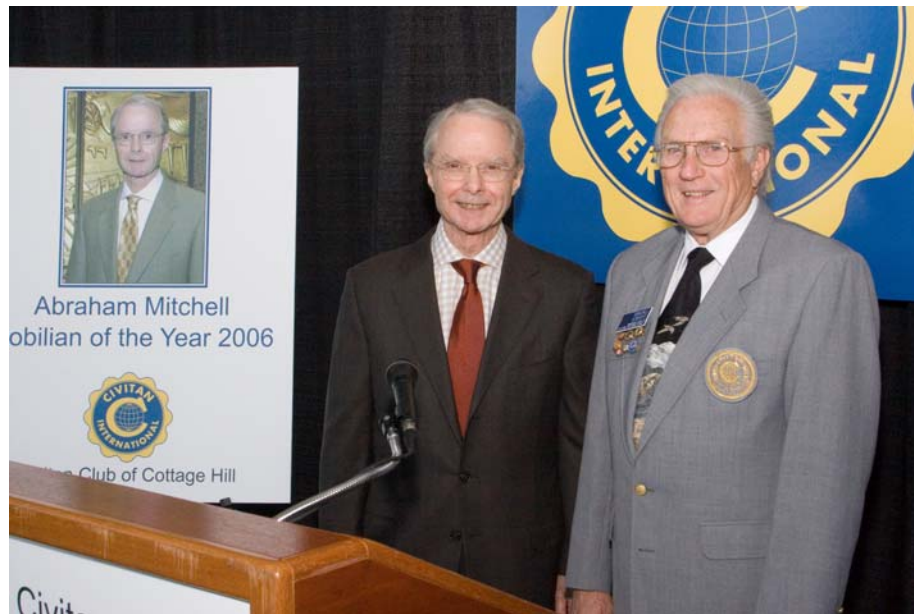




CIVITAN CLUB OF COTTAGE HILL, Inc.
2901 Grant Street Apt. 303
Mobile, AL 36606

Contact: Randy Eckhoff, club president-elect
(251) 666-1973
eckhoff@juno.com

Businessman and Philanthropist Abraham Mitchell Named 2006 Mobilian of the Year



Randy Eckhoff, right, president-elect of the Civitan Club of Cottage Hill, congratulates 2006 Mobilian of the Year Abraham "Abe" Mitchell, a local businessman and philanthropist whose generosity to the University of South Alabama's cancer research program and business college has made him one of the state's leading philanthropists in higher education. The Mobilian of the Year Banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27 at the Mitchell Center. For tickets, contact Eckhoff at (251) 666-1973 or eckhoff@juno.com.

Businessman and philanthropist Abraham "Abe" Mitchell, whose generosity to the University of South Alabama's cancer research program and business college has made him one of the state's leading philanthropists to higher education, has been named 2006 Mobilian of the Year by the Civitan Club of Cottage Hill.

Mitchell's philanthropy also extends to a wide range of arts, recreation, education, social services, health and community needs.

As Mobile's most prestigious civic honor, the Mobilian of the Year award has been given annually since 1948 to an individual who has made an extraordinary, positive impact on the Mobile community. The Mobilian of the Year Banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27 at the Mitchell Center at the University of South Alabama.

The Civitan Club of Mobile sponsored the Mobilian of the Year program from 1948 until this year, when the Civitan Club of Cottage Hill began sponsorship.

"Abe Mitchell has been a tireless supporter of the University of South Alabama and the community at large for many, many years," said Randy Eckhoff, president-elect of the Civitan Club of Cottage Hill. "The Civitan Club of Cottage Hill is pleased to honor this generous, civic-minded Mobilian."

Banquet tickets are available by contacting Eckhoff at (251) 666-1973 or eckhoff@juno.com or Carolyn Lee at (251) 476-9891.

Abraham Mitchell: Business Visionary and Philanthropist

A native Mobilian, Mitchell has had a long and successful business career that has forever improved the economic climate of Mobile and the Gulf Coast. In the 1950s, he and his brother, Mayer, co-founded what would become one of the Southeast's largest real estate companies, specializing in single-family homes, apartments and shopping centers. The Mitchell Company grew into one of Mobile's largest employers and remains vibrant today, more than 20 years after the retirement of its founders.

Currently, Mitchell co-owns Mitchell Brothers Inc., which focuses on investments and philanthropic support of the community.

In addition to his business accomplishments, Mitchell is one of the state's leading philanthropists in support of higher education, with his family providing more than \$36.6 million to the University of South Alabama. Abraham, Mayer and Arlene Mitchell's gift of \$22 million to support USA's cancer research institute resulted in the naming of the "Mitchell Cancer Institute" in their honor in early 2006.

Mitchell has endowed USA's Mitchell College of Business. He played a major role in the renovation of the business school and the addition of a business library and resource center. He has funded the largest private scholarship program at USA, providing full academic scholarships to 20 superior business students annually, as well as funding a challenge grant program to support faculty chairs in business. He assisted with funds to build the Mitchell Center arena and has supported USA athletics in numerous ways. He has endowed three faculty chairs in the USA College of Medicine in radiology, cardiology and cancer research.

His philanthropy has supported numerous higher education institutions including Spring Hill College, University of Mobile, Bishop State Community College, University of Alabama, University of Rochester, George Washington University, and the University of Pennsylvania, where he served for 10 years on the board of the Wharton School of Business. Mr. Mitchell also has supported UMS-Wright Preparatory School and its band program.

Mitchell is heavily involved in sustained philanthropic support of a wide range of cultural endeavors including: Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center, Mobile Public Library, Mobile Arts Council, Mobile Ballet, Centre for the Living Arts, Alabama Contemporary Dance, Mobile Symphony, Mobile Opera, Art Patrons League, Mobile Museum of Art, Touchdown Club, WHIL, Alabama Public Television, America's Junior Miss, and many others.

He has given to a wide range of community health and human service programs including: Child Advocacy Center, Penelope House, Boys and Girls Clubs, Senior Citizens Services, United Cerebral Palsy, Preschool for the Sensory Impaired, Dumas Wesley Community Center, Infirmary Foundation for Alzheimer's Scholars, Alabama Eye Bank, Alabama Child Caring Foundation, Mobile Association for Retarded Citizens, Mobile Mental Health Center, Multiple Sclerosis Society, Muscular Dystrophy Association, Ronald McDonald House, Arthritis Foundation, Survivors of Mental Illness, Fund to Cure Asthma, American Heart Association, American Cancer Society, Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, Boy and Girl Scouts, Camp Rap-A-Hope, Child Day Care Association, Drug Education Council, March of Dimes, Make-A-Wish Foundation, DHR Foster Care Endowment, Lions/USA Eye Research, Wilmer Hall, UNICEF African Children's Relief Fund, St. James Major Catholic Church, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Crippled Children's Foundation, Contact Mobile, and United Way.

Mitchell has created a major match funding program through Community Foundation of South Alabama.

He is active in Congregation Ahavas Chesed, where he is Leisure Club chairman and served on the building committee.

Mitchell attended the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania. He received an LL.B. degree in law from the University of Alabama and an LL.M. (Taxation) degree from the New York University School of Law. In addition to his business career, he served as interim district attorney for Mobile County.

Civitan International

Civitan International is devoted to improving the lives of children and adults with developmental disabilities. Civitan International Clubs enrich communities across the globe by sponsoring summer camps, vocational programs and Special Olympics. Civitan International Research Center focuses its scientific energies on developing cutting-edge treatments for autism, cerebral palsy and Alzheimer's disease.

The Civitan Club of Cottage Hill

The Civitan Club of Cottage Hill has worked with many local charities over the years. The group supports Augusta Evans Special School and the school's Special Olympics Weight-Lifting Team. It has also given time and resources to the Mulherin Home, United Cerebral Palsy's Camp Smile, Mobile Association for Retarded Citizens, Penelope House and Wilmer Hall Children's Home. The group also sponsors Junior Civitan clubs at local area high schools, training the next generation in civic involvement.

Since 1948, area Civitan clubs have championed civic involvement through the Mobilian of the Year award, the most prestigious and longest-running award in the region.