



NEWS & VIEWS

August 2021

Volume 41 Issue 8

August 10 Luncheon Dr. Todd Freeman, Superintendent Vestavia Hills City Schools

Dr. Todd Freeman has served as superintendent of Vestavia Hills City Schools since March 2018. Now in his fourth year with Vestavia Hills City Schools, Dr. Freeman has led the opening of three new campuses, the implementation of new strategic plan goals, and the renewal of the school system's accreditation.



From 2013 to 2018, Dr. Freeman was superintendent of Sylacauga City Schools in east Alabama. He also spent twenty years in Auburn City Schools as a social studies teacher, high school principal, and executive director of operations and services.

Dr. Freeman holds a bachelor's degree in education from Jacksonville State University, a master's in education from Auburn University, and a doctorate in educational leadership from Valdosta State University.

Dr. Freeman, his wife, Rachel, and two sons, Samuel and Jacob, are residents of Vestavia Hills. Rachel is the Director of Group Fitness at Shades Valley YMCA. Samuel is a second grader and Jacob is a kindergartner at Vestavia Hills Elementary Dolly Ridge. Dr. Freeman is a member of the Vestavia Hills Rotary Club and Civitan International, and he and his family attend Shades Mountain Baptist Church.

LUNCHEON SPONSOR

Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church

Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church is honored to continue our support of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce by sponsoring the August luncheon. In 2019, VHUMC was recognized as the Chamber's Member of the Year and we remain committed to serve our community by sharing our resources and helping individuals grow in faith by living and spreading God's love. The vision of Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church is to build a community of faith where everyone can experience a Christ-centered life of purpose. We make it a priority to help each person identify their unique place in ministry and outreach, using their gifts to make the community stronger.



We hope you will come and join us.

Please visit us at vhumc.org to read more about ways to become engaged in our worship, mission, and outreach ministries.

As we turn the calendar to August, summer is quickly nearing an end as our students are preparing to return to the classroom in just a couple of weeks. We are truly fortunate to have Dr. Todd Freeman, the Vestavia Hills City Schools Superintendent, as our speaker for the August Chamber Luncheon. It is a great time to hear an update on our school system with the challenges and successes over the last year and what is upcoming for the new school year.



John Henley

We are truly blessed with an amazing school system and I look forward to hearing all of the great things which will be happening in the upcoming school year.

August is also an exciting month as we are also having the 30th Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, which was postponed from April, 2020. Our speaker is Brodie Croyle and he has worked with us over the last 16 months to reschedule and be our speaker at this great event. Tickets are limited so please make your reservation today before all of the tickets are sold.

Our Chamber of Commerce is having ribbon cuttings almost every week now, so please check our social media sites and come out and support our local businesses as we welcome these new businesses to our city. Remember to support our local businesses and help them continue to support our great city. Thanks for being a part of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce and for all of your support.

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

From the President...
WOW! Can't believe we are already into August! Seems like we just had I Love America Night (ILA)!! Speaking of ILA, what a wonderful turnout we had for the event. We would not have been able to do the event without the support of our many wonderful sponsors so THANK YOU on behalf of the Chamber AND the community....you made a wonderful memory for so many so we are grateful for your support!



Karen Odle

This summer, your Chamber has been busy working on many things to support our membership. A special thanks to Katie Woodruff for putting together 150 New Resident bags which are in the process of being distributed to Vestavia Hills City Schools to present to new families that have moved to the City of Vestavia Hills. A special thanks to each of you that brought items to include in the bags....we had a good variety of items to let the new families now about our wonderful businesses! We are very grateful for that and hope that getting your name in front of new residents will direct them your way when they need a product or service.

We are delighted to be back in full swing at our August Chamber luncheon where we will hear from Dr. Todd Freeman, Superintendent of the Vestavia Hills City School System. We will be offering our Spotlight Tables beginning at the August luncheon so be sure and sign up to share your product or services with those in attendance. We anticipate a large crowd so don't miss this opportunity! You can sign up for 2 a year and this is an added value of your chamber membership. Reservations must be made no later than Noon on Friday, August 6th and can be made at vestaviiahills.org or by calling the Chamber office at 205.823.5011. A special thank you to Vestavia Hills United Methodist for sponsoring the August luncheon. They are incredible community sponsors and we are grateful for their partnership!

We are back on track for our 30th Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast. It is scheduled for August 24th and tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at www.vestaviiahills.org or by calling our office at 205.823.5011. The breakfast buffet will open at 7:00 AM and the program will begin at 7:30 AM. We are delighted to finally have Brodie Croyle as our Keynote speaker. We had him scheduled for last year but had to postpone the event so are thrilled to hear from Brodie and the many ways they are making a difference for the children who call Big Oak Ranch home. We have a couple of sponsorship tables remaining and have tickets available so we hope to see you there.

The 2021-2022 Vestavia Hills Living was delayed again by a couple of months but we are trying to get back on track to the issue date we had previously. We are working diligently to finalize the stories and photography and plan to have the magazine in the mail early September. Can't wait for you all to see our finished product! We strive with each issue to provide information about different areas of our city. Please support the advertisers in this magazine. We would not be able to mail this to every resident without their support. Remember, shop local! Our local businesses support our community and our schools. So, let's commit to keep them going as we strive to live "A Life Above"!

Unity. Prosperity. Family.

Karen J. Odle
President

August 10 Luncheon

Reservations must be made by 4:00 PM Friday, August 6, 2021 and cost \$25. Late reservations will cost \$30. Make your reservation by visiting www.vestaviahills.org or by calling 823-5011.

Please Note:

- Reservations that are made and not cancelled by 4:00 pm Friday, August 6 must be paid for, as we must pay for the number reserved.
- Please pay online or call the office with a credit card prior to the luncheon, or we can send you an invoice afterwards.
- **Please make every effort to make your reservation on time. The number of reservations we have by the deadline is the number that we and the Vestavia Country Club prepare for.**

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

Luncheon Business Spotlights return in August!

As a benefit of Chamber membership, you are welcome to choose two luncheons to have a booth to showcase your business. The Vestavia Country Club will provide covered 6 foot tables*-you just bring whatever information and items you would like to display!

If you would like reserve your spots for 2021, please email chamber@vestaviahills.org.

2021 Dates:

August 10
September 14
October 12
November 9
December 14

*Depending on number of participants each month, you may be sharing a table with another business.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

- ◆ Vestavia Nails
Tu Le
2531 Rocky Ridge Road, Suite 123
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
(205) 979-3303
www.vestavianails.com
Category: Nail Salon
- ◆ GLAM Beauty Boutique
Shaun Thomas
1078 Montgomery Highway
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
(205) 873-1953
www.glambham.com
Category: Hair/Beauty Salon
- ◆ Irby Law, LLC
Brent Irby
2201 Arlington Avenue S.
Birmingham, AL 35205
(205) 936-8281
Category: Attorneys
- ◆ Dear Emmaline
Jordan Soyars
300 Vestavia Parkway, Suite 1300
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
(205) 602-9912
www.shopdearemmaline.com
Category: Clothing; Retail
- ◆ RE/MAX Advantage South
Cheryl Ashurst
2635 Valleydale Road
Birmingham, AL 35244
(334) 224-8222
www.cheryl.remax-alabama.com
Category: Real Estate (Agent)
- ◆ American Heritage Financial
Robert Lee
1855 Data Drive, Suite 250
Hoover, AL 35244
(205) 580-1335
www.theamericanheritagefinancial.com
Category: Financial Planning
- ◆ Birmingham Martial Arts
Will Potter
3215 Endeavor Lane, Suite 133
Vestavia Hills, AL 35242
(205) 909-3720
www.bhammartialarts.com
Category: Martial Arts; Recreation/Activities
- ◆ Apricot Lane
Barbara Kauffman
225 Summit Blvd, Suite 99
Birmingham, AL 35243
(205) 461-5675
Category: Clothing



Trustee Spotlight



Tyler Kime-Standard Heating, Cooling & Plumbing

Tyler Kime is a long-time resident of Vestavia Hills having attended Vestavia Hills East, Central, Pizitz, and Vestavia Hills High School. During that time, he participated in the Vestavia recreational program playing soccer and baseball. He graduated from VHHS in 1999 where he participated in the Drum Line for all four years, serving as Section Leader during his senior year. As a result of these life experiences, he and his wife, Jenni, decided to move to Vestavia when it came time to raise their family. He and Jenni have three children who attend or will attend schools in the Vestavia school system. Their children are Thomas (9), Kinley (7), and Karaline (5).



Tyler graduated from Auburn University in 2003 with a degree in Finance. Even though Tyler and Jenni attended Auburn at the same time, they didn't meet until after Tyler graduated. Needless to say, they are both huge Auburn fans.

After college Tyler worked for two different banks in two different cities, Montgomery and Panama City for a couple of years. It was then that he decided that he wanted to work in the family business in Birmingham, Standard Heating & Air Conditioning Company. He traded a suit for blue jeans as his first job at Standard was as an apprentice installing heating and air conditioning systems. He later served as an accounting clerk, project manager, salesman, home performance specialist, and general manager before assuming his current position as President. He loves what he does because his efforts not only make homeowners and business owners more comfortable but he also has the opportunity to lead a group of co-workers who are dedicated to providing the best customer service possible.

In 2017 The News, a national HVAC publication named Tyler to their "Top 40 Under 40" in the industry. Tyler was part of the 2017-18 Leadership Vestavia Hills class and is now a board member of LVH and served as president for 2020-2021. He also serves on the boards of the Better Business Bureau and SubAla.



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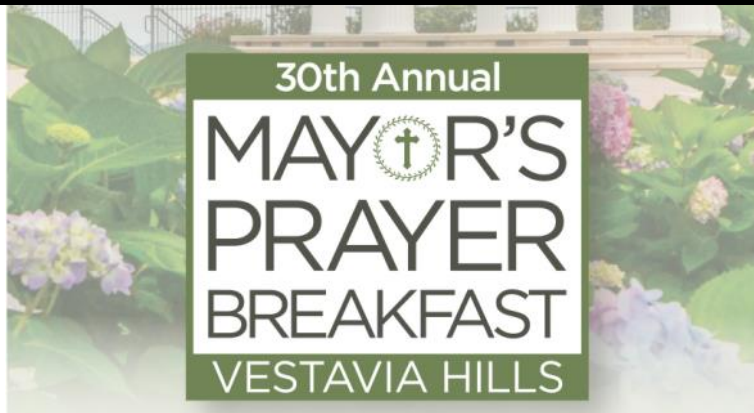


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AUGUST 21ST
10AM-2PM

THE SHOPS AT OAK PARK
2531 ROCKY RIDGE ROAD VESTAVIA, AL 35243



August 24, 2021

7:30 am

Doors open at 7:00 am

Vestavia Country Club

400 Beaumont Drive

Vestavia Hills, AL

Keynote speaker: Brodie Croyle,
Executive Director, Big Oak Ranch

Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at
www.vestaviiahills.org
or by calling (205) 823-5011



Come Shop, Dine and Play with the Merchants of Cahaba Heights.
Enjoy HUGE discounts at your favorite local businesses.

Refer & Win

To be entered in the 2021 Third 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@vestaviahills.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 Third Quarter drawing for **Ten \$25 Gift Certificates to Cajun Seafood House!** Enjoy ALL that Cajun Seafood House has to offer either ten times with your ten (10) \$25 gift certificates or reserve their large space for a party with friends, family, or co-workers. They specialize in Cajun and Creole cooking and other classic seafood dishes; offer great desserts and chicory coffee, plus have a full bar to catch up with friends or watch sporting events.

CAJUN SEAFOOD HOUSE

Member Notes

- Join **Mountaintop Church** on August 5-6 for their Global Leadership Summit! The Global Leadership Summit propels organizational growth and improves the leadership capacity of staff teams. Hosts of the Summit bring organizations accessible leadership tools to help them facilitate greater effectiveness and community impact. Learn more and purchase tickets at <https://mountaintopchurch.com/events/global-leadership-summit/>
- Join **The Arc of Central Alabama** on August 10-14 on Instagram, Facebook and beyoutifulbirmingham.org for their BeYOUtiful BHM Fashion Show and Auction! BeYOUtiful BHM 2021 is a virtual fashion show and silent auction featuring models with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Bring your appetite for Birmingham Restaurant Week, August 12-29! Enjoy special menus from **Ashley Mac's at the Pizitz, The Backyard Market, El ZunZún, Slice Pizza & Brewhouse**, and other Birmingham favorites! Find menus at www.bhamrestaurantweek.com.
- Join **First US Bank** and Movement Mortgage for a networking event on August 24. Enjoy wine, cheese and the company of other women business leaders from 5:00-7:00 pm at First US Bank, 3291 US Highway 280, Suite 100. RSVP to cbabineaux@fusb.com
- The Vestavia Hills Farmers Market is open from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm every Wednesday through August 25, and is located at Scout Square, right off of Highway 31. The market is an outreach ministry of **VHUMC**, created to bring local crafts and seasonal goods into our community!
- Read the August issue of **Birmingham Christian Family** online, featuring Chamber Member University of Alabama's Chris Stewart and much more!
- Party on the Patio happens the first Thursday of every month at the **Heights Village** in Cahaba Heights. Shop extended hours at the Heights Village shops and extra shopping with our local pop up shops on the patio then enjoy live music at Troups Pizza. Pop Ups start around 3:00 and music starts at 5:30.
- Lose weight and feel great with **Champion Sports Medicine's** Personalized Orthopedic Weight Reduction (POWR) program! Call (844) 554-5678 to schedule an appointment.
- Try one of **Jimmy John's** new Summer Wraps, available for a limited time through September 5! The Chicken Caesar Wrap and Beefy Ranch Wrap are perfect in this summer heat.
- Congratulations to **Method Mortgage** for receiving the awards for the Top Mortgage Company in North Alabama and Top Mortgage Company in the State of Alabama at the Alabama Mortgage Professional Association Awards Luncheon.
- **OHenry's Coffees** new location at Patchwork Farms is now open! Stop by and see them at 3066 Healthy Way, Suite 100.
- **Vestavia Hills Rotary Club's** Hike the Hill is back! Hike the Hill is a community event supporting Vestavia Hills Schools and Students. Participants can hike the hill anytime between Sept 1st-30th. Go to www.vestaviarotary.org to sign up.

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*Chamber Past Chair

2021 Chamber Champions



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Betsy Webster, Office Manager

Email: betsyw@vestaviiahills.org

Katie Woodruff, Communications Manager

Email: katiew@vestaviiahills.org

Upcoming Chamber Meetings

August 5 Ambassador Meeting, 5 pm
August 10 Chamber Luncheon, 11:30 am, Vestavia Country Club
August 17 Business Development, 8 am, Chamber Office
August 19 Board of Directors, 7:45 am, Chamber Office

Events

August 16 New Member Orientation, 5 pm, Chamber Office
August 19 Ribbon Cutting: Toddler's Playhouse, 4:30 pm
August 24 Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, 7:30 am, Vestavia Country Club

Other Meetings & Holidays

August 9 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm
August 12 Planning & Zoning Commission, 6 pm
August 19 Board of Zoning Adjustment, 6 pm
August 23 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm



News and Views

Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce

1975 Merryvale Road

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