



NEWS & VIEWS

March 2022

Volume 42 Issue 3

March 8 Luncheon Nick Sellers, CEO of World Games Birmingham

Nick Sellers has deep roots in sports and service to the State of Alabama. And he brings that experience and passion to his position on loan from Alabama Power as CEO of The World Games 2022.



As former Chairman of the Alabama Sports Council, he led a board that oversaw the growth of several regional and national sporting events including the SEC Baseball Tournament, the Magic City Classic, and the Davis Cup Birmingham.

After beginning his career in sports marketing and as an advisor to the Governor of Alabama for economic development and policy, Nick joined Alabama Power in 2003 where he has held management positions both at Alabama Power and Southern Company including executive leadership of Business Origination, Project Management & Construction, Division Vice President, and Vice President of External & Regulatory Affairs.

(Continued on page 4)

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.

Hello and Welcome to March!

As we move forward in 2022, the Chamber has a lot of activities planned. We have ribbon cuttings for new business openings and planning committees for our flagship events on the calendar.

The attendance at our monthly luncheons is approaching pre pandemic numbers. We are delighted to have new members joining and getting involved.

The chamber leadership is energized with ideas to support our members and businesses. Please read other sections of the *News and Views* for more information on how you can join in and participate.

Remember to support our Vestavia businesses because they support our way of life in Vestavia. They support schools and city services through their taxes while providing products and services to our citizens. It's great to be able to fill so much of our daily needs right here in our community. Shop Local and encourage your friends and neighbors to Shop Local too.

We want to hear from our members and Vestavia businesses on how we can help you. Please reach out and let us know how we can make sure 2022 is a prosperous year for all of us.

There's a lot going on and it cannot happen without the Chamber Board of Directors, Chamber staff and the many volunteers who devote time and energy to plan and execute the events. Thanks to all of these dedicated citizens who add to the quality of life in Vestavia.

I hope to see you soon at an event.

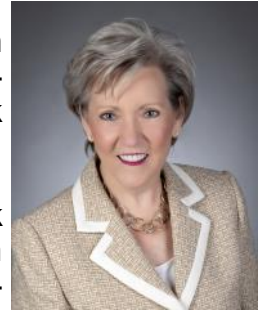
Sandra Cleveland
BCR Wealth Strategies
Board Chair, 2022



Sandra Cleveland

From the President...

I hope you were able to attend the February Chamber luncheon with Ron Kitchens with the Birmingham Business Alliance. He was an outstanding speaker with a great message AND our numbers were back to pre-COVID numbers so we are grateful for that.



Karen Odle

Our March 8 speaker is also going to be a 'don't miss event' as we will have Nick Sellers, President of The World Games that are back on track and going to be an exciting time for our region so be sure and make your reservation for the luncheon and listen to the exciting events that will be hosted around the greater Birmingham area this summer.

The Chamber is working to put together a series of seminars on numerous topics that are critical to running your business. The first one is March 9th on "Network Computer Security" and will be presented by Clear Winds Technology, a Vestavia Hills technology company, that will share with us precautions in using technology and best practices to be incorporated in areas of your business. There is no charge but we need to have a reservation so we know how many to prepare for. The event is scheduled to be at City Hall in the Council Chambers from 8:00 AM until 9:00 AM and you can register by going to www.vestaviahills.org and go to events and scroll to March 9th and you can make your reservation there. While we did this series a couple of years ago, there has been so much change, our businesses need to be made aware and take advantage of these changes to ensure that you have best practices in place for your business. No matter how large or small your business is, we are NONE immune from being compromised.

We are excited to announce the 31st Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on April 19th with Steve Skipper as our keynote speaker. If you are not familiar with his story, be sure to look him up and read about his journey. It is sure to be an incredible morning so don't miss getting a ticket or sponsorship as it usually sells out.

We have begun work on the 2022 Vestavia Hills Living magazine so be sure and take a minute to check your listing on our website to ensure everything is correct as we will print a listing of our entire membership in the magazine which will be mailed to each household in Vestavia Hills the end of July or the first of August. This also is a great way to market your business to Vestavia Hills residents. Contact Lisa Christopher for information regarding advertising at (205) 862.3445.

Please let the Chamber staff or any of our board members know of any areas that we can help you or your business as we strive for "A Life Above" in Vestavia Hills!

Karen J. Odle
President

March 8 Luncheon

Reservations must be made by 4:00 PM Friday, March 4, 2022 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, March 4 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.

(Continued from page 1)

In addition to the Alabama Sports Council, his other previous community involvement includes serving on the boards of the Bryant-Jordan Scholarship Foundation, Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex, and Board Emeritus member of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame.

After earning his undergraduate from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, Sellers went on to earn his Juris Doctor from the Birmingham School of Law. He resides in Birmingham with his wife and three children.



Share Your Fun on Social with the City of Vestavia Hills!

Escape winter hibernation & spring into fun! What's your favorite thing(s) about Vestavia Hills? Snap a selfie in your favorite place, enjoying your favorite view or having a great time out with friends or family. Then post to your social media and tag us with #pictureyourselfieVH on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. **We can't wait to see you LIVING and LOVING LOCAL in Vestavia Hills!**

Luncheon Business Spotlights

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 2022, please email chamber@vestaviiahills.org.

2022 Dates:

March 8

April 12

May 10

June 14

August 9

September 13

October 11

November 8

December 13

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

Refer & Win

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2022 First Quarter Refer and Win Prize Drawing! They will be entered in the drawing at the March luncheon for a **\$250 Visa Gift Card from Sharp Business Systems!** For the past 8 years Sharp Business Systems has supported all types of local businesses by combining award winning document technology solutions (Copiers, Printers, Scanners, Document Software, Computers, Wide Format) with leading edge Pro AV solutions (Video Conference, Conference Rooms, Training Rooms, Class Rooms, Auditoriums). We deliver these solutions with a dedicated team of local professionals who are committed to support you and take care of your needs. These last 2 years has given rise to a need for "Hybrid Meeting Spaces", if you too have a need to conduct meetings that are both in person and over video conference at the same time, please give us a call. We have various options to fit any need or budget.

Those entered are: Tyler Hill; Gary Jordan;

To be entered in the 2022 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 2022 Second Quarter drawing.

SHARP[®]
SHARP BUSINESS SYSTEMS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ New York Life Insurance Co.
Yasemin Arikan
2311 Highland Avenue S. Suite 100
Birmingham, AL 35205
(214) 675-5992
www.newyorklife.com/agent/ymarikan
Category: Insurance; Financial Planning◆ Fuji Hibachi Express
Hongyi Wang
790 Montgomery Highway, Suite 102
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
(205) 518-0213
www.fujihibachiexpress.net
Category: Restaurants◆ Rainbow Paint & Decorating
April Edwards
1450 Montgomery Highway
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
(205) 822-3548
www.rainbow-paint.com
Category: Paint; Home Decorating; Flooring◆ Lot 22 Media
Gordon Stewart
4129 Crosshaven Lane
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
(205) 225-9520
www.lot22media.com
Category: Marketing Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Cahaba Mountain Brook Animal Clinic
Dr. Darcy Schofill
3190 Cahaba Heights Road
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
(205) 967-6759
www.cahabamountainbrookac.com
Category: Veterinarians; Pets◆ Cahaba Mountain Brook Animal Clinic
Dr. James Lowry
3190 Cahaba Heights Road
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
(205) 967-6759
www.cahabamountainbrookac.com
Category: Veterinarians; Pets◆ Cahaba Mountain Brook Animal Clinic
Elicia Hicks, LVT
3190 Cahaba Heights Road
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
(205) 967-6759
www.cahabamountainbrookac.com
Category: Veterinarians; Pets◆ Cahaba Mountain Brook Animal Clinic
Dr. Allison Williams
3190 Cahaba Heights Road
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
(205) 967-6759
www.cahabamountainbrookac.com
Category: Veterinarians; Pets |
|--|---|

The 2022 Dogwood Festival is taking place throughout March and April and features a variety of activities celebrating all of the incredible things Vestavia Hills has to offer! Events are still being added so visit https://bit.ly/Dogwood_Fest often and follow on social media for the most up-to-date information about everything happening city-wide. **There is something for everyone at the 2022 Dogwood Festival!**





Trustee Spotlight



Harriet Cochrane-Ray & Poynor Properties



Ray & Poynor was formed in 2010 by local real estate veterans, Henry Ray and Wilmer Poynor, who merged their experience, ideas and skills to create a company focused on relationships. Twelve years later, still locally owned and deeply invested in the Birmingham community, Ray & Poynor is proud to include 55 realtors with an average of 17 years experience and maintains the highest average sales price in the state.



A Ray & Poynor realtor is known for providing unmatched service for clients. The past couple of years has prompted a probe of what that means in today's market and we found the needs of our expanding clientele required adaptation. Smart and safe showings of homes, flexibility with regard to meetings and communication, closings organized more tightly, digital marketing experiences and on-call availability all became the

norm. The brand presentation, office arrangement, and management structure all received modifications to better facilitate clients and prepare staff to deliver an even higher level of service and expertise, in whatever format our clients desire.

The newest addition in our evolution to exceed the expectations of our clients is the Transitional Move Experts (TME) division. The concept of downsizing is a daunting one for many. TME is designed to provide a roadmap for this process. Whether you are a new empty nester craving a condo, a senior considering a retirement community, someone tasked with settling the estate of a loved one or helping a parent relocate to a more manageable space... the process is often similar. And simplifying can be quite complicated. Where will I live? What do I take with me? How do I get my things there? What do I do with the rest? It is enough to paralyze even the most organized of us.

Each realtor on our highly selective Transitional Move Experts team holds a Seniors Real Estate Specialist® designation, and the group has a combined average of 21 years in the real estate industry. These are seasoned agents with a genuine desire to help clients through transitional moves. For each step of the process we have enlisted Partner Providers who specialize in the different areas of need. Each realtor serves as a transitional move concierge, guiding the client through the process, referring to Partner Providers as needed along the way.

By implementing these changes and additions, Ray & Poynor is prepared for what is to come in this dynamic residential market. Simply put, Ray & Poynor continues build lasting relationships with clients in order to be their real estate resource for life.

For more information, please contact Harriet Cochrane at (205)222-2270 or hcochrane@raypoynor.com.

Scott Jenkins-Southern States Bank



The most important thing to us at Southern States Bank is our relationships with our customers. We are a true community bank that understands the value of providing our customers the very best in banking products and services. Our seasoned banking professionals are committed to our mission of giving our customers the personal attention and service they would expect from their bank.



With an extensive focus on customer service and staying adept with the latest and greatest banking products and services, Southern States Bank has an account or service that meets just about every personal and business banking need. We work with our customers to create a banking plan that complements their lifestyle or helps their business grow.

Community involvement is another focus for Southern States Bank and we pride ourselves on being able to provide resources to help grow the communities we serve. Being involved in our communities is important to us because our banking professionals live, work and play in the communities we serve. We get involved in local sponsorships, community activities, non-profit volunteer work and we will be cheering alongside you at local sporting events. Our goal is to create a sense of partnership with the communities we serve and being a part of the Vestavia Chamber of Commerce helps make it happen.

Founded in 2007, Southern States Bank has grown with ten full-service banking branches in Alabama, five full-service banking branches in Georgia, in addition to an LPO in Atlanta. Southern States Bank is a wholly owned subsidiary of Southern States Bancshares, Inc. and is headquartered in Anniston, Alabama. For more information, visit us at

www.southernstatesbank.net.

Member Notes

- **The Heights Village and Troup's Pizza** welcomes you to Party on the Patio, March 3, 2022 starting at 4pm. Enjoy live music from The Schmohawks. Make sure to stop by your favorite shops!
- March is National Kidney Month and is a great time to schedule a Renal Function Panel at **Any Lab Test Now!** Early detection and treatment can often keep kidney disease from getting worse. 2409 Acton Road, Suite 105
- Mark your calendars for the 18th Annual MortgageBanc Chili Cook-Off Benefiting **The Exceptional Foundation** on Saturday, March 5th, 2022 from 10:30 am-3:00 pm at Brookwood Village! Join us for this family-friendly event, featuring live music, a kid zone, and all the chili you can eat. All proceeds from the event directly benefit The Exceptional Foundation. Tickets are \$15 each and kids 12 and under are free.
- Join the **Addiction Prevention Coalition** on March 12 at Railroad Park for the End Addiction Walk. Check-in starts at 10:00 am and the walk starts at 11:00 am. Register at endaddictionbham.swell.gives/ATW
- **Birmingham Legion**'s season opener will be on March 13 at 4 pm at Protective Stadium. Season tickets available now at <http://www.bhmlegion.com>. Single game tickets on sale soon.
- Check out Fit for Life at **Birmingham Physical Therapy!** This small group functional fitness class is led by a physical therapist and is designed for people 55+. Classes meet at the clinic every Monday and Wednesday 12-1pm and are \$150/month or \$20/class. Email melaniecosio.dpt@gmail.com for more info and to get signed up!
- **The Arc of Central Alabama's** BeYOUtiful BHM 2022 is a fashion show and silent auction featuring models with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Join us April 22, 2022 at the Grand Bohemian Hotel to help us change the face of beauty in the Magic City! Tickets can be purchased at www.beyoutifulbirmingham.org
- Save the Date for **Leadership Vestavia Hills' Wing Ding Festival** on April 23 from 4:00-7:00 pm at Vestavia Hills City Hall! At this family-friendly event, visitors enjoy great chicken wings, live music and a children's area full of games and activities. 100% of net proceeds from this year's event will go to Youth Leadership Vestavia Hills and other local charities.
- Read the latest issue of **Birmingham Christian Family** online at <https://birminghamchristian.com/issues/>
- Save the date for **Sojourn Counseling's** first annual RUN, RIDE and RUMBLE for PTSD Awareness on June 11, 2022 at Cahaba Brewing Company! Learn more at www.runriderumble.com
- **Vestavia Toastmasters Club** meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 6pm and would love to have you visit! Learn about them at www.vestavia.toastmastersclubs.org
- Become a Charter Member of the new **Vestavia Hills Kiwanis Club!** Contact David LeCompte at (205) 568-2076 or davidlecompte@hotmail.com for information on joining.

If you have any news or events you would like to put in the News & Views, email it to chamber@vestaviiahills.org.

DOGWOOD PRAYER BREAKFAST

April 19, 2022

To order tickets or to become a sponsor of the 31st Annual Dogwood Prayer Breakfast on April 19, 2022, please complete and return this form and your check or credit card information to:
Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce, 1975 Merryvale Road, Vestavia Hills, AL 35216.
Fax (205) 823.8974; Office (205) 823.5011

Contact information:

Name _____

Organization _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

IMPORTANT: If sponsoring, please print name(s) as you would like it to appear in the print media.

PLEASE CHECK:

\$225 Sponsorship (publicity only – does not include tickets) \$ _____
((\$200 if form and payment are received by 3-25-22))

Individual Tickets:
Number of Tickets _____ @ \$20.00 each with a Total Cost of \$ _____

TOTAL COST OF SPONSORSHIP AND/OR TICKETS \$ _____

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHAMBER OFFICE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A TABLE.

Indicate Payment Method:

Cash Check Invoice

Credit Card (MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express)

Credit Card Number _____
Expiration Date _____ Security Code: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone Number _____

FORM AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE
April 1, 2022 (March 25, 2022 for early bird discount)
FOR SPONSORSHIP NAME TO BE INCLUDED IN PRINT MEDIA.

Membership Dues Increase

The Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce has been blessed with the support of the businesses and residents in our city with a record membership of almost 1,200 representatives. Therefore we have been able to keep our membership investment low for many years. In fact, our last increase was on January 1, 2018 and the one prior was on January 1, 2012. After reviewing dues structure at other Over the Mountain Chambers, we will be increasing membership dues, effective February 1, 2022 as shown below:

<u>Annual Investment</u>		<u>Current Amount</u>	<u>Proposed Amount</u>
1 -10 employees	(1 representative)	\$200	\$225
11 - 20 employees	(2 representatives)	\$275	\$325
21 – 50 employees	(3 representatives)	\$375	\$425
51 + employees	(5 representatives)	\$600	\$675
Additional Representative		\$ 75	\$100
Licensed Professional (doctor, lawyer, accountant, etc.)		\$175	Phasing Out
Individual		\$125	\$150
Government Employees		\$125	\$150
Nonprofits		\$125	\$150
Retiree		\$75	\$100
Trustee(5 representatives)		\$1,250	\$1,250
Chamber Champion – Silver		\$2,500	\$2,500
Chamber Champion – Gold		\$3,000	\$3,000
Chamber Champion – Platinum		\$5,000	\$5,000

The dues increase will be reflected your next membership renewal invoice.

2022 Trustees

Kimberly Jackson-Alabama Power Company
 Chris Thomas-America's First Federal Credit Union
 Jeff Phillips-American Pest Control
 Jefferson County Commissioner Steve Ammons
 Beau Bevis-ARC Realty
 Tommy Cannon-Ascension St. Vincent's Health System
 Patrick Cushman-BancorpSouth
 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
 Dr. Darcy Schofill-Cahaba Mountain Brook Animal Clinic
 Dennis Cameron-Cameron, Travis & Co.
 Representative Jim Carns
 Brian Barksdale-Carr, Riggs & Ingram, CPA
 David Surber-Cellular Sales Authorized Agent of Verizon Wireless
 Doug Dean*-Children's of Alabama
 Calvin Brown-Dog U
 Jonathan Handey-Eco Three
 Donnie Dobbins-First Horizon Bank
 Christina Babineaux-First US Bank
 Ashley Mathews-Grandview Health Center
 Charlie Norton-Harbert Realty Services
 Steve Mote-Hollywood Pools/Alabama Gaslight & Grill
 Mike Jackson*-Jackson Howard & Whatley, CPAs
 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
 Lisa Bearden-Overture Tributary
 Sean Johnson-Progress Bank
 Harriet Cochran-Ray & Poynor Properties
 Scott Perry-RealtySouth
 Angela Stevens-RealtySouth
 Margaret Schuneman-Regions Bank
 Senator Dan Roberts
 Lauren Trim-Sentry Heating, Air Conditioning,
 Plumbing & Generators
 Tommy DeRamus-Shades Mountain Baptist Church
 Scott Jenkins-Southern States Bank
 Steve Smith-SouthPoint Bank
 Amy Kabase-Spectrum Reach
 Rob Dowda-SpeedPro Direct
 James Robinson*-Spire
 Tyler Kime-Standard Heating, Cooling & Plumbing
 John Henley-John Henley State Farm Insurance
 Charlotte Ann Adams-Sterling Seacrest Pritchard
 Taylor Burton-Taylor Burton Company
 Steve Vickery-Truist
 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

2022 Chamber Champions

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Chair Elect: Donnie Dobbins, IberiaBank/FirstHorizons

Vice Chair Membership Development: Keri Bates,
Rocky Ridge Drug Co.

Vice Chair Business Development: Marty Martin,
B.L. Harbert

Vice Chair Community Affairs: Clabe Dobbs, Progress
Bank

Vice Chair Programming: Linda Parker, Dream
Vacations

Vice Chair Public Education: Rachel Patterson, Bradford
Health Services

Treasurer: Ben Chambliss

Jackson, Howard & Whatley, CPAs

Secretary/Legal Counsel: Mark Macoy

Mark W. Macoy, LLC

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Chair: Gary Jordan, Summit Franchising Group

Directors

Christina Babineaux

Taylor Burton, Taylor Burton Co., Inc.

Doug Dean, Children's of Alabama

Erin Holtz, Pure Fitness

Tyler Kime, Standard Heating, Cooling & Plumbing

Jamie Pursell, Leaf & Petal

Chris Thomas, America's First Federal Credit Union

Karen J. Odle, President

Phone: 823-5011 Fax: 823-8974

Email: kareno@vestaviiahills.org

Web: www.vestaviiahills.org

Lisa Christopher, Membership Consultant

Email: lisac@vestaviiahills.org

Katie Woodruff, Communications Manager

Email: katiew@vestaviiahills.org

Upcoming Chamber Meetings

March 8
March 17

Chamber Luncheon, 11:30 am, Vestavia Country Club
Board of Directors, 7:45 am, Chamber Office

Events

March 3
March 9

Ribbon Cutting: ERA King Rocky Ridge, 11 am
Seminar: Network Security, City Hall, 8 am

Other Meetings & Holidays

March 10
March 14
March 17
March 28

Planning & Zoning Commission, 6 pm
City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm
Board of Zoning Adjustment, 6 pm
City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm



News and Views

Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce

1975 Merryvale Road

Vestavia Hills, AL 35216