to the United States. RSI's outsourcing model has appeared in *Business Week*, *CNN Money* magazine, *CFO* magazine and *CIO* magazine. Hamilton has worked with Fortune 500 companies including Georgia-Pacific, Nokia, Mylan and Novartis, entrepreneurial ventures and biotech companies. He is a member of The Bond Group board of

advisors, the International Association of Outsourcing Professionals, and the advisory boards for Georgia Southern and The University of Alabama master of information science programs. He is past president of the Adaptive Learning Center for special needs children from birth to age six. Hamilton holds a master's degree in business administration from Southern Methodist University, and a bachelor's degree in business from Millsaps College.



James L. Miller is president of Coastal HR Inc. and is a licensed insurance producer. He is a graduate of McGill Institute and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of South Alabama, with additional hours toward a master's degree in business administration at The University of Alabama at Birmingham. Miller is a member of the American Payroll Association, Society for Human Resource Management, National Association of Professional Employer Organizations, Disabled American Veterans Association, Military Officers of

America Association and Men of St. Joseph – St. Dominic Catholic Church Chapter, and is on the board of the Alabama Restaurant and Hospitality Alliance.



Frederick T. Stimpson III is chief executive officer of Scotch and Gulf Lumber LLC, where he has been employed since 1974. He is a graduate of The University of Alabama with a bachelor's degree in commerce and business administration, and the University of Georgia, where he earned a bachelor's degree in forest resources. Stimpson has served as chairman of the Alabama Wildlife Foundation, the Infirmary Health System, the Salvation Army advisory board and the Southeastern Lumber Manufacturing Association. He was

founding chairman of the American Family Business Institute, and founding director of the Coastal Land Trust. He is a member of the Alabama Forestry Association executive committee, the Hancock Bank regional advisory board and Ashland Place Methodist Church board of trustees, and he continues to serve on the boards of Infirmary Health System and Coastal Land Trust.

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

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SEPTEMBER

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

1 CHAMBER CLOSED/LABOR DAY

4 MEMBERSHIP 101

Come meet with other members and Chamber staff to learn about the many benefits from your membership.

When & Where: 8-9 a.m. – Mobile Area Chamber, 451 Government St.

Contact: Kelly Navarro at 251-431-8638 or knavarro@mobilechamber.com
No charge, but seating is limited. RSVP requested. Free parking.

10 2014 COASTAL ECONOMY OUTLOOK

Learn about the new Coastal Alabama economy at this annual event featuring six local and regional speakers.

When & Where: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel

Speakers: Jim Ridling, Alabama commissioner of insurance; Lee Lawson, Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance president and CEO; Troy Wayman, Mobile Area Chamber vice president of economic development; Rick Harper, University of West Florida Office of Economic Development and Engagement director; Don Epley, University of South Alabama Center for Real Estate and Economic Development director; and Bob Wood, University of South Alabama Mitchell College of Business dean.

Cost: \$95 until Sept. 3 / \$115 after (no refunds after Aug. 29)
Contact: Cesny Soffronoff at 251-431-8636 or csoffronoff@mobilechamber.com

Sponsors:



10 NETWORKING@NOON *Members Only

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

When & Where: Noon to 1 p.m., Mobile Area Chamber, 451 Government St.

Cost: \$10 and must be paid with reservation
Contact: Kelly Navarro at 251-431-8638 or knavarro@mobilechamber.com
Reservations required.

Sponsors:



16 EXECUTIVE ROUNDTABLE *Members Only

A monthly forum exclusively for Chamber member small business owners and managers.

When & Where: 8 to 9 a.m. – Mobile Area Chamber, 451 Government St.

Speaker: John K. Shields, partner Crow, Shields, Bailey PC
Topic: “Where’d the Time Go? Confessions of a Bad Time Manager”

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

No charge, but seating is limited. RSVP requested. Free parking.

Sponsor:



17 PROFITS THRU PEOPLE

When & Where: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Mobile Area Chamber, 451 Government St.

Speaker: Rick Miller, Amy Elliott and Chris Klinger, Pro356 Consulting LLC

Topic: Learn profit-boosting methods through employee engagement, customer service and employee leadership

Cost: \$20 members/\$25 potential members, includes lunch
First 15 people to register discounted to \$15.

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

RSVP requested. Free parking.

17 NONPROFIT ROUNDTABLE *Members Only

A bi-monthly forum for Chamber member nonprofit executives and managers.

When & Where: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. – Mobile Area Chamber, 451 Government St.

Speaker: Scott Tindle, executive director, The Grounds

Topic: Collaboration between organizations and working together to reach organizational goals.

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

No charge, but seating is limited. RSVP requested.

Free parking.

25 BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

When & Where: 5:30 to 7 p.m. – Lap’s Grocery & Grill, 1595 Battleship Pkwy.

Cost: \$5 for members and \$10 for potential members
Contact: Kelly Navarro at 251-431-8638 or knavarro@mobilechamber.com

Reservations are not needed.

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Who's New



Tyson



Daugherty

UMS-Wright Preparatory School hired Bradshaw Ratcliffe Tyson as digital marketing director. Tyson is a graduate of The University of Alabama with a bachelor's degree in public relations.

In addition, Brent Daugherty, formerly the assistant principal for the middle school and upper school, is now the school's dean of technology, and former teacher Wes Lathan is now assistant principal of both the middle school and upper school.



Lathan



May

Sarah May recently joined Springdale Travel as business development manager. She graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis., with a bachelor's degree in communication and rhetorical studies and a master's degree in corporate and public communication from the University of South Alabama. She has more than 10 years of experience in corporate sales.



Newell

Mark A. Newell was named partner with Armbrecht Jackson LLP. He earned a law degree from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University and a bachelor's degree in economics from The University of Alabama.

Sarah May recently joined Springdale Travel as business development manager. She graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis., with a bachelor's degree in communication and rhetorical studies and a master's degree in corporate and public communication from the University of South Alabama. She has more than 10 years of experience in corporate sales.



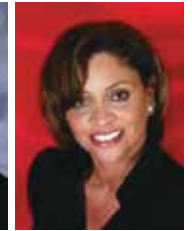
Brown



Reynolds



Morgan



Holloway

Cumulus Broadcasting promoted Angel Brown to vice president market manager for Cumulus Mobile. Brown earned dual bachelor's degrees in communications and public relations from Loyola University in New Orleans.

The company also named Angela Reynolds as local sales manager and Amberly Harris as promotions manager.



Harris



Hargrove Engineers + Constructors appointed Kevin Jackson to lead the engineering department of its Birmingham office.

Prudential Cooper & Co. Inc. REALTORS welcomed new associates, Joseph Morgan and Bridgette Holloway, to the firm's Cottage Hill office.



Burkett



Shell

Alabama Orthopaedic Clinic welcomed two new fellowship-trained orthopaedic surgeons – hand and upper extremity specialist Dr. Jared L. Burkett and foot and ankle specialist Dr. Grant M. Shell.

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Hudson



Green



Harrelson



Sigler

Regions Bank recently hired several new team members.

Rufus Hudson and Scottie Green joined the business banking team as relationship managers. Hudson graduated from the University of Montevallo with a bachelor's degree in political science, and has more



Barrow

than 25 years of banking experience. Green earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Auburn University and has more than 16 years of financial experience.

Hunter Harrelson was hired as a financial consultant in the central Mobile market. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from The University of Alabama.

Kimberley Sigler joined the consumer banking team as manager of the RSA Battle House Branch. Sigler received a bachelor's degree in education from the University of South Alabama and brings more than 10 years of banking experience to this new role.

In other news, Scott Barrow was promoted to area private wealth executive for the South Alabama/Florida Panhandle area. Barrow earned a bachelor's degree in commerce and business administration from The University of Alabama.

Mayor Sandy Stimpson appointed (Ret.) U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Richard B. Landolt executive director of public safety for the City of Mobile. Landolt received his commission via the Navy Reserve

Officers Training Corps unit at the University of Florida, where he earned a bachelor's degree in political science. He also has a master's degree in telecommunications systems management from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif., and is a graduate of the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College.



Wilson



McCarson

White-Spinner Realty hired agents Michael B. Wilson and Meredith L. McCarson. Wilson graduated from Birmingham-Southern College with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is in commercial sales and leasing and will focus on the Eastern Shore. McCarson joined the company's residential sales team and focuses on the Mobile and Saraland areas.

The Grounds hired Brittany Reddit as marketing and business director. Reddit earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Auburn University.



Reddit



Jernigan



Spencer

Emmie Jernigan was named project director for The Women's Business Center's Rural Business Initiative. Jernigan earned bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Auburn University.

In other news, Roslyn Spencer is the training manager for Mobile and Baldwin counties. Spencer earned a bachelor's degree in history from the University of South Alabama.

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BBVA
Compass Bank hired Jamie LeDoux as the global wealth market executive for the Mobile and Pensacola markets. He earned a bachelor's degree in finance at the University of South Alabama and has more than 14 years of financial services experience.



LeDoux



Kristin Buxton joined Expeditors, a global logistics company, as a district sales executive. She graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi with a bachelor's degree in international business and has more than eight years of experience in international logistics.

Kristin Buxton joined Expeditors, a global logistics company, as a district sales executive. She graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi with a bachelor's degree in international business and has more than eight years of experience in international logistics.

Business Endeavors

L.A. Fotographee, a custom photo agency, is now housed at CLR

Studios, 450 Dauphin St. For more information, call 251-366-2426.

Brownell Travel announced the Mobile area now has a TSA pre-check center, qualifying domestic travelers for an expedited security line where they don't have to remove hats, coats, shoes, belts and laptops. The UES Enrollment Center is located at 1505 Telegraph Rd. in Chickasaw, and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for more information, call 855-347-8371.

Mobile County broke ground in June on the \$7 million Baytown Senior Village, 48 housing units for low- to moderate-income senior citizens at 4291 McCrary Rd. in Semmes. The development will consist of 24 one-bedroom and 24 two-bedroom residential units, and a community building/leasing office.

Brand Energy Solutions opened a Mobile office at 3512 Brookdale Dr. S. to serve its industrial and commercial clients from Pascagoula, Miss., to northwest Florida. The company contracts multi-craft services such as scaffolding, insulation and painting.

Well Done



Dr. Judy Lipka of West Chiropractic Center PC was selected the 2014 Alabama Chiropractor of the Year by the Alabama State Chiropractic Association. Lipka received a doctorate of chiropractic from Life Chiropractic College in Hayward, Calif., and became a certified chiropractic sports physician in 1994.



Archie J. LeGrone of Merrill Lynch/The Whiting Group earned the certified financial planner certification. LeGrone received a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of South Alabama.

Mobile's Original Oyster House and The Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites of Daphne

received the TripAdvisor® Certificate of Excellence award for consistent hospitality excellence.

Accounting lecturer **Lisa McKinney** of The University of Alabama's Culverhouse College of Commerce was recognized with the Outstanding Accounting Educator Award from the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants. The award is given for excellence in the classroom and contributions to the accounting profession.



McKinney

For the 13th consecutive year, the **Mobile Area Water and Sewer System (MAWSS)** C.C. Williams Wastewater Treatment Plant was recognized for perfect regulatory compliance by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA). The MAWSS Wright Smith Jr. Wastewater Treatment Plant was honored for 11 perfect years. Both plants received Platinum Peak Performance awards from NACWA.

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Morrow Dees

Ron Morrow and Mike Dees of Prudential Cooper & Co. Inc. REALTORS received the Realtor Emeritus Award from the National Association of Realtors for 40 consecutive years of service. Morrow is the broker and general manager for Prudential Cooper and Dees is the manager of its Southern Timberlands Division.



The National Association of Counties recognized Mobile County's Homeless Prevention Project as "Best Of" in the category of Human Services. The project identifies people on the verge of becoming homeless and takes necessary steps to keep them in their homes. To date, 508 cases have been closed.



Hand Arendall LLC announced T. Massey Bedsole, an original name partner and active member for more

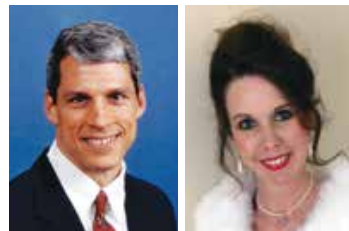
than 60 years, was recently named to the Alabama Lawyers' Hall of Fame by the Alabama State Bar Association. He also served in the U.S. Navy during WWII.

Community News



St. Clair

Springhill Medical Center President and Chief Executive Officer Jeff St. Clair was recognized for his community work by the American Heart Association. St. Clair chaired the Heart Walk for two consecutive years and served as past chair of the Mobile Heart Ball.



Mobley Daves

In June, The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) named

Bob Mobley and Ashley Daves its 2014 South Alabama Man and Woman of the Year. Mobley, a leukemia survivor who works at Hargrove Engineers + Constructors, raised more than \$40,000; and Daves, the mother of leukemia survivor Michael Daves, raised more than \$39,000. This year's event honored 3-year-old William "Shepherd" Hall and 7-year-old Ella Beth Barlow, the little Boy and Girl of the Year.



Junior League of Mobile (JLM) recently inducted its new board of directors for 2014-15. The incoming board includes Chandra Brown Stewart, president; Angie Gullede, president-elect; Renie Baya Kennemer, vice president of communications; Dot Havard, vice president of community; Nancy Erwin, vice president of finance; Kelly Warren, vice president of membership development; Talma Carstarphen, vice president of planning and research; Amanda Tyler, treasurer; Kinette Crain, recording secretary; Tracy Richards, governance chair; January Taylor, nominating chair; Krystle Hinton, strategic planning and research chair; and Megan Conwell sustaining representative.

In other news, JLM awarded a total of \$6,500 to three nonprofit organizations and four high school students.

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.



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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View the complete membership directory at www.mobilechamber.com.

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