



VESTAVIA HILLS
CHAMBER
of
COMMERCE

NEWS & VIEWS

July 2022 Volume 42 Issue 7

You're Invited to a
Ribbon Cutting

KUMONSM
MATH. READING. SUCCESS.

Friday, July 15 2022
12:00 pm
3056 Healthy Way, Suite 132
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

Celebrate Kumon's new Math and Reading Center in Vestavia Hills!

Reminder: There is no July Luncheon.

*Our next luncheon will be on
August 9. Have a fun and safe
summer!*



I hope you made it to the I Love America Night on June 23rd at Wald Park. It was outstanding! A record number of sponsors contributed to this grand success. Thanks to the title sponsor, McDonalds, for leading the way to a tremendous event. Presenting sponsors include Royal Automotive, Progress Bank, Standard Heating, Cooling & Plumbing, Shades Mountain Baptist Church, and Vestavia Methodist Church.

There were over 70 sponsors who manned tents, greeted the guests, and handed out food and giveaways that helped make the celebration bigger and better than ever.

There were so many outstanding activities going on – the kids play area was full of children, parents and laughter, and the Free Swim at the community pool drew a huge crowd. The Shades Mountain Orchestra presented patriotic music in The Pops in the Park concert. A highlight of the concert was the medley of the military songs from the various armed forces branches and recognizing veterans of each branch as the Orchestra played their theme song. It doesn't get more patriotic than that!

The main event of the evening began as the skies darkened. The long-awaited fireworks blasted into the sky and held the attention of each person present. There were oohs and aahs as the fireworks shot in air. The various pyrotechnic effects came in rapid succession and guests pronounced it "the best we have ever seen".

I want us to remember the Vestavia Hills City Mayor and City Council for their leadership that provided the new Wald Park which gives us the place and the facilities for this event and many more in the future.

There were many volunteers from the Vestavia Hills Parks and Recreation, Vestavia Hills Police Department, Vestavia Hills Fire Department, Vestavia Hills city staff and Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce. This event could never have happened without their contributions from early in the morning to late at night on the 23rd. Thank you for making this event memorable.

The planning started months before, led by Clabe Dobbs and his I Love America committee. The 2022 I Love America Night was the last community event during Karen Odle's 20-year tenure as President of the Chamber. The success of this I Love America Night was a crowning achievement among the many significant achievements during her career.

We welcome our new President, Michelle Hawkins, who will take over the leadership reins from Karen. Michelle is already on the job and ready to lead the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce into a bright future. Michelle is eager to meet you, so please stop by the Chamber office and say welcome.

As you enjoy your summer of 2022, remember to shop local and support our businesses. Get to know the new owners who have chosen to locate their businesses in Vestavia and continue to patronize our existing businesses who both contribute to the financial and economic success of our community.

Join me in celebrating the blessing of living in Vestavia Hills.

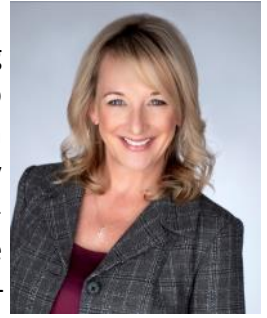
Sandra Cleveland
BCR Wealth Strategies
Board Chair, 2022



Sandra Cleveland

From the President...

While I have years of experience planning, coordinating, and participating in large events and celebrations, there have been none that can compare to the heart, spirit, and love this community demonstrated during the 40th Annual I Love America Night! There were more than 5,000 attendees during that lovely June 23rd event. Storm clouds moved closely around Wald Park, but we remained blissfully rain-free. The event was hosted by the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce and the City of Vestavia Hills, and was presented by McDonald's/Black Family Restaurants, Progress Bank, Royal Automotive, Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Standard Heating, Cooling & Plumbing, and Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church. Activities for the evening included free swimming at the Vestavia Hills Aquatic Center, acoustical sounds by The Three Bobs, a fun children's area with games and inflatables (provided by Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church), along with a patriotic concert performed by the Shades Mountain Baptist Church Orchestra! We also had a record-setting number of sponsor booths—(80!)—with oodles of giveaways and samples. Finally —(Wow!)— We closed out the evening with spectacular fireworks show as the Grand Finale.



Michelle Hawkins

Events of this caliber take much preparation, planning, and organizing and I am extremely impressed and thankful to Katie Woodruff, Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce Communication Manager and Committee Chair. A special thank you also goes out to all our corporate sponsors and the many volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this event such a tremendous success for the community. I appreciate the entire I Love America Night committee, Vestavia Hills Parks and Recreation, and the Vestavia Hills Public Works Department for all their help and assistance.

As summer is in full swing, the calendar is filling up, too. Our next chamber luncheon will be held on August 9, 2022 and features guest speaker Superintendent Dr. Todd Freeman. Planning meetings are also underway with our two next upcoming events: Helping Hands in the Hills/ Shredding & E-Recycling on Saturday, September 10, 2022, and Viva Vestavia Hills on November 1, 2022.

Until then, be looking for me to stop by soon to introduce myself and please know that there is an open invitation for all to come by and say "hello" here at the Chamber of Commerce office.

I am excited to begin this wonderful new life in Vestavia Hills and feel so grateful to all who have reached out to offer support and assistance during the transition. As I write this letter, my current home in the Indian Springs area of Birmingham is under contract and I am looking for a new home in this marvelous community. I look forward to meeting you all, working alongside such a wonderful team, and celebrating the continued success of "A LIFE ABOVE."

With Warm Wishes,

Michelle Hawkins
President

New Resident Welcome Bags

Summer is a busy time for families moving into Vestavia Hills. We will be packing 150 Welcome Bags in July for the schools to distribute to their new resident families. This is an excellent way to introduce your business to these new members of our community. Start thinking now about what you would like to put in the bags-we will need your items by July 18.

- It doesn't have to be 150 of the same item; you can mix and match.
- Please make sure any coupons have long expiration dates. Leftover bags will be kept at our office and given out through next summer.
- We have a box set right inside our door for you to leave your items in. Our office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm.



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:

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.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

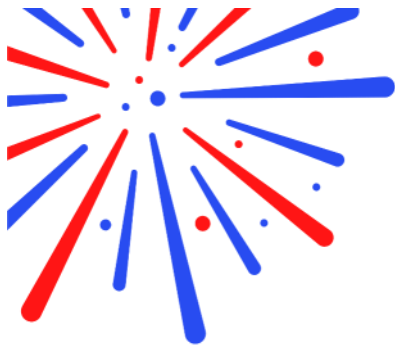
- ◆ eXp Realty-Bonnie Malec
Bonnie Malec
Birmingham, AL 35243
(205) 910-3819
www.bonniemalec.com
Category: Real Estate (Agent)

- ◆ Signature Title Services
Hannah Ellenburg
3325 Rocky Ridge Plaza, Suite 121
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
(256) 831-3346
www.signaturetitleservices.net
Category: Title Services

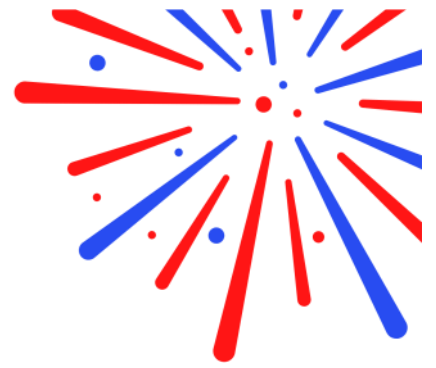
- ◆ Lendello Mortgage
Nick Veres
3325 Rocky Ridge Plaza, Suite 121
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
(334) 462-9169
www.lendello.com
Category: Mortgage Companies

- ◆ eXp Realty-Robb Williams
Robb Williams
100 Chase Park S., Suite 128
Hoover, AL 35244
(205) 218-1751
www.robbwilliams.exprealty.com
Category: Real Estate (Agent)

- ◆ National Charter Business Birmingham
Hala Faruqi
6595 Roswell Road, Suite G291
Atlanta, GA 30328
1-844-755-0510
www.nationalbuscharter.com
Category: Transportation Services



40th Annual
I LOVE
America
NIGHT



Presented by:



BLACK FAMILY RESTAURANTS



I Love America Night was a huge success! An estimated 5000 people came out to enjoy the evening. Thanks so much to all of our sponsors for making it possible! See all of the photos on our Facebook page.



Many Thanks to All Our Sponsors



Altadena Eye Care * Angelica Rohner Pediatric Dentistry * AllState Insurance-The Sabatini Agency * bDot Architecture
 Brookdale University Park * Cahaba Mountain Brook Animal Clinic * Caprine Engineering
 Commercial Realty Partners* Dear Emmaline * Express Oil Change & Tire Engineers * Fuji Hibachi Express
 Heights Dermatology & Aesthetics * Liberty Park Children's Dentistry
 Magic City Harvest-Ending Waste, Ending Hunger * Meld Financial * Revealing Beauty Plastic Surgery * Right at Home
 Romeo's Sporting Goods * Roofing Contractor-Oswaldo Sialer * Senator Jabo Waggoner * Taco Mama
 Trinity Contractors * Town Village Vestavia Hills * The UPS Store * Vestavia Hills Parks & Recreation Foundation



Trustee Spotlight



Jefferson County Commissioner Steve Ammons



The Jefferson County Commission is proud to serve a vibrant, diverse community rich in history, culture and natural beauty. As the largest county in the state of Alabama with more than 674,000 residents, Jefferson County is governed by five elected Commissioners from specific districts. Each Commissioner is responsible for administering assigned departments and functions of County government.

The Commission, as a whole, is responsible for setting policy for Jefferson County. The roles of the Commission include administering the County's finances; serving as custodians of all County property; collecting taxes as set by state law; allocating resources for the construction of buildings, roads and other public facilities; providing for the delivery of services that by law are the County's responsibility (such as sewer service and law enforcement) and to making appointments to various governmental boards and agencies.

Steve Ammons, of Vestavia Hills, is the commissioner for District 5 and sits as the Chairman of the Committee of Economic Development and the Committee of Information Technology. Through his role as a leader in economic development in Jefferson County, the County has seen significant growth to the region, including the \$1.1 billion Smucker's manufacturing facility and bringing Landings Corporate Headquarters to Jefferson County from San Francisco to produce 816 new full-time jobs in the region. From 2020-2022, the Jefferson County Commission has been involved in 46 projects which brought 4,443 jobs and more than \$1.8 billion in capital investments.

Steve is not only concerned about the economic development of the County, but also the quality of place. He has been instrumental in showcasing Jefferson County to the world by bringing the World Games to Birmingham this summer and is on the board of the World Police and Fire Games which will be taking place in Jefferson County in July of 2025 hosting more than 70 countries with over 8,500 competitors.

To reach out to Commissioner Steve Ammons of the Jefferson County Commission, please call his office at 205.325.5503 or email him directly at ammonss@jccal.org.

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 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 ten bank branches in the Birmingham and Cullman areas including our headquarters on Grandview Parkway off Highway 280 and our newest branch within the Vestavia Hills city limits in Liberty Park. In January 2022, SouthPoint Bank acquired Merchants Bank of Alabama, headquartered in Cullman. The Home Mortgage division has six locations across the state in Anniston, Birmingham, Cullman, Daphne/Spanish Fort, Decatur, and Millbrook.

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.



Trustee Spotlight

Ascension St. Vincent's Health System

Ascension St. Vincent's Primary Care Vestavia opened in the heart of the Vestavia city center in February 2022. Providers Colleen Donohue, DO; James Colvard, DO; Haley Jost, CRNP; and Brandi Carbonie, CRNP provide quality, compassionate care to the Vestavia community. We are pleased to announce Ascension Primary Care providers Carrie Huner, MD and Kimberly Cornelison, CRNP are joining the practice in July.



**Ascension
St. Vincent's**

"Our goal is to provide quality, compassionate care close to home, and are so pleased to bring another access point of care to the Birmingham community," said Dr. Colleen Donohue. "Vestavia is my home, and I'm thrilled to provide care to a community in which I live and work."

Our primary care team takes the time to get to know you and your family and to learn about your family's health history. We see patients ages 10 and older. Together, we work with you to address and care for your long-term health and well-being. We deliver a wide range of personalized services, from routine check-ups, health physicals and screening tests, to illnesses and injuries, and treatments for existing health conditions. We're here for your everyday healthcare needs, often with same-day and next-day appointment availability. Because we know getting the right care at the right time in the right place is important.

"We are dedicated to listening to you and taking time to get to know you so we can provide the care that's right for you," said Dr. Donohue. "We believe healthcare is about more than treating symptoms; it's about understanding the whole person and caring for all aspects of your mind, body and spiritual health and wellness."

To schedule an appointment, call 205-212-6655. Visit us at ascension.org/ALBIRVestavia.



To be entered in the 2022 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@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 Third Quarter drawing for a **Catering Certificate for 10-25 people Taco Mama!**



Enjoy a Taco/Nacho bar: Ground Beef and Chicken with all the Fresh Fixings*

Member Notes

- **The Blue Willow's** Anniversary Sale is going on now through July 9 with 25% Off Storewide (some exclusions apply)! Stop by and see them at 3930 Crosshaven Drive
- The Vestavia Hills Farmers Market is now open from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm every Wednesday through August 31! Located at Scout Square, right off of Highway 31, the Farmers Market is an outreach ministry of VHUMC, created to bring local crafts and seasonal goods into our community!
- **Pure Fitness'** Stand Up Paddle Board classes are back! Join them for a fun workout on Saturday mornings at the Vestavia Hills Aquatic Center at Wald Park. Register at https://www.wellnessliving.com/schedule/pure_fitness-a6lo9o
- 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+. There are two groups - one that comes Monday/Wednesday and the other comes Tuesday/Thursday. Classes meet at the clinic between 12-1pm and are \$150/month or \$20/class. Email melanicosio.dpt@gmail.com for more info and to get signed up!
- **VIVA Health** offers a 5-Star rated Medicare Advantage plan, which means Alabamians can enroll in VI-VA MEDICARE any time of the year for their 2022 coverage. Call us today at 1-888-830-8482 (TTY: 711) or visit www.VivaHealth.com/Medicare to enroll in the highest rated plan in Alabama.
- Read the latest issue of **Birmingham Christian Family** to learn how the Lakeshore Foundation is making the World Games sporting events more accessible to all visitors! Read it online at <https://birminghamchristian.com/issues/>.
- **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

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

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
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 Patrick Cushman-BancorpSouth
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 Steve Mote-Hollywood Pools/Alabama Gaslight & Grill
 Mike Jackson*-Jackson Howard & Whatley, CPAs
 Stan Glantz-KPR-Vestavia City Center
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 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 Cochrane-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

The image displays a collection of logos for various businesses and organizations that were recognized as 2022 Chamber Champions. The logos are arranged in a grid-like fashion. Key logos include cellularsales, ProgressBank, AmFirst, ONTIME SERVICE (Electrical • Heating & Cooling • Plumbing), State Farm (John Henley, Agent), Liberty Park (Vestavia Hills, AL), Standard (Heating • Cooling • Plumbing), Spire, Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church, Sentry (Heating • Air Conditioning • Plumbing • Generators), Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Grandview Health, SpeedPro Imaging (Great. Blg. Graphics.), Ray & Poynor, Ascension St. Vincent's, L&P, Overture Tributary, and Jackson, Howard & Whatley, CPAs.

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 Rocky Ridge Drug Co.
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 Bank
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 Michelle Hawkins, President
 Phone: 823-5011 Fax: 823-8974
 Email: michelleh@vestavihills.org
 Web: www.vestavihills.org
 Lisa Christopher, Membership Consultant
 Email: lisac@vestavihills.org
 Annilyn Warner, Office Manager
 Email: annilynw@vestavihills.org
 Katie Woodruff, Communications Manager
 Email: katiew@vestavihills.org

Upcoming Chamber Meetings
 Board of Directors, 7:45 am, Chamber Office

Events
 July 15 Ribbon Cutting: Kumon of Birmingham-Altadena, 12 pm
 August 1 New Member Orientation, Chamber Office, 5 pm

Other Meetings & Holidays
 July 11 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm
 July 14 Planning & Zoning Commission, 6 pm
 July 21 Board of Zoning Adjustment, 6 pm
 July 25 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm



News and Views
 Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce
 1975 Merryvale Road
 Vestavia Hills, AL 35216