



NEWS & VIEWS

October 2023

Volume 43 Issue 10

October 10 Mayor Ashley Curry, State of the City

After 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 his work in production supervision, sales and accounting 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. Prior



to his retirement, he worked as the FBI Police Training Coordinator where he handled the training of state and local police officers.

After retiring from the FBI, Ashley served as the Assistant Federal Security Director for Law Enforcement with the newly created U.S. 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 are-

(Continued on page 4)

America's First Federal Credit Union

AmFirst has a strong history in the state of Alabama. It was originally founded in 1936 at U.S. Steel's Ensley Works in Birmingham to provide financial services to under-served individuals. AmFirst has since grown to a full-service, one-stop financial institution with more than \$2.3 billion dollars in assets.



AmFirst is a community-chartered credit union with 21 branch locations, including a Vestavia Hills branch at 1112 Montgomery Highway.

In 2023, our Vestavia Hills' branch was named Best Credit Union in Vestavia Hills by Vestavia Hills Magazine.

With more than 200,000 members, AmFirst is one of the strongest credit unions in the nation and is always committed to providing cost-effective financial services. Every AmFirst member owns a share of the credit union and is required to maintain a \$5 balance in a Share Account (savings). AmFirst accounts are federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

As a not-for-profit cooperative, we are able to offer checking accounts with no monthly fees and help you earn greater dividends on your savings. AmFirst money market and share (savings) accounts carry higher rates than many other financial institutions — giving back more to our members. In addition, we offer some on the most competitive loan rates in the

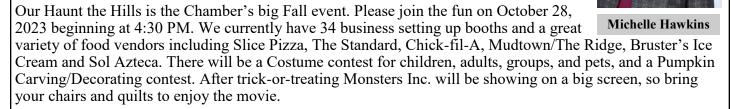
(Continued on page 4)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Hello and Happy October!

What a fabulous time of year! Here at the Chamber, October brings an array of business networking events, community partnerships, and fun events this month!

Our next Chamber Luncheon is Tuesday, October 10, 2023. Networking starts at 11: 30 AM and our guest keynote speaker is our honorable Mayor Ashley Curry speaking on the state of our City. Register at www.vestaviahills.org by October 5.



We have FOUR ribbon cuttings scheduled for October! Please check the calendar of events and join us in welcoming these businesses to Vestavia Hills!

Please join us for our October Lunch and Learn on October 4 at 11:30 am to learn how service and facility dogs are needed in schools, businesses, and organizations. Also learn more how your business can help to sponsor a facility dog in our local schools. Thanks to The Standard for sponsoring lunch. Register at www.vestaviahills.org.

Coffee & Classrooms began last year with the combined efforts of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce and the City of Vestavia Hills Community Partners. This monthly event is hosted at the school campuses in our City. From 8:30 - 9:30 AM you can hear from the principals, school officials, PTO, and students about the investment opportunities in our school system through in-kind donations or monetary. Businesses are welcomed to sign up to attend the sponsored school. Our next Coffee & Classrooms will be on October 31 at 8:30 am at Vestavia Hills High School. Register at www.vestaviahills.org.

We would like to encourage you as a Chamber member to get more involved by attending events and participating as a volunteer on a committee. The opportunities are abundant and the benefits from being a Chamber member will be substantial to you and your business. For more information, please Sign Up Here

Viva Vestavia Hills Committee Wednesday, October 18th 8:30 AM

New Member Orientation Monday, October 23rd 5:00 PM

Business Development Committee Meeting October 25th 7:30 (soft start) 8 AM– 9 AM

Haunt the Hills Volunteer October 28, 2023, volunteer time slots available beginning at 2:30 PM Volunteer Sign up

Other Community Events:

NEWS AND VIEWS

(Continued from page 2)

Community Night Out

Thursday, October 5th 5:00 PM

Vestavia Hills City Hall (Front Lawn)

BCR Wealth's Annual Fall Party

Thursday, October 12th 4:30 – 7:30 PM

1952 Urban Center Parkway, Vestavia, AL 35242

Washington Update Luncheon (sponsored by Greater Birmingham Area Chambers of Commerce)

FEATURING

The Honorable Katie Britt

(U.S. Senator – Alabama)

Friday, October 20th 11:45AM – 1:15PM

(a) Jefferson State Community College Shelby / Hoover Campus

4600 Valleydale Road, Hoover

Reservations are required by noon on Tuesday, Oct. 17, so please contact The Shelby County Chamber at info@shelbycountychamber.org, at 205-663-4542 or visit shelbychamber.org

Creative Hearts Festival

Thursday, October 26, 5:30-7:30 pm

Vestavia City Center

Join the Vestavia Hills Arts Council as we gather together to celebrate our diverse creativity and experience the beauty of local art.

Halloween in the Heights

Saturday, October 28th

Trick-or-Treat 10 AM – 5 PM – Cahaba Heights Businesses

Witches Ride 3 PM

Vestavia Hills Shares Card

Check out the October Hot Deals from our participating Chamber businesses with OUTSTANDING discounts, or FREE food and merchandise! The card can pay for itself in one day with the amazing hot deals AND you can continue to use the card every day through May 2024. A new list of deals will be released each month. Visit www.vestaviahills.org/vestavia-shares-card to purchase a Vestavia Hills Shares Card and view the most up to date list of discounts from our participating businesses. Cards are \$30 each and good now through May 2024. Unless otherwise noted, deals may be used once per day, every day.

Vestavia Hills Shares Card

As always, it is my honor and joy to serve all our Vestavia Hills Chamber members.

With Warm Wishes,

Michelle Hawkins, President

October 10 Luncheon

Reservations must be made by 4:00 PM Thursday, October 5, 2023 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 Thursday, October 5 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)

na as the corporate recruiter for EBSCO Industries. In this capacity, he handled the recruitment of executive level positions within the company's 30 different business units. He retired from EBSCO in 2014.

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

Ashley and his wife, Marga, have been residents of Vestavia Hills since 1986. They are active members of Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church and recently celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary. 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.

(Continued from page 1)

market. Members turn to AmFirst for loans on homes, vehicles, small business loans, credit cards and other items.

For more information visit amfirst.org or call (205) 320-4000.

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 2023, please email katiew@vestaviahills.org

2023 Dates:

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

October 10 November 14 December 12

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

South Mountain Dental Care

Sarah Comer

3186 Rush Street, Suite 100

Vestavia Hills, AL 35242

(205) 855-4850

www.southmountaindentalcare.com

Category: Dentists

Minette

Erin Helton

3182 Bellwood Drive, Suite 120

Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

(205) 401-1425

www.shopminette.com

Category: Clothing; Gifts

Peterbrooke Chocolatier

Sarah Tharani

3112 Heights Village

Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

(205) 593-4686

www.peterbrooke.com

Category: Candy; Restaurants

Adrian Yvette Beauty

Adrian Spencer

790 Montgomery Highway, Suite 108

Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

(205) 887-3402

www.adrianyvettebeauty.com

Category: Spa; Hair/Beauty Salon

♦ Buffalo Wild Wings Go

Tim Spencer

640 Montgomery Highway

Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

(205) 407-4089

www.buffalowildwings.com

Category: Restaurants; Caterers

♦ HUM Concierge: A Lifestyle Management Agency

Sarah Robinson

1012 Highland Road

Birmingham, AL 35209

(251) 230-0432

www.humconcierge.com

Category: Concierge

♦ Idyllo

Jessica Majno

1500 1st Avenue N.

Birmingham, AL 35205

(205) 201-1286

www.idyllo.com

Category: Home Services

♦ Libby's Friends

Lane Hagan

3546 Westbury Road

Birmingham, AL 35223

(205) 529-8377

www.libbysfriends.org

Category: Healthcare; Organizations

Birmingham Parent

Carol Evans

703 Logan Road, Suite 150

Clanton, AL 35045

(205) 624-2405

www.birminghamparent.com

Category: Publications



RIBBON CUTTINGS



Join us at a Ribbon Cutting for:



LOADED TEAS | BOWLS | PROTEIN SHAKES | ACAII

10/3/23 9:00 AM 670 Montgomery Hwy Vestavia Hills Al 35216



Clover + Bee is Alabama Retail
Association's GOLD Retailer of
the Year!

Join us at a ribbon cutting for



October 17th 12:00 PM

633 Montgomery Hwy Vestavia Hills AL 35216

Remind

Want to get text reminders about Chamber events?
Sign up by texting this number: 81010
message being: @vhcham

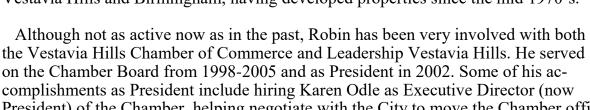


Trustee Spotlight



Robin Morgan-Morgan Properties

Robin owns and manages real estate properties in the Rocky Ridge area of Vestavia Hills which include the Morgan Manor Apartments, Rocky Ridge Square Shopping Center and Rocky Ridge Plaza Shopping Center. Please check out the web site: rockyridgeliving.com. He also owns and manages other residential properties in Vestavia Hills and Birmingham, having developed properties since the mid 1970's.





President) of the Chamber, helping negotiate with the City to move the Chamber offices to the Civic Center in exchange for providing marketing services, publishing the first annual Vestavia Hills Living magazine, doubling the size of the Chamber membership, and traveling with a delegation of Vestavians to compete in the All American City competition in Kansas City (where VH was a finalist). As Chamber Foundation President he helped initiate the first Viva Vestavia!

Robin served on the Leadership Vestavia Hills Board from 2000-2010 and as President 2005-2006. In his capacity as President he helped implement the initial class of Youth Leadership Vestavia Hills (YLVH) with Kelly Bottcher and Kym Prewitt as mentors (this was the realization of an LVH project!) and revamped the Citizen of the Year event to the committee-driven model that it is today. As a Board member he chaired the Citizen of the Year Committee in 2010, mentored many LVH project groups over the years, organized and moderated numerous Economic Day classes and Government Day classes as co-chair.

Robin also served on Mayor McCallum's Long-Range Planning Committee which, at the time, analyzed the potential annexation of Cahaba Heights and created the current Strategic Plan (later called the Comprehensive Plan) for Vestavia Hills. He is currently President of the Collectors Circle for Contemporary Art of the Birmingham Museum of Art.

Robin is a graduate of Washington and Lee University. His major addictions are hearing live music, collecting contemporary art, travel, and playing guitar. Robin has two grown children; Rob, who is working in the family business, and Alison, a talented interior designer and real estate agent who lives in Washington, D.C.







PRESENTED BY

















TRICK-OR-TREAT ON THE GRAND LAWN WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ENJOY GAMES AND INFLATABLES FROM 4:30-6:00 PM! ALLERGY FRIENDLY TREATS AVAILABLE! LOOK FOR THE BOOTHS WITH THE TEAL PUMPKINS.

DRESS IN YOUR BEST FAMILY-FRIENDLY COSTUME FOR A COSTUME CONTEST. BRING YOUR CARVED OR DECORATED PUMPKIN TO ENTER IN THE PUMPKIN CONTEST. WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT 6:15 PM.

BRING A CHAIR OR BLANKET TO WATCH MONSTERS INC. AT 6:30 PM. FOOD TRUCKS/VENDORS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE SNACKS AND DINNER.

VISIT VESTAVIAHILLS.ORG FOR MORE INFO.

Many Thanks to our Sponsors





























































































NEWS AND VIEWS Member Notes

- You are invited to Mobility Central's annual Halloween Chili Cookoff on October 31 from 11 am-1 pm! Enjoy food, a costume contest and prizes! Blood drive happening from 9 am-3 pm. 400 Olde Towne Road
- Read the October issue of Birmingham Christian Family magazine that features Chamber members Vapor Ministries, The Jimmie Hale Mission, and more online at https://birminghamchristian.com/issues/.
- Addiction Prevention Coalition is hosting an Alabama Workplace Evolution Conference Supporting Mentally Healthy Work Environments on Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 9 am-3:30 pm at Jefferson State Community College. Register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/alabama-workplace-evolution-supportingmentally-healthy-work-environments-tickets-689568557117?aff=oddtdtcreator
- The 4th Annual Jimmie Hale Mission Rescue Run 10K, 5K, & 1 Mile Fun Run! On October 14th, 2023, join us as we proceed through the charming community of Homewood, starting and finishing on 29th Avenue South between 18th St. S. & 19th St. S. Race attendees will receive a high-quality race t-shirt & swag bag filled with goodies. After the race, we will provide post-race food items along with water and sports drink. Register at https://runsignup.com/Race/AL/Birmingham/JimmieHaleMissionsRescueRun
- Rise Against Hunger's 25th Anniversary Greater Birmingham event will be held Saturday Nov 4th! They will be packing meals at host site at John Carroll High School but it will be more of a community event with appearances from Birmingham-area team mascots. This will be a perfect opportunity for everyone to bring family, friends and employees to see what we are about, celebrate Birmingham and its people and meet with some other of our global impact partners. Contact John Corso at (205) 913-2215 or jcorso@riseagainsthunger.org for sponsorship information and to learn how to get involved. Register at http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/greaterbirmingham

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

Washington Update Luncheon

FEATURING

The Honorable Katie Britt

(U.S. Senator - Alabama)



Friday, October 20 11:45AM - 1:15PM

@ Jefferson State Community College Shelby / Hoover Campus 4600 Valleydale Road, Hoover

Elected to the U. S. Senate in 2022, Senator Britt currently serves on three committees: Appropriations; Banking, Housing & Urban Development and Rules & Administration.

Reservations can be made through the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce at shelbychamber.org

NEWS AND VIEWS

2023 Trustees

Kimberly Jackson-Alabama Power Company Chris Thomas-America's First Federal Credit Union Angela Stevens-ARC Realty Tommy Cannon-Ascension St. Vincent's Health System Ashley Wilbanks-Avadian Credit Union Sandra Cleveland*-BCR Wealth Ben Nevins-B.L. Harbert International Steve Ammons –Birmingham Business Alliance 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 Gerry Travis-Cameron Travis & Company, CPAs 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 Dan Bundy-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

Eric Smith-Medicare Advisors of Alabama Roger Steur*-Method Mortgage Clabe Dobbs-Millennial Bank Robin Morgan*-Morgan Properties Todd Jackson-Newk's Eatery Kerry Adkins-OnTime Service Maury Wald-Over the Mountain Journal Lisa Bearden-Overture Tributary Lacey Alford-Ray & Poynor Properties Scott Perry*-RealtySouth Daniel Gordon-Regions Bank Senator Dan Roberts Lauren Trim-Sentry Heating, Air Conditioning, Plumbing & Generators Tommy DeRamus-Shades Mountain Baptist Church Maury Molyneaux-Shoe Station Scott Jenkins-Southern States Bank Steve Smith-SouthPoint Bank Rob Dowda-SpeedPro Direct Kelvin Johnson-Spire Tyler Kime-Standard Heating, Cooling & Plumbing John Henley*-John Henley State Farm Insurance Taylor Burton-Taylor Burton Company Steve Vickery-Truist Sean Johnson-United Community Bank Dr. Bill Brunson-Vestavia Hills 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

2023 Chamber Champions

Platinum



























Silver

































Board of Directors		Upcoming Chamber Meetings
Chair: Donnie Dobbins, First Horizons Bank Chair Elect: Clabe Dobbs, Millennial Bank	Oct 10	Monthly Luncheon, 11:30 am, Vestavia Country Club
Vice Chair Membership Development: Keri Bates,	Oct 10	
Rocky Ridge Drug Co.		Board of Directors, 7:45 am, Chamber Office
Vice Chair Business Development: Jamie Pursell, Leaf & Petal	Oct 25	Business Develop. Committee, 7:30 am Chamber Office
Vice Chair Community Affairs: Tyler Kime,		
Standard Heating, Cooling & Plumbing Vice Chair Programming: Christina Babineaux, IRA		Events
Innovations	Oct 3	Ribbon Cutting: The Hills Nutrition, 9 am
Vice Chair Public Education: Rachel Patterson,	Oct 4	Lunch & Learn, 11:30 am, Chamber Office
Bradford Health Services Treasurer: Ben Chambliss	Oct 17	Ribbon Cutting: The Palm & Pig, 12 pm
Jackson, Howard & Whatley, CPAs	Oct 19	Ribbon Cutting: Peterbrooke Chocolatier, 4 pm
Secretary/Legal Counsel: Mark Macoy Mark W. Macoy, LLC	Oct 23	New Member Orientation, 5 pm, Chamber Office
Immediate Past Chair: Sandra Cleveland, BCR Wealth	Oct 25	Ribbon Cutting: Practice Works, 4 pm
Past Chair: John Henley, State Farm	Oct 28	
Directors Iamie Black, McDonald's		Haunt the Hills, 4:30 pm, Wald Park
Taylor Burton, Taylor Burton Co., Inc.	Oct 31	Coffee & Classrooms, 8:30 am, VHHS
Erin Holtz, Pure Fitness Marty Martin, B.L. Harbert		
Katherine McRee, The Lili Pad		Other Meetings & Holidays
Linda Parker, Dream Vacations	Oct 9	City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm
	Oct 12	Planning & Zoning Commission, 6 pm
Michelle Hawkins, President	Oct 19	Board of Zoning Adjustment, 6 pm
Phone: 823-5011 Fax: 823-8974 Email: michelleh@vestaviahills.org	Oct 13	
Web: www.vestaviahills.org	OCI 23	City Council Meeting, Council Chambers 6 pm
Tracy Thornton, Dir. Membership/Marketing		
tracyt@vestaviahills.org Annilyn Warner, Office Manager		
Email: annilynw@vestaviahills.org		
Katie Woodruff, Communications Manager		
Email: katiew@vestaviahills.org		

