Virtual Luncheon: August 11 at 12:00 pm on Zoom
Pete Blank-Leadership Expert

After a stint as a television sportscaster, Pete began his Disney career in 1994. Over the next 13 years, he managed various areas of Disney's theme parks and resorts, where he learned what it takes to run a world-class organization. Pete was blessed to spend a major-ity of his time working at the Disney University. While there, he led the Traditions program, which is known worldwide as one of the premiere employee orientation programs. He also facilitated college level courses to thousands of Disney College Interns, and was a Segment Learning Manager for Walt Disney World, Disneyland Resort, and the Disney Cruise Line.

Pete is the Training and OD Manager for the Personnel Board of Jefferson County. As a leadership expert and professional speaker, he also works with organizations and associations all across the U.S., helping them achieve their goals in the areas of leadership, employee engagement and customer service.

Pete is a former President of the Birmingham Chapter of the Association for Talent Development (ATD), received the “Learning! Champion Award” from Elearning! Magazine, and earned the Certified Speaking Professional (CSP) designation from the National Speakers Association.

His first book is Employee Engagement: Lessons from the Mouse House. His next book, 55 Ways to add Disney Magic to your Organization, was released on August 1, 2020. Both books are available on amazon.com.

Safety Seminar Series 2020

In partnership with the Vestavia Hills Police Department, the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce will be offering some programs over the next few months for our area businesses in an effort to help our businesses with safety awareness and things you should be considering for your business and employees.

Register online at www.vestaviahills.org. Seating is limited to the first 35 that sign up. Free to attend.

Topic: Theft in the Workplace
Presented by the Vestavia Hills Police Department
Date: August 26, 2020
Time: 8:00-9:30 AM
Place: Vestavia Hills City Hall – Council Chambers

Topic: Medical Emergencies in the Workplace
Presented by the Vestavia Hills Fire Department
Date: October 28, 2020
Time: 8:00-9:30 AM
Place: Vestavia Hills City Hall – Council Chambers

Topic: Self Awareness and Personal Safety
Presented by Chris Mize, Owner/Instructor Gracie Ji
Date: September 23, 2020
Time: 8:00-9:30 AM
Place: Vestavia Hills City Hall – Council Chambers
As we move into the last part of the summer and get ready for school to start, we are still in very uncertain times. I know my family and I have been at home more than ever since March. While there are some advantages to this, our family are not the ones that always like to stay at home, but we are doing our best with this.

The Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce is moving forward with our luncheons speakers, even though they are virtual and not in person. Please be sure to watch for the links to come out about the virtual luncheons over the next couple of months. Please know the Chamber Staff and Board are continuing to work to help our businesses. If there is anything we can do to assist you or your business please reach out to us.

I hope everyone has a happy and healthy start to the new school year. Remember to keep shopping with our local businesses as we need to support them even more during these uncertain times.

As I always end my message, please be sure to see what is happening on social media with the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber website.

John Henley
John Henley-State Farm Insurance
Board Chair, 2020

Register for the August 11 Virtual Luncheon!
Register online at www.vestaviahills.org. You will receive an email reminder the afternoon before with the link to the ZOOM meeting. We encourage you to order lunch from one of our fabulous Vestavia Hills restaurants to enjoy! When you register, you will see a link to these restaurants.
From the President…

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 know 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.

While the beginning of school has been delayed, we are all looking forward to and anxious to return to whatever our normal is going to be. With that being said, we are continuing to look for ways to assist our businesses so if you have a need or something that we could consider, please reach out to me or our staff and let us know.

Our Chamber luncheon will again be a virtual meeting via ZOOM scheduled for August 11th. We are delighted to have as our keynote speaker, Pete Blank, who has been a presenter in prior years and is always a hit with our members so we are delighted to have him join us via ZOOM. He will share “The Seven Keys to Successful Remote Teams” and how moving from in-person teams to leading remote teams is not a simple plug-and-play process. Managers will have to add new skills to their leadership tool box, and employees will have to embrace the skill of flexibility. In this session, Pete Blank, leadership expert and author, shares the seven tips that all leaders and employees need to know to increase their effectiveness as a remote team!

Reservations must be made no later than Noon on Monday, August 10th.

While we will not be able to have our Annual Back to School event in Cahaba Heights this year, we will still celebrate on August 14th at 6:00 PM the beautiful new ball fields at Cahaba Heights Park. You will want to join us to see these new facilities that were the first completed project of the Community Spaces plan. You will be very impressed!

The 2020 Vestavia Hills Living was delayed by 2 months due to many businesses being closed. However, we have completed the stories and finalizing the photography and plan to have them in the mail mid-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
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<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>Freedom Soap Company</td>
<td>Anne Schilleci</td>
<td>3131 Belwood Drive</td>
<td>Vestavia Hills, AL 35243</td>
<td>(205) 447-2399</td>
<td><a href="http://www.freedomsoaps.com">www.freedomsoaps.com</a></td>
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<td>Bruster's Real Ice Cream</td>
<td>Leigh and Justin Tarr</td>
<td>1008 Vestavia Parkway</td>
<td>Vestavia Hills, AL 35216</td>
<td>(205) 978-2347</td>
<td><a href="http://www.brusters.com">www.brusters.com</a></td>
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<td>bioPURE Bham</td>
<td>Steve Jones</td>
<td>531 Highland Park Circle</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL 35242</td>
<td>(205) 578-1314</td>
<td><a href="http://www.biopureservice.com">www.biopureservice.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alliance Capital Corporation</td>
<td>Sam Renta</td>
<td>1808 Oximoor Road</td>
<td>Homewood, AL 35209</td>
<td>(205) 982-7900</td>
<td><a href="http://www.alliancecapitalcorporation.com">www.alliancecapitalcorporation.com</a></td>
<td>Consulting</td>
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<td>ERA King Real Estate</td>
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<td>(205) 215-2728</td>
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<td>Flower Betty</td>
<td>Bradley Gilbert</td>
<td>2531 Rocky Ridge Road, Suite 101</td>
<td>Vestavia Hills, AL 35243</td>
<td>(205) 694-9229</td>
<td><a href="http://www.facebook.com/flowerbett">www.facebook.com/flowerbett</a></td>
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<td>Flower Betty</td>
<td>Marilee Howard</td>
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<td>Vestavia Hills, AL 35243</td>
<td>(205) 413-6965</td>
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<td>Troup's Pizza</td>
<td>Ashley Brazelton</td>
<td>3144 Heights Village</td>
<td>Vestavia Hills, AL 35243</td>
<td>(205) 536-6860</td>
<td><a href="http://www.troupspizza.com">www.troupspizza.com</a></td>
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<td>Keller Williams</td>
<td>Jennifer Toomer-Hay</td>
<td>3595 Grandview Parkway, Suite 250</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL 35243</td>
<td>(205) 568-4431</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kwbham.yourkwoffice.com">www.kwbham.yourkwoffice.com</a></td>
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<td>Keller Williams</td>
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<td>Birmingham, AL 35243</td>
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<td>RE101 Vestavia</td>
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<td>601 Vestavia Parkway, Suite 280</td>
<td>Vestavia Hills, AL 35216</td>
<td>(205) 502-7558</td>
<td><a href="http://www.re101.com">www.re101.com</a></td>
<td>Real Estate (Broker)</td>
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<td>Taylor Guthans</td>
<td>3965 Crosshaven Drive, Suite 101</td>
<td>Vestavia Hills, AL 35243</td>
<td>(205) 871-2000</td>
<td><a href="http://www.miloshamburgers.com">www.miloshamburgers.com</a></td>
<td>Restaurants</td>
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To be entered in the 2020 Second & 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 2020 Second & Third Quarter drawing for $250 gift certificate to Bistro V, courtesy of Roger Steur with Method Mortgage. When it comes to your mortgage, you need a helpful roadmap. And a friendly guide, too. Let Method Mortgage lead you to The Smartest Way Home. To learn more, visit www.methodmortgage.com, call 205.705.1650, or email us at rsteur@methodmortgage.com.

Savor the Summer in Vestavia Hills by visiting as many of our restaurants as possible! We’ll be giving away prizes for 2 categories: Quantity (the largest number of receipts collected) and Quality (the highest amount spent). Each 1st place winners will receive $300 cash, and the 2nd place winners will receive $200 cash.

Savor the Summer runs May 21-August 7. You can use your own envelope to keep your receipts in, or pick one up from the Chamber Office, City Hall, or New Merkle House. Receipt envelopes must be turned in to the Chamber of Commerce Office (1975 Merryvale Rd.) by 5:00 pm on August 7. The winners will be announced on August 14 on the Chamber’s Facebook page.

The following rules will apply:
- Open to both residents and non-residents
- Limit 1 entry per household
- Only 1 prize will be awarded per household
- Original or printed copy receipts are accepted
- Must have amount spent on receipt to count for Quality category
- 1 household receipt per restaurant per mealtime; multiple receipts from a restaurant is only allowed if it is for different dates or times (examples: one from a restaurant for breakfast and another from the same restaurant for dinner on the same day is accepted. One from a restaurant for lunch on Monday and one from the same restaurant for lunch on Tuesday is accepted. Paying separately for each member of the family for breakfast on the same visit to get multiple receipts is not accepted).
This year marks a milestone for Over The Mountain Journal, as we celebrate our 30th anniversary serving the communities of Vestavia Hills, Homewood, Mountain Brook, Hoover and North Shelby County.

Looking back at our first issue, published on Aug. 2, 1990, we started as we meant to go on: making it our mission to highlight the interesting people and exciting events that make Over the Mountain life so enjoyable. The OTMJ debuted with a profile of Mike Thompson and the 1990 PGA Golf Tournament Championship at Shoal Creek, an interview with local golf legend Hubert Green, “A Day in the Life” of meteorologist Jerry Tracey, and more.

Over the years, we’ve written about the achievements of area students in the classroom as well as in extracurricular activities. Many of these young people, like their parents, have distinguished themselves by the commitments they’ve made to help make the world a better place. We love telling their stories.

Events and galas, mostly virtual these days, have played a big part in our editorial coverage. Shining a light on people and the causes they support has been both fun and gratifying.

Our message from the beginning was that we were “all about you.” We have stayed true to that focus over the last 30 years. That’s been made possible, even in challenging times like these, thanks to the support of local advertisers (including the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce) interested in reaching the best readers in the state. Year after year, that’s the greatest birthday present we could possibly receive.

Member Notes

- BeYOUtiful BHM 2020 is a *virtual* fashion show and silent auction featuring models with intellectual and developmental disabilities and benefitting The Arc of Central Alabama. As a community, we come together to affirm that they are beautiful exactly as they are, while they help us change our perception of beauty one model at a time. Join us August 10-15 on The Arc of Central Alabama’s Instagram, Facebook, and at beyoutifulbirmingham.org to help us change the face of beauty in the Magic City!

- Vestavia Hills Rotary Club’s Hike the Hill is a sustainable community event that brings people together to benefit their overall health and well-being, while celebrating and supporting impactful programs (PTO and Rotary) that connect us here and around the world. Participants will select their School PTO Team during registration. A portion of $35/individual or $70/family entry fee will help fund your PTO Team’s mission of building stronger relationship with teachers, faculty and staff to support student education that includes providing financial support in the form of grants to support student education. Start your hike any time between September 1-20 at Little Shades Creek Bridge on Morgan Road and continue the climb to the crest past Vestavia Hills High School, ending at the corner of Limerock and Panorama. The round trip hike covers approximately 1.5 miles and ascends over 250 feet.

- Join the Jimmie Hale Mission for their inaugural Rescue Run 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run on October 10th at 7:30 am in Downtown Homewood! The race starts and ends on 29th Street by Dave’s Pizza. Register at https://runsignup.com/Race/AL/Birmingham/JimmieHaleMissionsRescueRun
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*Chamber Past Chair

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Email: betsyw@vestaviahills.org
Katie Woodruff, Communications Manager
Email: katiw@vestaviahills.org

Upcoming Chamber Meetings
August 11   Virtual Luncheon, 12 pm, Zoom
August 20   Board of Directors, 7:45 am

Other Meetings & Holidays
August 10   City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm
August 13   Planning & Zoning Commission, 6 pm
August 14   Cahaba Heights Park Grand Opening, 6 pm
August 20   Board of Zoning Adjustment, 6 pm
August 24   City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm
August 25   Municipal Elections

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