



NEWS & VIEWS

April 2021 Volume 41 Issue 4

April 13 Luncheon Christopher Nanni, President & CEO of The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham

Chris and his family are excited to make the Birmingham area their home. He believes that philanthropy is an essential tool in addressing critical issues. He is interested in evolving the Community Foundation’s grant making to be proactive in resolving community problems. Given the incredible generosity of our community and manageability of our issues, Chris believes the Foundation is strategically poised to help build a more just, prosperous and equitable community.



Chris joined the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham as President and CEO in February 2014. As the largest foundation in the state with assets of more than \$230 million, the Community Foundation connects philanthropists, nonprofits and engaged leaders to build a stronger more vibrant future for the five-county Greater Birmingham area. The Foundation’s mission is to, “ignite passion for transformational change.”

Chris has over 30 years of experience in nonprofit and community work and a deep-seated passion for philanthropy. Contributing to his effectiveness in the foundation realm are the many years he has spent in the non-profit sector running organizations and programs dealing with such issues as addictions, homelessness, poverty, and education. One of the most impactful experiences was the two-and-a-half years he spent in the Dominican Republic doing mission work along the Haitian border.

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LUNCHEON SPONSOR

Progress Bank

At Progress Bank, innovation leads to the very best banking relationship you’ve ever had. Expect uncomplicated banking from smart bankers and good listeners who respond with an insightful solution that’s just for you. We’re committed to giving back to our community, passionate about sparking the progress of local businesses, and dedicated to being something more than just another bank—something different, better and truly positive for everyone we serve.



Progress Bank was formed in 2007 as the only state-chartered, locally-owned and managed bank in Huntsville and Decatur, Alabama. The initial leadership team, which has over 120 years of combined banking experience, includes four executives who are still with Progress today. The strength we derived from our local network and connections allowed us to merge with First Partners Bank in 2017. With the merger, we opened branches in Birmingham, Vestavia and Destin. After gaining experience in the Destin market, we were able to open additional Florida offices in Inlet Beach in 2018 and Santa Rosa Beach in 2020. To aid in the growth of our loan portfolio and bridge the gap

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I am excited that April will be our first in-person Chamber Luncheon since our last luncheon in March 2020. As we look back what has happened over the last 13 months, the business landscape has been forever impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic. I am hopeful that as we continue to move to more in-person activities we will continue to take precautions to protect our families and our business community.



John Henley

I feel fortunate I have received my first vaccination and that my immediate family has also received their vaccines. I looked back at my April 2020 newsletter and here is a short excerpt from that newsletter:

“We now have new vocabulary terms, such as social distancing and sheltering in place. These words and phrases have been given to us over the past 30 days and are part of our daily conversation now and for the foreseeable future.”

When I wrote these words a year ago, I did not know how true these comments would be. I know many of us have been impacted by the pandemic, personally and financially, but I ask that you continue to support our local businesses as we move forward. As I said earlier, there will be many long-term impacts of what has transpired over the last 13 months, but we need to continue to shop local and support our local businesses. The owners of these businesses are our friends and neighbors, and they depend on us to make their businesses successful.

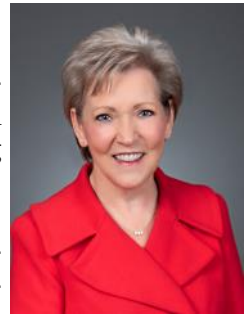
I look forward to the continued ribbon cuttings, open houses, and other events we will have for the remainder of 2021.

Thanks again to the Chamber staff and the Chamber Board of Directors. They have continued to find new ways to help our businesses through these uncertain times. Please keep update on the Chamber website and multiple social media outlets for all of our upcoming events.

John Henley
John Henley-State Farm Insurance
Board Chair, 2021

From the President...

WOW! What a difference a year makes! This time last year we were scrambling to see how to best serve our membership as we had all just closed down the offices and had begun working remotely and how to keep our community supporting the businesses here.



Karen Odle

Normally we would have the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast this month but I had to either confirm or change the date back in February and when I had to make the call, with the unknown of where we would be with the pandemic, I rescheduled it for August 24th. We could have probably done it in April but with the planning and work that goes into it, I didn't want to have to change it again (last year I changed it 5 times trying to get it in!). With that said, I am delighted that Brodie Croyle with Big Oak Ranch is still on tap to be our speaker so for now, save the date of August 24th and look for additional information regarding tickets in the next couple of months.

We will be moving forward with our I Love America event on June 24th back at Wald Park (YEA!) and will also be celebrating the opening of the Grand Lawn there with a ribbon cutting prior to the kickoff of I Love America. Look for details coming soon. If you would like to serve on this committee, we would love to have you. Just pop an email to chamber@vestaviiahills.org and we will let you know when our first planning meeting will be scheduled.

I am so excited to let you know that we will be having our first "back-in-person" Chamber luncheon at Vestavia Country Club on April 13th with networking beginning at 11:30 AM and the meeting beginning at Noon and adjourn by 1:00.....just like old times! However, there will be some changes. Masks are optional; we will only seat 5 per table in lieu of the 10 we used to do; reservations are required and payment is required in advance or we will be glad to invoice you if that is preferred but we will NOT have a check-in table where money will be exchanged or payments made so be sure and either pay online or call our office to pay over the phone and we can email you a copy of your receipt. That also will preclude us from allowing walk-ins. There will not be business spotlight tables yet but we will bring them back in the near future when we think it will be safe to do so. Lastly, although we will have a buffet, we will have servers to serve us so we won't be serving ourselves as we have done in the past. Again, this is something we will also monitor

Stay tuned for other announcements to be made in the near future. We are monitoring any changes that Jefferson County may make in regards to the mask mandate. We know that Governor Ivey is terminating the State mandate effective April 9th but Jefferson County has their own health department that is allowed to make separate rulings from the state so we are watching that. We are aware that Birmingham is going to continue in their city limits requiring masks. In the meantime, please support our area businesses....they need us but we also need them to be successful more than ever as we strive together for "A Life Above".

Unity. Prosperity. Family.

Karen J. Odle
President

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Chris has a Master's Degree in social work from the University of Chicago and a Master's in cross-cultural theology from Catholic Theological Union. He earned his bachelor's degree in theology and Computer Applications from the University of Notre Dame where he was a walk-on for the men's basketball team.

Originally from Buffalo, NY, Chris met his wife, Allison, while at Notre Dame. They have three children: Marcello, Louie and Maria. They reside in Homewood and are excited to live and work in the Birmingham area.

In-Person Luncheons Return April 13!

The April 13 luncheon will be at the Vestavia Country Club, 400 Beaumont Drive, with networking at 11:30 and the program at noon. Reservations cost \$20 must be made by 4 PM Friday, April 9, 2021. Reservations may be made by visiting www.vestaviiahills.org or by calling 823-5011.

Please Note:

-RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Space is limited to 150 people. **We will NOT be taking walk-ins this month.**

-Seating will be limited to 5 people per table.

-Country Club staff will be serving the food in the buffet line.

-We will NOT be taking payment at the door. Please pay online or call the office with a credit card prior to the luncheon, or we can send you an invoice afterwards.

Please remember the Vestavia Country Club policy of NO JEANS in the ballroom where we hold our monthly luncheons.

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between Birmingham and Northwest Florida, a Deposit and Loan Production Office was also opened in Daphne, AL, in Fall 2020.

Our eleven locations and more than 200 employees have helped Progress Bank grow to be one of the strongest in the nation, receiving a 5-star rating from Bauer Financial for consecutive quarters since 2012.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please support our newest Chamber members and remember to 'Shop Vestavia Hills First'!!

- ◆ Divas in Defense Birmingham
Ellen Roberts
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
(205) 518-1115
Category: Personal Trainer

- ◆ Cookie Fix
Amy Jason
3152 Heights Village
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
(205) 848-8001
www.cookiefix.com
Category: Bakery

- ◆ J + J Flooring
Debbie Deason
4212 Autumn Lane
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
1-800-241-4586
www.jjflooring.com
Category: Flooring

Refer & Win

To be entered in the 2021 Second Quarter Refer and Win prize drawing, simply refer someone to the chamber who joins as a new member. Contact the chamber's Membership and Marketing Consultant, Lisa Christopher at 862-3445 or email lisac@vestaviiahills.org. Lisa will be happy to provide complete membership information to your prospects and will diligently try to "close the deal" so you can be included in the 2021 Second Quarter drawing for **a \$250 gift card to Troup's Pizza!** See why Troup's Pizza is #MoreThanJustPizza and your new favorite neighborhood restaurant. We offer savory sandwiches, amazing appetizers, yummy brunch items, divine salads and so much more. And yes, there are plenty of pizzas to try. Bring your friends for lunch or enjoy the patio and dine outdoors. Are you ready to #BeATrouper? Visit us today!





Trustee Spotlight




Steve Smith-SouthPoint Bank

In 2005, Steve Smith founded SouthPoint Bank on the notion that families and businesses deserved a local community bank relationship to manage their finances. After 22 years of service at SouthTrust Bank, Smith left when Charlotte-based Wachovia Corporation purchased the formerly Birmingham-based SouthTrust. He recruited other interested former SouthTrust co-workers, shared his ideas, and in March 2004, submitted an application to state and federal regulators to open a Birmingham-based, state-chartered institution called SouthPoint Bank.



At SouthPoint Bank, our goal is not to see how many accounts we can open, but rather to build lasting connections that are mutually beneficial for years to come. We're committed to providing you with the financial tools and solutions of a lifetime. SouthPoint Bank designs their product line to appeal to small- to medium-sized, privately-owned businesses as well as professionals and owner-occupied real estate developments for lending and deposit relationships. For individuals, SouthPoint is also highly successful at Home Mortgage lending and consistently ranks among the best and most competitive mortgage companies in the state. SouthPoint also offers rewards checking and one of the highest money market interest rates in the Birmingham area.

SouthPoint Bank has five bank branches in the Birmingham area including our headquarters on Grandview Parkway off Highway 280 and our newest branch within the Vestavia Hills city limits in Liberty Park. The Home Mortgage division has eight locations across the state in Alexander City, Anniston, Birmingham, Daphne/Spanish Fort, Decatur, Huntsville, Millbrook and Muscle Shoals.

We believe your banker should be local, relevant and accessible. Our customers have come to expect an unmatched level of service. We would love the opportunity to show you the same.



Beth Moody-The Welch Group

Beth Moody joined The Welch Group, LLC in 2011. She serves as a Member & Senior Advisor, the firm's Director of Talent Development, and is actively involved with The Welch Group Foundation. Beth is a



CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ practitioner and is an active member of the Estate Planning Council of Birmingham and Financial Planning Association of North Alabama, where she served as Past President. Beth's passion for financial planning is demonstrated in her relationships with client families. She finds joy in helping families live out their values

during their lifetimes and through their legacy planning.

Beth and her husband, Ben, have been residents of Vestavia Hills since 2013. She loves spending time in the active Vestavia Hills community with her husband and their two daughters, Darcy and Morgan. She has loved getting to know the people of Vestavia Hills and currently serves on the board of Leadership Vestavia Hills.

The Welch Group is a fee-only wealth management firm that provides investment management and financial planning services to help clients control their financial future and retirement. We believe success is achieved through a personalized team experience. Our Limited Family Office and Wealth Management approach provides comprehensive planning services surrounding retirement, estates, charitable and tax planning. Our commitment is to enrich our clients' lives and embrace our role as advocates for each unique story. We achieve this through listening, understanding, and supporting each relationship through all of life's transitions.

Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce

Vestavia Hills Community News Rate Sheet 2021



VESTAVIA HILLS
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

The Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the City of Vestavia Hills and the Vestavia Hills Board of Education will continue publishing the joint *Community News* in 2021, with 10 full-color issues. The Chamber will make available to its members a unique advertising and marketing opportunity in newsletter which will be mailed to the almost 14,000 homes in Vestavia Hills. Advertising space will be limited and will be on a first come, first served basis.

This is a great way to target Vestavia Hills residents in a cost effective way.
Don't miss this special opportunity to reach a very targeted, desirable market!

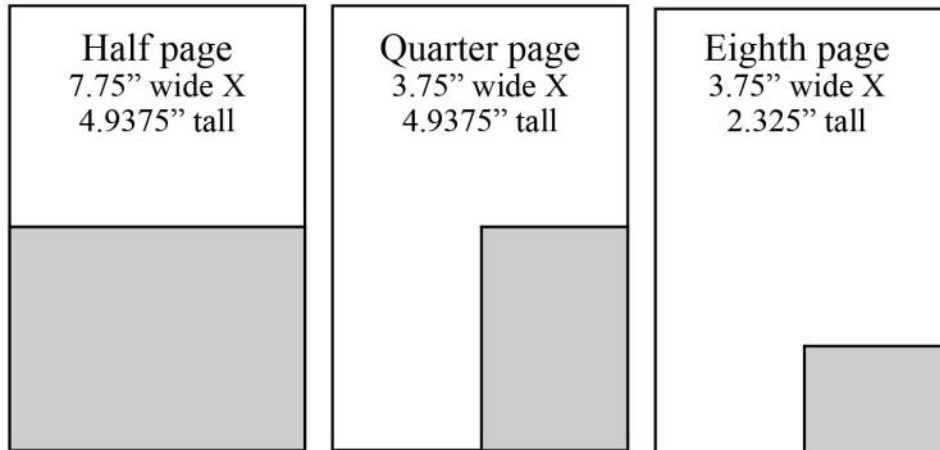
10 Issues Published Per Year

2021 Issue Dates: **Feb. 1, March 1, April 1, May 1, June 1, Aug. 1, Sept. 1, Oct. 2, Nov. 1, Dec. 1**

Copy Deadline: Jan. 6; Feb. 3; Mar. 3; April 7; May 5; July 7; Aug. 4; Sept. 8; Oct. 6; Nov. 3

Display Advertising Rates

<u>Size</u>	<u>1 Issue*</u>	<u>5 Issues*</u>	<u>10 Issues*</u>
Half page	\$ 785/per issue	\$ 735/per issue	\$ 685/per issue
Quarter page	\$ 540/per issue	\$ 475/per issue	\$ 420/per issue
Eighth page	\$ 385/per issue	\$ 340/per issue	\$ 305/per issue



1. All rates are based on camera ready copy. Adobe Acrobat; Illustrator; InDesign or PhotoShop
2. All ads must be high-resolution (300 dpi)
3. Acceptable formats: PDF (press optimized; no RBG or Spot Colors)
4. Color: CMYK only; no Pantone or Spot Colors
5. Bleed: Not available; Non-bleed only

**Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce
Joint City/Chamber/School Newsletter Agreement
Vestavia Hills Community News
2021**

Company Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Contact Email _____

Terms: Undersigned agrees to participate in the Joint City/Chamber/School Newsletter program. Participants will be billed per issue unless otherwise noted beginning February 1, 2021 with payment due within 30 days. Participant agrees to pay all costs of collection or attempted collection to include a reasonable attorney's fee, made necessary by non-payment.

Please check appropriate boxes

- Bill in lump sum¹**
- Bill monthly (as appropriate)**

Ad Size: _____

Signature: _____ **Date** _____

Months to run ads:



- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALL issues | <input type="checkbox"/> June/July | <input type="checkbox"/> December/
January |
| <input type="checkbox"/> February | <input type="checkbox"/> August | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> March | <input type="checkbox"/> September | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> April | <input type="checkbox"/> October | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> May | <input type="checkbox"/> November | |

¹May be paid in 2020

Member Notes

- **Longleaf Liberty Park** won the Silver Award in the Best 55+ Assisted Living or Special Needs Community in the National Association of Home Builders' 2021 Best of 55+ Housing Awards! The ceremony honors excellence and innovation in the design, development, lifestyle and marketing of communities and homes that appeal to the mature market.
- The Bluemont Group's 51st **Dunkin'** location is opening in Vestavia Hills at 3419 Acton Road on April 20 at 9:00 am! Join them for their Grand Opening with samples and swag!
- **Rocky Ridge Drug Company** is now taking appointments for the Covid-19 vaccine! Please call 205-259-7100 to schedule an appointment.
- The National Mortgage News ranked **Method Mortgage** as the Number 3 Overall Best Company to Work For in 2021 and the Number 2 Best Small Company to work for during that same period in their 3rd Annual Best Mortgage Companies to Work For!
- **Champion Sports Medicine's** POWR (Personalized Orthopedic Weight Reduction) program is incorporated into your physical therapy sessions, and addresses the nutritional aspect of weight loss, which allows your PT to treat your orthopedic conditions while also helping you lose weight to improve your health and wellness. Your clinician will review your weekly food charts, educational handouts, and perform weekly weigh-ins to track your progress for support and accountability. Call (844) 554-5678 to schedule an appointment.
- Congratulations to **Sentry Heating, Air Conditioning, Plumbing and Electrical** for not only winning, but becoming Alabama's ONLY 7-time Carrier President's Award Winner! This award is presented to Carrier dealers with outstanding excellence in customer service.
- **TrustCare Vestavia** is now offering the Covid-19 vaccine! Visit www.trustcarehealth.com to schedule an appointment.
- The **Birmingham Boys Choir** is currently holding open auditions for its 2021-22 season. To schedule an audition, visit our website: www.birminghamboyschoir.org/auditions.
- Read the latest issue of **Birmingham Christian Family** online at <https://birminghamchristian.com/issues/> and find Good News and much more!
- Registration is now open for Summer Camps at **Aldridge Gardens!** We have plenty of camps to choose from for boys and girls entering kindergarten through 5th grades. Whether your little campers like American Girl Dolls, art, origami, myth busters, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) or engineering and construction, we have something they're sure to enjoy. Find more details at https://aldridgegardens.com/education/summer-camps/summer_camp.html
- **Sterling Seacrest Partners, Inc.** and Pritchard & Jerden recently announced plans to merge and operate as Sterling Seacrest Pritchard. The new company will be one of the largest privately held, independent insurance brokerages in the southeastern United States.

Washington Update

FEATURING

THE HONORABLE GARY PALMER

(U.S. Representative – 6th Congressional District, Alabama)



April 6, 2021
9:30AM – 10:30AM
Via ZOOM

Congressman Palmer – first elected to represent Alabama’s 6th Congressional District in the U. S. House of Representatives in 2014 -- will provide participants in the meeting with an update on the issues facing the 117th Congress this year.

There is no cost to attend this event.

Please email info@shelbychamber.org to register by no later than Friday, April 2.

This Washington Update event is co-hosted in collaboration by:



VESTAVIA HILLS
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2021 Trustees

Alison Howell Steineker-Alabama Power Company
 Chris Thomas-America's First Federal Credit Union
 Jeff Phillips-American Pest Control
 Beau Bevis-ARC Realty
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 Sandra Cleveland-BCR Wealth Strategies
 Ben Nevins-B.L. Harbert International
 Ginger Aarons-Birmingham Business Journal
 Frank Buck-Frank S. Buck, P.C.
 Angie McEwen*-Butler Snow LLP
 Chad Gay-Cahaba Benefits Group
 Representative Jim Carns
 Brian Barksdale-Carr, Riggs & Ingram, CPA
 David Surber-Cellular Sales Authorized Agent of Verizon Wireless
 Doug Dean*-Children's of Alabama
 District Judge Martha Cook
 Dennis Cameron-Cooke, Cameron, Travis, Campbell & Co.
 Calvin Brown-Dog U
 Jonathan Handey-Eco Three
 Christina Babineaux-First US Bank
 Charlie Norton-Harbert Realty Services
 Steve Mote-Hollywood Pools
 Donnie Dobbins-Iberia Bank
 Mike Jackson*-Jackson Howard & Whatley, CPAs
 Matthew Allen-JBMC Media, LLC
 Stan Glantz-KPR-Vestavia City Center
 Jamie Pursell-Leaf & Petal
 John Bonanno-Liberty Park Joint Venture
 Mark Macoy-Mark W. Macoy, LLC
 Chip McCallum-McCallum Hoaglund & McCallum, LLP
 Jim Black-McDonald's

Roger Steur*-Method Mortgage
 Robin Morgan*-Morgan Properties
 Todd Jackson-Newk's Eatery
 Kerry Adkins-OnTime Service
 Maury Wald-Over the Mountain Journal
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 Sean Johnson-Progress Bank
 James Pace-Rainbow Paint
 Angela Stevens-RealtySouth
 Jimmy Nuckles-Regions Bank
 Senator Dan Roberts
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 Keith Andrews-SperryCGA-The Andrews Group
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 John Henley-John Henley State Farm Insurance
 Charlotte Ann Adams-Sterling Seacrest Partners
 Dr. Nicol Pettway-Summit Express Urgent Care
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 Tony Truitt-Truitt Insurance & Bonding
 Dr. Bill Brunson-Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church
 Dan Starnes-Vestavia Voice
 Senator Jabo Waggoner
 Beth Moody-The Welch Group
 Stephen Allen-Williams Blackstock Architects
 Mark Yanosky, D.M.D.-Yanosky Orthodontics

*Chamber Past Chair

2021 Chamber Champions



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Karen J. Odle, President

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Email: lisac@vestaviiahills.org

Betsy Webster, Office Manager

Email: betsyw@vestaviiahills.org

Katie Woodruff, Communications Manager

Email: katiew@vestaviiahills.org

Upcoming Chamber Meetings

April 15

Board of Directors, 7:45 am

April 6

Ribbon Cutting: Voyage Chiropractic, 4:30 pm

April 14

Google My Business Seminar, 11:30 am

Events

Other Meetings & Holidays

April 8

Planning & Zoning Commission, 6 pm

April 12

City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm

April 15

Board of Zoning Adjustment, 6 pm

April 26

City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm



News and Views

Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce

1975 Merryvale Road

Vestavia Hills, AL 35216