Who Will You Thank This Week?

Network Educator | Gulf Coast Networking | Thursday, November 12, 2026

A thank-you note costs a stamp and earns a callback. Thanksgiving gives you the perfect reason to send one.

1 TIP OF THE WEEK: THANK THREE PEOPLE BEFORE THANKSGIVING

Pick three people who sent you work, gave advice, or opened a door this year. Write each one a short note by hand. Name what they did and what it meant to your business. A new owner gains a warm reason to reconnect. A seasoned owner reminds a referral source why the relationship matters.

At events: Ask one person, "Who helped your business most this year?" Then listen. The answer tells you who they trust.

2 NEXT 8 DAYS: NOV 12-19 (FREE OR LOW-COST)

Date	Time	Event and Place	Host
★ Thu Nov 12	5-8 PM	**Taste of Long Beach, Harper McCaughan Town Green, 301 Jeff Davis Ave, Long Beach. Local restaurants, live music, silent auction. $50.**	**Long Beach Chamber**
★ Fri Nov 13	7:30-9:30 AM	**44th Annual Salute to the Military, Beau Rivage, 875 Beach Blvd, Biloxi. Individual ticket $50.**	**MS Gulf Coast Chamber**
Sat Nov 14	11 AM-3 PM	Bud & Burgers in the Bay, Historic Train Depot, Bay St. Louis. $15 early bird online until noon Fri Nov 13; $20 at the gate. Business team entry $100.	Hancock Chamber
Wed Nov 18	4-4:30 PM	Ribbon cutting, Trillium Medical Aesthetics, 2033 E Pass Rd, Gulfport. Free.	MS Gulf Coast Chamber
★ Thu Nov 19	4:30-6:30 PM	**Business After Hours and Open House, Coast Aesthetics & Coast Wellness, 2780 Bienville Blvd, Ocean Springs.**	**Jackson County Chamber**
Thu Nov 19	Noon; 5:30 PM	Ribbon cutting, Caffeine Express'O, Gautier (noon). CYP Bonfire on the Beach, 100 Front Beach Dr, Ocean Springs (5:30-7:30; free for CYP members).	MS Gulf Coast Chamber
Nov 12-19	Noon	Gulfport Rotary (Thu). Gulfport-Orange Grove Rotary (Mon Nov 16). Biloxi Rotary (Tue Nov 17). Edgewater, Ocean Springs, and Bay St. Louis Rotary; Gulfport Kiwanis (Wed Nov 18).	Civic clubs

★ Top 3 picks. *Civic clubs welcome guests; lunch at your own cost. Details and links on page 2.*

3 COMING UP: NOV 20-DEC 3

- **Fri Nov 20:** Bay Connects on the Rue, 135 Rue Magnolia, Biloxi (4-7 PM). Hancock Chamber 100th birthday, Bay St. Louis (noon). Ribbon cuttings in Gulfport and Ocean Springs.
- **Sat Nov 21:** Edgewater Rotary Blood Drive and International Men's Day, Edgewater Mall (free). Cuts and Checkups for Veterans, 443 Security Square, Gulfport (10 AM-2 PM, free).
- **Thanksgiving week, Nov 23-27:** Chamber calendars go quiet. Biloxi Rotary skips Nov 24. Edgewater Rotary holds an evening social in place of lunch Wed Nov 25.
- **Tue Dec 1:** Long Beach Breakfast with the Mayor, Coterie (8 AM; $40 members). HYP Emerging Leaders Social, Bay St. Louis (8:30 AM). Chamber Champions 2027 Kickoff, Gulfport (3:30 PM).
- **Thu Dec 3, 5-7 PM:** Chamber After 5: Brews & Bytes with AGJ Systems & Networks, 14257 Dedeaux Rd, Gulfport. Complimentary.

4 2027 SEATS THAT MAY SUIT BUSINESS OWNERS

Business owners bring budget sense and local ties to these posts.

- **Key dates:** Qualifying opens early January and ends 5 PM Mon Feb 1, 2027. Primary Tue Aug 3, 2027. General Tue Nov 2, 2027. County candidates qualify with the county Circuit Clerk.
- **Election Commissioner, Districts 2 and 4 (Harrison and Jackson):** one-time 3-year term; D1, 3, 5 follow in 2028.
- **Board of Supervisors, Districts 1-5:** county budget, roads, and economic development. **County offices:** Justice Court Judge (nonpartisan), Constable, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Chancery Clerk. **Legislature:** State House and Senate seats on the Coast.

  Confirm details with your county Circuit Clerk.

Thank three people before Thanksgiving. Watch who calls you back.

Extended Information: Event Links and Details, Nov 12-Dec 3, 2026

For the GCN website | Gulf Coast Networking

Details pulled from host calendars Wed Nov 11, 2026. Times and places may change; confirm on the host page before you go. Thursday-morning events are left out because they overlap the GCN meeting.

All MS Gulf Coast Chamber events: Chamber calendar https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar

A NEXT 8 DAYS: NOV 12-19

★ **17th Annual Taste of Long Beach | Thu Nov 12, 5-8 PM**
Harper McCaughan Town Green, 301 Jeff Davis Ave, Long Beach. Host: Long Beach Chamber (listed on the MS Gulf Coast Chamber calendar). $50. Food from local restaurants, music by Bruce Smelley, and a silent auction of more than $20,000 in items. **Why attend:** A large community evening; proceeds support Long Beach small businesses. ▸https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=A1faDxSbbyih%7cH3S1eOV8Q2

★ **44th Annual Salute to the Military | Fri Nov 13, 7:30-9:30 AM**
Beau Rivage Resort & Casino, 875 Beach Blvd, Biloxi. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Individual ticket $50 (per the chamber page checked Nov 4); sponsor tables available. **Why attend:** A signature chamber breakfast that honors the military community. ▸https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=5iHMdiw7orNAAf2JItZDYg2

Bud & Burgers in the Bay | Sat Nov 14, 11 AM-3 PM
Historic Train Depot, 1928 Depot Way, Bay St. Louis. Host: Hancock Chamber, with the Krewe of Nereids Mermaids Arts & Crafts Show. Online early bird $15 until noon Fri Nov 13; $20 adults at the gate; $5 children 5-12. Business team entry $100 (15 teams); sponsorships $250-$1,000. **Why attend:** Put a business team in front of a festival crowd. ▸https://business.hancockchamber.org/chamber-calendar/Details/bud-burgers-in-the-bay-presale-tickets-1970332 ▸https://business.hancockchamber.org/chamber-calendar/Details/bud-burgers-in-the-bay-team-and-sponsor-registration-1588617

Ribbon Cutting: Trillium Medical Aesthetics | Wed Nov 18, 4-4:30 PM
2033 E Pass Rd, Gulfport. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Free. **Why attend:** A short late-afternoon room in Gulfport. ▸https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=eN1vVnFHOP8e1eo_Z9gfEw2

Ribbon Cutting: Caffeine Express'O | Thu Nov 19, noon-12:30 PM
1111 US Hwy 90, Gautier (about 30 miles from Gulfport). Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Free. **Why attend:** A short midday room in Jackson County. ▸https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=99cJ8ITKxPGr011VqAK4DA2

★ **Business After Hours: Coast Aesthetics & Coast Wellness | Thu Nov 19, 4:30-6:30 PM**
2780 Bienville Blvd, Ocean Springs. Host: Jackson County Chamber. Business After Hours and open house. Cost: confirm with host. **Why attend:** The Jackson County Chamber's evening mixer, close to Gulfport. ▸https://business.jcchamber.com/events/details/business-after-hours-coast-aesthetics-coast-wellness-2196

CYP Bonfire on the Beach | Thu Nov 19, 5:30-7:30 PM
100 Front Beach Dr, Ocean Springs. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber (Coast Young Professionals). Complimentary for CYP members; potential members may register. **Why attend:** Young professionals, s'mores, and a bonfire by the water. ▸https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=D8I2LbhMTOEVeUc0Y_ugnA2

Teacher Appreciation Dinner & Classroom Grants | Thu Nov 19, 4:30-7 PM
Bay St. Louis Community Hall. Host: Hancock Chamber Education Committee. Theme: Launch the Future. **Why attend:** Support Hancock County teachers alongside chamber members. ▸https://business.hancockchamber.org/chamber-calendar/Details/teacher-appreciation-dinner-classroom-grants-program-1849670

B COMING UP: NOV 20-DEC 3

Bay Connects on the Rue | Fri Nov 20, 4-7 PM
Rue Magnolia, 135 Rue Magnolia, Biloxi. Host: Biloxi Bay Area Chamber. Cost: confirm with host (228-435-6149). **Why attend:** A downtown Biloxi evening with the Biloxi Bay Area Chamber. ▸https://www.biloxibayareachamber.org/events/bay-connects-on-the-rue/

Ribbon Cuttings: MS Aviation Heritage Museum; Gulf Coast Pack & Ship | Fri Nov 20, 10 AM; 1 PM
429 Pass Rd, Gulfport; 15007 Creosote Rd, Gulfport. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Free. **Why attend:** Two short rooms on one day. ▸https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=KuRI5cBE5Rd_xcWb7oGkOw2 ▸https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=wmoIWCYn6fe8Zr35E6FsLQ2

Ribbon Cutting: Jackson County Red Kettle Campaign | Fri Nov 20, 10-11 AM
Community Bank, 2314 Bienville Blvd, Ocean Springs. Host: Jackson County Chamber. **Why attend:** Kick off the Salvation Army's holiday drive. ▸https://business.jcchamber.com/events/details/ribbon-cutting-jackson-county-red-kettle-campaign-2197

Hancock Chamber Birthday and Historic Marker Unveiling | Fri Nov 20, noon-1:30 PM
Chamber office, 300 S Second St, Bay St. Louis. Host: Hancock Chamber. Open house. **Why attend:** Mark 100 years since the Bay St. Louis Rotary Club founded the chamber. ▸https://business.hancockchamber.org/chamber-calendar/Details/chamber-s-birthday-celebration-and-unveiling-of-historic-marker-1976687

Edgewater Rotary Fall Blood Drive | Sat Nov 21, 9 AM-3 PM
Edgewater Mall, Biloxi. Host: Edgewater Rotary. **Why attend:** A volunteer team day with a civic club. ▸https://rotary6840.org/clubInfo/edgewater-(biloxi-gulfport)

International Men's Day 2026 | Sat Nov 21, 9 AM-3 PM
Edgewater Mall, Biloxi. Host: Omega Lamplighters of the MS Gulf Coast (chamber member event). Free. Breakfast, health fair, career and college fair, and a blood drive. **Why attend:** Meet employers, educators, and mentors in one place. ▸https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=cg1dUj7XIs%7czLhoJbRFGDA2

Cuts and Checkups for Veterans | Sat Nov 21, 10 AM-2 PM
443 Security Square, Gulfport. Host: Crusaders for Veterans (chamber member event). Free for veterans and service members; bring a DoD ID, VA ID, or DD214. **Why attend:** A service-minded crowd; volunteers welcome. ▸https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=O3l3O_qSOMNLoTzCngA3oQ2

Thanksgiving week: The MS Gulf Coast, Biloxi Bay Area, and Hancock chamber calendars show a break Nov 21-30. Biloxi Rotary skips its Nov 24 meeting. Edgewater Rotary holds its evening social in place of lunch Wed Nov 25. Bay St. Louis Rotary's satellite club meets Tue Nov 24, 6:30 PM, at La Chula.

Long Beach Breakfast with the Mayor | Tue Dec 1, 8-9 AM
Coterie Long Beach, 300 Beach Blvd, Long Beach. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Members $40; non-members $50. State of the City address and Citizen of the Year awards. **Why attend:** Breakfast and a city update. ▸https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=cqm2o9xQWx%7crhDV8LRlPsw2

HYP Emerging Leaders Social | Tue Dec 1, 8:30-10 AM

Business Resource Center, 300 S Second St, Bay St. Louis. Host: Hancock Chamber (Hancock Young Professionals). **Why attend:** Launch of the young professionals' year. ▶https://business.hancockchamber.org/chamber-calendar/Details/hyp-emerging-leaders-social-1916414

Chamber Champions 2027 Kickoff | Tue Dec 1, 3:30-4:30 PM

Knight Nonprofit Center, 11975 Seaway Rd, Gulfport. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. For employees of chamber members in good standing; register. **Why attend:** Learn how chamber ambassadors meet new members first. ▶https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=TSjyWeDeiD3VOZzcd9V1JA2

MS Coast Real Estate Investors Association | Tue Dec 1, 6 PM

Monthly meeting; location on the group page. Host: MS Coast REIA (Meetup). **Why attend:** Meet investors, lenders, and contractors. ▶ https://www.meetup.com/find/?location=us--ms--Gulfport&source=EVENTS&categoryId=405

Chamber After 5: Brews & Bytes with AGJ Systems & Networks | Thu Dec 3, 5-7 PM

14257 Dedeaux Rd, Gulfport. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Complimentary. **Why attend:** An after-work chamber mixer. ▶ https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=Pwpwy1UnlB8ZE2kJzfn73w2

Ribbon Cutting: Le Diva's Closet | Thu Dec 3, 4-5 PM

Host: Hancock Chamber. Place: confirm on the event page. **Why attend:** A short Hancock County room. ▶https://business.hancockchamber.org/chamber-calendar/Details/ribbon-cutting-le-diva-s-closet-1968099

LOOKING AHEAD

Gulf Blue Networking, Wed Dec 9 (second Wednesdays, Gulf & Ship Island Building, Gulfport). Business After Hours at The Club at Diamondhead, Wed Dec 9, 5-7 PM. CYP Holiday Soiree, Thu Dec 10. Gulfport Chamber Annual Mayor's Address, Fri Dec 11 ($50 members; $60 general). ▶ https://www.gulfblue.org/networking/

CIVIC CLUBS THAT WELCOME GUESTS

Lunch at your own cost. Call ahead where noted, and call ahead Thanksgiving week.

- **Rotary Club of Gulfport:** Thursdays noon, Great Southern Club, 2510 14th St, 15th Floor. ▶https://rotaryclubofgulfport.org/
- **Biloxi Rotary:** Tuesdays noon, Mary Mahoney's, 116 Rue Magnolia; skips Nov 24. ▶https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/rotary-club-of-biloxi
- **Edgewater Rotary:** Wednesdays noon, Jalapeno Grill, 5 Pass Rd, Gulfport; evening social in place of lunch Nov 25. ▶https://rotary6840.org/clubInfo/edgewater-(biloxi-gulfport)
- **Gulfport-Orange Grove Rotary:** 1st & 3rd Mondays noon (Nov 16, Dec 7), Coast Electric, 14082 Hwy 49 N. ▶https://rotary6840.org/clubInfo/gulfport-orange-grove
- **Ocean Springs Rotary:** Wednesdays noon, Ocean Springs Yacht Club, 100 Front Beach Dr; Nov 18 program: Navigating Loss. ▶ https://rotary6840.org/clubInfo/ocean-springs
- **Pass Christian Rotary:** Thursdays noon, Pass Christian Yacht Club, 120 S Market St (call ahead). ▶https://www.rotary6840.org/clubinfo/pass-christian
- **Long Beach Rotary:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 6 PM (Nov 24, Dec 8), Bulls' Restaurant, Jeff Davis Ave (call ahead). ▶https://rotary6840.org/clubInfo/long-beach
- **Bay St. Louis Rotary:** Wednesdays noon, Bay Waveland Yacht Club; satellite club Tue Nov 24, 6:30 PM, La Chula. ▶https://rotary6840.org/clubInfo/bay-st-louis
- **Gulfport Kiwanis:** Wednesdays noon, Great Southern Club, 2510 14th St. ▶https://mscoastchamber.chambermaster.com/members/member/gulfport-kiwanis-9874
- **Exchange Club of Gulfport:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays noon (Nov 24), Golden Corral, 12255 Hwy 49 (call ahead). ▶https://member.nationalexchangeclub.org/club-locator/
- **Bienville Toastmasters:** 2nd & 4th Mondays 6 PM (Nov 23), 796 Howard Ave, Biloxi, rear entrance; guests welcome. ▶https://9990.toastmastersclubs.org/

FREE ONLINE LEARNING

SCORE webinars (CT, free): What Business Should You Be In?, Thu Nov 12, 6 PM. Value Creation Through Innovation, Sat Nov 14, 9 AM. Craft a Winning Business Plan, Mon Nov 16, 5 PM. Finish Strong: Drive Revenue in November and December, Tue Nov 17, 9 AM. How They Buy: Selling to the Four Personality Styles, Tue Nov 17, 11 AM. Develop an Unshakable Mindset, Wed Nov 18, 6 PM. Email Marketing Quick Start, Thu Nov 19, 4 PM. Unlock Business Funding, Tue Nov 24, 5 PM. Ethics and Risk with AI, Mon Nov 30, noon. AI on LinkedIn, Mon Nov 30, 5 PM. ▶https://www.score.org/ms/business-education/

2027 ELECTIONS: OFFICIAL RESOURCES

Key dates: Qualifying ends 5 PM Mon Feb 1, 2027. Primary Tue Aug 3. General Tue Nov 2. File with the county Circuit Clerk.

- MS SOS 2026 County Election Handbook https://www.sos.ms.gov/content/documents/elections/2026%20County%20Election%20Handbook.revised%2012-30-2025.pdf
- Mississippi Secretary of State: Elections https://www.sos.ms.gov/elections-voting
- Harrison County Election Commission https://harrisoncountyms.gov/government/election_commission/index.php
- Jackson County Election Commission https://www.co.jackson.ms.us/334/Election-Commission