

## **LEE MALLETT**

*Owner/President, Mallett Buildings*

Chester “Lee” Mallett is a well-established businessman in Southwest Louisiana, Lake Charles region. He has started numerous companies and currently owns one of the only truss manufacturing plants in the state. From 2006 to 2009, Lee was appointed by Gov. Blanco to the board of Louisiana’s Citizen Insurance Company. In 2010, Gov. Jindal appointed him to the State License Board of Contractors, he was reappointed by Gov. Edwards in 2010 and is still serving today.

Not only is Mallett a very well respected businessman, he is also an avid social reformer. One of his greatest achievements is the creation and operation of The Academy of Training Skills or ATS. The ATS is the first pilot program of its kind. Opened in 2008, the ATS houses up to 200 Cadets and is an alternative for individuals who are wndagered of going to prison. People, who have non-violent or non-sexual offenses, are given an opportunity to noy only surpass prison, but train in a multitude of a certified training programs. The AtS is completely self-sufficient and does not receive and public funding. All monies are appropriated through a tuition paid by the cadet or third party. One of the greatest qualities of ATS is that it provides the necessary path for individuals who are looking for something to help lead them away from prison and become skilled citizens. Since the ATS is an alternative to prison, these people are removed from the tax-payer-based system and placed into the private sector, which helps alleviate the stress on an already stretched correctional system. In 2016 ATS became Sanctuary Louisiana, which is now a private 40-bed dormitory residential treatment center for adult men struggling with alcoholism, drug abuse and co-occurring disorders. The ATS program still exists, but it is now referred to as Genesis Life. Originally located in Southwest Louisiana, there are plans to expand as the census numbers grow.