

NEWS & VIEWS

September 2021

Volume 41 Issue 9

September 14 Luncheon Mayor Ashley Currry State of the City

fter finishing high school in Montgomery, Alabama, Ashley Curry obtained an undergraduate degree in Industrial Management from the University of Alabama and an MBA from the University of South Carolina. His professional career began with Milliken & Company of Spartanburg, SC, followed by a 25 year career as a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He served the Tampa division for two years then was transferred to Birmingham in 1980 where he remained until his retirement in 2003. During his tenure with the FBI, he worked a myriad of criminal investigations including white collar crime, organized crime, public corruption, drugs, personal crimes and property crimes.



After retiring from the FBI, Ashley became the Assistant Federal Security Director for Law Enforcement with the newly-created Department of Homeland Security, specifically the Transportation Security Administration and was assigned to the Birmingham International Airport. In 2005, he left law enforcement and moved back into the corporate arena as the corporate recruiter for EBSCO Industries where he handled the recruitment of executive level positions within the company's 30 different business units. He retired from EBSCO in 2014.

(Continued on page 4)

Liberty Park Joint Venture

Unlike most hometowns, Liberty Park's story started with nearly 4,000 acres of spectacular land and a heartfelt mission to responsibly create a community so grand in thought and design that it would naturally bring together the traditions of yesterday, the lifestyle of today and the promises of tomorrow.



Here is a hometown as hometowns were always meant to be. Inspired by The City of Vestavia Hills and other cherished American hometowns, Liberty Park is a place both comfortably familiar and adventurously forward. Designed as a Master-Planned Community, Liberty Park is home to Vestavia Hills highly-rated Liberty Park Elementary and Middle Schools. And with more than 1,500 families who have already chosen Liberty Park as their hometown, it's a remarkable place where children ride bikes to school and race to the playgrounds. Where families gather at the pool, tennis courts and each other's backyards. And where lakes, parks and walking trails mean the great outdoors is very much part of your everyday world.

With the recent announcement of its new town village, The Bray, Liberty Park continues to fulfill its 2020 Vision Plan. Located adjacent to the new Encompass Health corporate headquarters, Liberty Park's 700-acre, multi-phased Town Village is expertly planned to serve as a true live, work and play environment. The Town Village will include pedestrian walkways, an expansive Town Green and gathering places all designed to honor our hometown legacy.

(Continued on page 5)

LUNCHEON SPONSOR

NEWS AND VIEWS

August was a great month for the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce with the luncheon featuring Dr. Todd Freeman and the 30th Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast featuring Brodie Croyle, Executive Director of the Big Oak Ranch.

The impact that groups such as the Big Oak Ranch have on our young people is wonderful. I know we all wish we didn't have to have groups such as this, but we are truly fortunate when the need arises that the Big Oak Ranch and so many other organizations are willing to step in and fill that void. I know it took us a little over 16 months to have this event, but it was definitely worth the wait.



John Henley

At the September luncheon, we will have Mayor Ashley Curry giving us the State of the City address. Mountain Brook will host this year's joint 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. Also on September 11th, we will have the annual recycling day at the Vestavia Hills City Hall. Be sure to bring your paper, electronics, hazardous waste and unneeded prescription medication to turn in.

Also, as we move into September it is time to start thinking about holiday shopping. Be sure to be on the lookout for a schedule of activities for our business districts as we start to get ready for the Season. Our local businesses depend on you shopping local, so please be sure to make your lists and shop at your favorite Vestavia Hills Business! 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

NEWS AND VIEWS

rom the President...
We are delighted to welcome Mayor Ashley Curry as our speaker for the September 14th luncheon. There are so many incredible things happening in Vestavia Hills so make sure and join us to hear an update on things happening in Vestavia Hills. You can register at vestaviahills.org with your login and password or by calling the Chamber office at 205.823.5011.

We want to thank Liberty Park Joint Venture for sponsoring the luncheon for the month of September. Their support enables us to do these events each month and we are so grateful for their support and partnership!



Karen Odle

The Vestavia Hills Living magazine will be mailed by the time you get this newsletter so be on the lookout for your copy within the next few weeks to be delivered to your home. The sneak peek looks really great. We are excited to have it finished and I think you will enjoy reading about your neighbors and the many great things happening in Vestavia Hills.

See elsewhere in this newsletter for information regarding the Shredding/e-Recycle/Hazardous Waste and Medication Take-back Day scheduled for September 11th from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM. This is a great opportunity to take those things we all have cleaned out of our basement during our time at home and dispose of them at one time. If you have questions about any items, feel free to call the Chamber office at 205.823.5011 and if we don't know, we will find out the answer for you.

Please consider being a Chamber Champion in 2022. This will give you sponsorship opportunities in almost all of our events and allow you to budget for the year to maximize your dollars. Contact Lisa Christopher at 205.862.3445 for details.

Be sure and check out the calendar frequently on the Chamber website and watch your email and Facebook to stay on top of the 'happenings' in Vestavia Hills.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Vestavia Hills. This is truly the best community in which you could ever work, play and raise a family....find a place to get involved. You CAN make a difference as together we work toward "A Life Above!

Unity. Prosperity. Family.

Karen J. Odle President

September 14 Luncheon

Reservations must be made by 4:00 PM Friday, September 10, 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, September 10 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 <u>NO JEANS</u> in the ballroom where we hold our monthly luncheons.

(Continued from page 1)

In the summer of 2016, Ashley launched his campaign to become the mayor of Vestavia Hills, Alabama. He was elected in August and took office in November of that same year. Ashley recently ran for re-election and began serving his second term in office in November 2020.

Ashley and his wife, Marga, have been married 47 years and have been residents of Vestavia Hills since 1986 where they are active members of Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church. They have two children: Stuart and Anna. Their son, Stuart Curry, is a dentist and resides in Vestavia Hills with his wife, Christy, and their two children. Anna Curry Gualano, their daughter, is an attorney and also resides in Vestavia Hills with her husband, Mark, and their two children.

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 2021, please email chamber@vestaviahills.org.

2021 Dates: September 14 October 12 November 9 December 14

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

Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce

AMBASSADOR HIGHLIGHT



CHRISTINA
BABINEAUX
FIRST US BANK

- Serves as Chair of the Ambassador Program and a Trustee of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce
- · Favorite VH Chamber Event: I Love America Night
- Favorite Hobby/Activity: Making Candies & Cakes!



Please join the Cities of Homewood, Mountain Brook, and Vestavia Hills for a

Patriot Day Ceremony

Saturday, September 11th, 2021 8:30 AM

Crestline Village

Remembering 20 Years

Hosted by the City of Mountain Brook



(Continued from page 1)

Ranked among Birmingham's best places to live, one visit and you'll see why our residents say Liberty Park is a sanctuary, and oasis – and the only hometown that's still small enough to know your neighbors yet big enough to fulfill your family's brightest future. We hope you will come visit us at Liberty Park soon!



Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2021 Third Quarter Refer and Win Prize Drawing! They will be entered in the drawing at the September luncheon 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 coworkers. 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.

Those entered are: Josh Lovelady; Kent Scott; Taylor Burton; Gary Jordan x3; Lawrence Angelo; James Robinson; Linda Parker; Christina Babineaux

To be entered in the 2021 Fourth 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 Fourth Quarter drawing.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

God's Sitting Partners

Quteria Bryant 4220 Cahaba Heights Court, Suite 203 Vestavia Hills, AL 35243 (205) 259-1687

www.godssittingpartners.com Category: Home Health Care

Iron Standard

Danny Price 5820 Southhall Road Birmingham, AL 35213 (770) 789-8380 www.ironstandardpt.com Category: Healthcare; Physical Therapy

Heinz Dueffer, M.D.

Vestavia Hills, AL 35216 (205) 222-0889

Category: Healthcare; Physicians

◆ JPAR Coast & County

Jason Will 5518 Crestwood Blvd Birmingham, AL 35205 (205) 778-4428

www.jparcoastandcounty.com Category: Real Estate (Broker)

Captain D's

Velma Matthews 1473 Montgomery Highway Vestavia Hills, AL 35216 (205) 823-4279 www.captainds.com Category: Restaurants

Gentry Pharmacy

Clint Gentry 3100 Blue Lake Drive Vestavia Hills, AL 35243 (205) 970-1983 www.gentrypharmacy.com Category: Pharmacy; Gifts Amberly Gentry 3100 Blue Lake Drive Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

(205) 970-1983

Gentry Pharmacy

www.gentrypharmacy.com Category: Pharmacy; Gifts

◆ Chen Law, LLC

Derek Chen 1957 Hoover Court, Suite 314 Hoover, AL 35226 (205) 637-6688 Category: Attorneys

ClearVision Eye Center

Stuart Leverette 1920 Huntington Road

Birmingham, AL 35209

(205) 778-0108

Category: Optometrists/Opthamologists;

Healthcare

Right Way Local

Gary Couvillion 109 Willow Ridge Drive Indian Springs Village, AL 35124 (205) 686-3390 www.rightwaylocal.com

Category: Marketing Services



Trustee Spotlight





District Judge Martha Cook

Judge Martha Reeves Cook, a former Chair of the Board of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce, is honored to be recognized as the Trustee Spotlight for the month of September.

Prior to her appointment by Governor Ivey to District Court Judge for Jefferson County, Place 1, Judge Cook was a long-time volunteer for the Chamber. During those years, Judge Cook learned the importance of supporting local communities, businesses, and residents, and she was blessed to work with the incredible employees and fellow volunteers for the Chamber. "I am confident my work with the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce and my graduation from Leadership Vestavia Hills were

fundamental to my current service as a judge for the businesses and residents of Jefferson County," says Judge Cook.

Prior to Judge Cook's appointment to her judgeship in 2019, Judge Cook practiced civil law for over 20 years, most of those years with Chip McCallum, Eric Hoaglund, and Brent Irby at McCallum Hoaglund Cook & Irby, LLP, now McCallum Hoaglund & McCallum. In 2016, she opened Martha Reeves Cook, LLC to expand her growing mediation practice. "Leaving my private mediation practice in 2019 was difficult because I worked very hard to grow my business and to become successful as a mediator," she says. "Wonderfully, this judgeship allows me to serve many more businesses and residents than I ever could as a private mediator."

While serving as a judge during the COVID-19 has been challenging, it has also shown Judge Cook the resiliency and creativity of the legal system and the attorneys who serve their clients. "Thankfully, no one has shown up as a cat in one of my Zoom hearings," she reports.

Judge Cook is a native of Selma, Alabama, and a graduate of Randolph-Macon Women's College (now Randolph College) in Lynchburg, VA. She earned her law degree in 1996 from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University. Her most treasured achievement is being mom to two grown and wonderful sons. "They are my heart," she says proudly.

You may learn more at Keep Judge Martha Cook on Facebook and https://jefferson.alacourt.gov/district-judges/marthacook/



John Henley-State Farm Insurance

John is a local Vestavia Hills State Farm Agent and he enjoys helping his clients manage the risks of everyday life, recover from the unexpected and realize their dreams. John and his wife Gina are very involved in the Vestavia Hills community and have lived her



for the last 20 years. They have two daughters, Katharine and Lily and both are graduates of Vestavia Hills High School.

John and his team work hard every day to help their clients. They also strive to be here when their clients need them most, walking through the claims process. Please stop by his office, give him a call at 823-1343, email him at john@callhenley.com or visit him on-line at www.callhenley.com to obtain additional information or a free quote.

John is chair of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce and is a former member of the Vestavia Hills City Council. He has been a member of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce since 2005, and currently is a Trustee and Chamber Champion. He is a graduate and Past President of Leadership Vestavia Hills, and a Charter Member and Past President of the Vestavia Hills Sunrise Rotary Club He and his family are active members of St. Elias Maronite Catholic Church.

You can follow John's agency on Facebook or on Twitter at @SFAgentHenley. John wants you to be a part of their State Farm family so give him or his team a call today.



SHRED & RECYCLE DAY

SEPT. 11, 2021 | 9AM-1PM | VESTAVIA HILLS CITY HALL

PAPER SHREDDING, ELECTRONICS RECYCLE, HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL, & MEDICATION TAKEBACK

ACCEPTABLE ELECTRONIC ITEMS:

PCs, Including Laptops | Servers | Cell Phones & Tablets | Satellite & Cable Boxes |
Gaming Systems & Components | Stereos & Radios | Switches & Firewalls |
Printers & Fax Machines

*Special Fees: Hard Drive & CRT Monitors \$10 & Televisions \$20

ACCEPTABLE HAZARDOUS WASTE:

Paint | Lightbulbs | Batteries (Household & Automotive) | Pesticides

*Paint & pesticides must be in original containers

*Proof of Vestavia Hills Residency required for Hazardous Waste Disposal

MEDICATION TAKE-BACK:

The Vestavia Hills Police Department will be on site collecting unneeded medications for disposal. (No Needles)



Special Thanks to: ProTec Recycling, AmWaste, & Gone For Good





HOLLYWOOD POOLS/ALABAMA GASLIGHT & GRILL 1441 MONTGOMERY HIGHWAY

PRESENTED BY THE VESTAVIA HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION. & VESTAVIA HILLS RESTAURANTS & BUSINESSES

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT:

THE CHAMBER FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND & CAPITAL FUND.

TICKETS - \$50.00 PER PERSON (85% TAX DEDUCTIBLE) INCLUDES A VIVA VESTAVIA XVII COMMEMORATIVE ETCHED WINE GLASS **TICKETS ON SALE SOON** MUST BE 21 OR OVER TO ATTEND.

SPONSORS















NEWS AND VIEWS Member Notes

- Join the **Heights Village** for Party on the Patio on Thursday, September 2 from 3:00-9:00 pm. Shop extended hours at the Heights Village shops and kick off Football Season with us. Wear your Team Colors and be ready for Tailgate Tastings, Giveaways and more!
- Mountain High Outfitters is having a Tent Sale September 9-12, with up to 70% off favorite brands! 310 Summit Blvd, Suite 110
- Check out the Fall Family Fun Guide in the September issue of **Birmingham Christian Family** and much more! Read it online at https://birminghamchristian.com/issues/
- 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.
- Mills Pharmacy is sponsoring the Annual Hold the Fort Races on September 18 at 8:00 am at Oak Mountain State Park. Register for the 5K, 10K or 1 mile Fun Run at www.holdthefortraces.com. Proceeds this year are dedicated to raising \$1.5 million to construct Blanket Fort Hope's restorative therapeutic housing center and ensure ongoing operations in training, development, and advocacy in the community.
- Brookdale University Park opened their new Bistro in August. The Bistro will complement the already existing Dining Room and provide the convenience of grabbing a healthy breakfast, lunch or gourmet coffee as well as create a space that facilitates comradery among everyone on campus. Brookdale Senior Living is proud to provide this opportunity for our residents, visitors and associates. If you'd like to see the Brookdale Bistro for yourself, contact Leanne Messer, Business Development Coordinator at 205-613-0688 or email kmesser@brookdale.com.
- Sterling Seacrest Pritchard, a top insurance brokerage and consulting firm, has received several new honors in recognition of its growth and achievement. Two industry trade publications, *Insurance Journal* and Business Insurance, ranked Sterling Seacrest Pritchard among the nation's top agencies.
- Iz the Place is booking reservations for holiday events with options to host parties to accommodate up to 125 people. 3325 Rocky Ridge Plz., Vestavia Hills, 35243. (205) 979-7522
- Join the Jimmie Hale Mission on October 9th for their 2nd Annual Rescue Run 10K, 5K, & 1 Mile Fun Run! Register at www.jhmrescuerun.com

2021 Trustees

Kimberly Jackson-Alabama Power Company Chris Thomas-America's First Federal Credit Union Jeff Phillips-American Pest Control Beau Bevis-ARC Realty Steve Ammons-Jefferson County Commission Patrick Cushman-BancorpSouth Steve Vickery-BB&T Sandra Cleveland-BCR Wealth 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-Cameron, Travis & Co. Calvin Brown-Dog U Jonathan Handey-Eco Three Christina Babineaux-First US Bank Charlie Norton-Harbert Realty Services Steve Mote-Hollywood Pools/Alabama Gaslight & Grill Donnie Dobbins-Iberia Bank Mike Jackson*-Jackson Howard & Whatley, CPAs

Matthew Allen-JBMC Media, LLC

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Jamie Pursell-Leaf & Petal

John Bonanno-Liberty Park Joint Venture

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Roger Steur*-Method Mortgage Robin Morgan*-Morgan Properties Todd Jackson-Newk's Eatery Kerry Adkins-OnTime Service Maury Wald-Over the Mountain Journal Dr. Melanie Petro-Petro Facial Plastic Surgery & MedSpa Sean Johnson-Progress Bank James Pace-Rainbow Paint Angela Stevens-RealtySouth Jimmy Nuckles-Regions Bank Senator Dan Roberts Lauren Trim-Sentry Heating, Air Conditioning, Plumbing & Generators Scott Jenkins-Southern States Bank Steve Smith-SouthPoint Bank Amy Kabase-Spectrum Reach Rob Dowda-SpeedPro Imaging 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 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









































Board of Directors		Upcoming Chamber Meetings
Chair: John Henley, State Farm Insurance Chair Elect: Sandra Cleveland, BCR Wealth	Sept 14	Chamber Luncheon, 11:30 am, Vestavia Country Club
Vice Chair Membership Development: Erin Holtz,	•	
Pure Fitness	Sept 16	Board of Directors, 7:45 am, Chamber Office
Vice Chair Business Development: Taylor Burton, Taylor Burton Co., Inc.	Sept 21	Business Development, 8 am, Chamber Office
Vice Chair Community Affairs: Marty Martin,		
B.L. Harbert		Events
Vice Chair Programming: James Robinson, Spire Vice Chair Public Education: Kelly Bottcher, VHUMC	Sept 11	Helping Hands Recycle Day, 9 am, City Hall
Treasurer: Ben Chambliss	ССРСТТ	Troiping Harids (Coyole Bay, 5 am, Oity Haii
Jackson, Howard & Whatley, CPAs		
Secretary/Legal Counsel: Mark Macoy		Other Meetings & Holidays
Mark W. Macoy, LLC Immediate Past Chair: Gary Jordan,	Sept 9	Planning & Zoning Commission, 6 pm
Summit Franchising Group	Sept 13	City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm
Past Chair: Roger Steur, Method Mortgage	Sept 16	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Directors	•	Board of Zoning Adjustment, 6 pm
Keri Bates, Rocky Ridge Drug Co.	Sept 27	City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm
Doug Dean, Children's of Alabama Donnie Dobbins, IberiaBank		
Clabe Dobbs, Progress Bank		
Linda Parker, Dream Vacations		
Rachel Patterson, Bradford Health Services amie Pursell, Leaf & Petal		
jamie rursen, Lear & retai		
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