



VESTAVIA HILLS
CHAMBER
of
COMMERCE

NEWS & VIEWS

January 2025

Volume 45 Issue 1

January 14 Luncheon Awards Program & Officer Installation

What an outstanding year the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce has had! Please mark your calendar and join us as we celebrate our accomplishments of 2024!

We will honor the many folks at our January luncheon who have contributed so much throughout the year along with recognizing our Businesses of the Year, Member of the Year, Volunteer of the Year and many others. We will also install new officers and directors for the coming year.

We would like to acknowledge your contribution in making our Chamber such a vibrant and vital part of Vestavia Hills. Hope to see you there!

Avadian Credit Union

LUNCHEON SPONSORS

Avadian Credit Union started as Alabama Telco in 1934. We opened with seven charter members and a capital base of \$70. Originally serving telephone company employees and their families, our membership expanded years ago. We've grown even more since, and we changed our name to Avadian in 2015. One thing didn't change: our founding principles. They are the same as they were in 1934.



We'll always be member-owned and member-focused. We'll always be committed to personal, one-on-one service to our members, even as we continue to grow and innovate. And we'll always value our members as people with dreams, plans, goals, and potential, and we are grateful to have the ability to help you.

Today, we serve more than 95,000 members at Avadian branches throughout Alabama. We offer access nationwide through CO-OP branches and ATMs as well as online, mobile, and telephone banking services. We're one of the largest credit unions in Alabama, managing over \$1.35 billion in assets.

But the most important measure of Avadian's quality is the delight of you, our members. You trust us to help you manage your personal finances, grow your businesses, save for the future, and put money aside for a much-needed vacation. Avadian isn't about rates, returns, features, and fees — we're about your financial needs and your future, and we have been for nine decades and counting.

Dear Chamber Members and Friends,

Happy New Year! As I begin my term as Chair of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce, I can't help but feel a deep sense of excitement for what lies ahead. The start of a new year is always a time for reflection, renewal, and fresh opportunities. I see this year as a chance for us all to begin anew and approach our community and our businesses with fresh energy and vision. I've always believed that Vestavia Hills is more than just a place to live or work—it's a community that has endless opportunity. It's a city I love, and I know that many of you share that same deep connection to this incredible place. The Chamber exists not only to support the businesses that call Vestavia Hills home but to strengthen the very fabric of our city by fostering collaboration and progress. When we come together as business owners, community leaders, and residents, we have the power to create lasting change. I truly believe that individuals can make a difference, but when we work together, we can have a far greater impact. Every effort, no matter how small, contributes to a stronger, more vibrant Vestavia Hills.



As we look ahead to 2025, I'm filled with optimism for the opportunities that await us. Whether you're a small business owner, a large corporate partner, or a community advocate, this year presents a chance to reimagine what we can accomplish together. It's a time to embrace fresh ideas, take bold steps, and support one another in ways that drive real growth—for businesses, for the city, and for each other. As your Chamber Chair, I'm committed to supporting you every step of the way. This year, let's focus on creating new connections, amplifying our collective voice, and continuing to build a community where every member feels empowered to contribute and thrive. As we embark on this exciting new chapter, I encourage each of you to take a moment to reflect on what makes Vestavia Hills such a special place to be. Let's embrace the opportunities before us with open hearts and open minds. Together, we have the power to make an even greater impact—whether through collaboration, innovation, or simply by supporting one another.

Before we move forward, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the outgoing board members for their hard work, dedication, and leadership in 2024. Their contributions have laid a strong foundation for us to build upon, and their efforts have truly made a difference in the lives of our members and in our community. We are grateful for their commitment, and I'm excited to continue their work in 2025. Thank you for your trust, your commitment, and your love for this city we call home. Here's to a year of fresh starts, new opportunities, and meaningful impact.

With gratitude,

Keri Bates

Board Chair, 2025

Hello and Happy Greetings Vestavia Hills Chamber members and community!

As we welcome in the new year here at the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce, it is a time of reflection. This past year has been amazing, and I am so excited and thankful about the accomplishments and growth of our Chamber but I'm especially happy with the positive energy and excitement within our Chamber membership and participation. It is also a great time to focus on goals and priorities. An integral part of achieving our Mission and Vision of the Chamber is laid out in our Strategic Plan. Please take a moment to read over as we all strive to make 2025 one of the best years yet.



Michelle Hawkins

Mission Statement

The Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce is an organization whose purpose is to serve and promote members and, together with community partners, advance the economic, civic, and educational environment of Vestavia Hills.

Vision Statement

The Chamber of Commerce is the essential business champion and community builder for Vestavia Hills – the Southeast's leading community for creativity, innovation, and economic vitality.

Strategic Priorities and Goals:

Strategic Priority #1: Service to Members

Goal #1: Deliver high-quality programs and services that provide value to all chamber members

Goal #2: Champion the interests of the business community

Strategic Priority #2: Management Excellence

Goal #1: Ensure effective planning, management, and impact

Goal #2: Ensure chamber's current and future financial stability

Strategic Priority #3: Quality of Place

Goal #1: Enhance community leadership, collaboration, and engagement

Goal #2: Enhance economic development

Goal #3: Support workforce development initiatives

Strategic Priority #4: Marketing and Communications

Goal #1: Develop a comprehensive branding, marketing, and communications strategy

Strategic Priority #5: Membership Growth and Development

Goal #1: Build an organization with a diverse membership reflective of the larger community

We are so pleased as our Chamber signature events such as I Love America Night, VIVA Vestavia, Dogwood Prayer Breakfast, and Haunt the Hills have successfully grown, and we love our collaboration with the City of Vestavia Hills with many joined events and festivals throughout the year including the Dogwood Festival and Holiday in the Hills. Our membership has grown with over 100 new members in 2024, and we have grown many of our committees, lunch and learn meetings, focus groups, and community partners relationships. I want to encourage all members to participate and volunteer; you will get back in so many ways more than the time you give.

As a Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce member, you all are the heart, soul, and future success of the Chamber and it is my honor and joy to serve you.

Michelle Hawkins
President

January 14 Luncheon

Reservations must be made by 4:00 PM Thursday, January 9, 2025 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, January 9 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.**

2025 Luncheon Reservations

We offer 2 options to make luncheon reservations easier:

- **Standing Reservation:** make a Standing Reservation and you will automatically be on each month's reservation list so you will not need to make a reservation each month. If you find you will not be able to attend a month, you will need to let us know to take you off the list for that month.
- **Pre-Paid Luncheons:** pay in advance for however many of the luncheons you would like so you won't have to worry about paying each month.

Please email katiw@vestaviahills.org if you would like a Standing Reservation or to Pre-Pay.

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 2025, please email katiw@vestaviahills.org

2025 Dates:

January 14	May 13	October 14
February 11	June 10	November 18
March 11	August 12	December 9
April 8	September 9	

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

- ◆ Northwestern Mutual
Nick Gardner
(205) 949-6915
1849 Data Drive
Hoover, AL 35244
nickgardner.nm.com
Category: Financial Planning
- ◆ Iron City Biomechanics
Neriah Franklin
(205) 245-4856
1401 Montgomery Highway, Suite 171
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
ironcitybiomechanics.com
Category: Fitness
- ◆ Front Porch Alabama
Scott Swoger
(205) 989-9394
3112 Blue Lake Drive, Suite 110
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
frontporchalabama.com
Category: Publications
- ◆ Front Porch Alabama
Michaela Bankston
(205) 989-9394
3112 Blue Lake Drive, Suite 110
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
frontporchalabama.com
Category: Publications
- ◆ Surv Birmingham
Jonathan Kiel
(205) 202-0122
P.O. Box 380215
Birmingham, AL 35238
wesurv.com/surv-birmingham
Category: Home Services
- ◆ The Prettiest Author in Alabama, LLC
D.P. Johnson
(205) 499-7092
2730 Crestwood Blvd, Unit 101761
Irondale, AL 35210
theprettiestauthorinalabama.com
Category: Education
- ◆ Magic City Title
Alicia Huey
(205) 368-3007
3535 Grandview Parkway, Suite 550
Birmingham, AL 35243
magiccitytitle.com
Category: Insurance; Title Services
- ◆ Old Overton Club
Jalen Pearson
(205) 901-2888
7251 Old Overton Club Drive
Vestavia Hills, AL 35242
oldovertonclub.com
Category: Country Club
- ◆ Edelweiss Heirlooms
Elizabeth Sheaffer
(205) 572-5879
1425 Montgomery Highway, Suite 119
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
edelweissheirlooms.com
Category: Antiques; Furniture; Gifts
- ◆ Epilepsy Foundation Alabama
Jeremiah Stone
(205) 453-8291
3100 Lorna Road, Suite 311
Birmingham, AL 35216
epilepsy.com/local/alabama
Category: Organizations



RIBBON CUTTINGS



RIBBON CUTTING



Thursday, January 9, 2025

12:00 pm

2025 Kentucky Avenue, Suite A

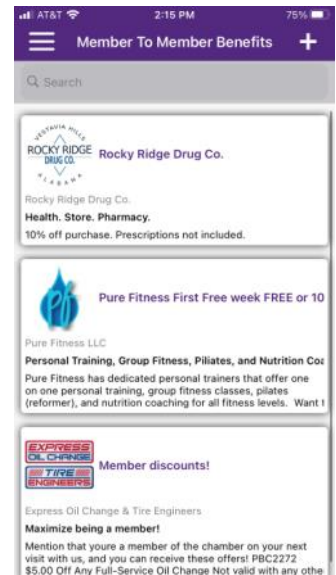
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

Join us in welcoming Piddlin Art & Antique to Vestavia Hills!

Refreshments will be served.

Member2Member Discount

Did you know discounts are available from your fellow Vestavia Hills Chamber members? Login to your Member account either through www.vestaviiahills.org or the MemberPlus mobile app to see what's available or add one of your own!



Cultivating Hiring & Revenue Success through Small Business Fellowship

We will dive deep into Michael Gerber's "The E-Myth Revisited" with fellow entrepreneurs and uncover transformative strategies to elevate your business. This mastermind will offer practical insights, collaborative problem-solving, and actionable steps to implement Gerber's principals effectively.

Meet Our Facilitator



Monica Drake
Pinnacle Financial Partners

Monica is currently the Community Development Coordinator and Vice President for Pinnacle Financial Partners.



VESTAVIA HILLS

📅 **January 15, 2025**

🕒 **8:00 AM CDT**

- 🍳 Breakfast will be provided.
- 🚫 The event is free of charge!

Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce
1090 Montgomery Hwy, Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

Taste of Vestavia Hills



VIVA 
VESTAVIA HILLS



20th Anniversary

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025

6:30-9:00 PM

VESTAVIA HILLS CIVIC CENTER BALLROOM

TICKETS: \$50 EACH | EMERALD TICKETS: \$75 EACH

VISIT VESTAVIAHILLS.ORG FOR MORE INFO



Join us for a night of food, fun and fundraising with tastings from over 20 local restaurants, a silent auction and live music. Dress to impress in cocktail attire and enjoy an evening filled with culinary delights, community connections and meaningful impact. All proceeds benefit the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce Foundation Scholarship Fund.

\$75 Emerald Tickets include 1 entry in a drawing for an emerald necklace, courtesy of Steed's Jewelers

MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!



JACKSON, HOWARD
& WHATLEY, CPAS

Steed's Jewelers
FINE JEWELERS





During 2025, the Library is inviting local businesses to spend time at the library discussing with patrons what they do and what services they offer.

Cost: Free

Time: Flexible. Open 9 am - 8 pm on Tuesdays.

Peak Hours: 11-1 pm and 4-6 pm

Duration: 1 to 1.5 hours or longer depending upon response.

Location: Lobby or across from the front desk.

Details: Collect names, make appointments and offer giveaways. The program should be informative, so no selling or exchange of money on site.

Setup: We have tables, chairs and plain black tablecloths. Bring your own event display items.

Advertising: We will promote TBT and share your information as the featured business for that week. Our main page is vestavialibrary.org/talkbusiness. We will include all participating businesses including logo, name, description and link.

If you have any questions, please email todd.richardson@vestavialibrary.org.



2024-2025 Vestavia Hills Shares Card

On Sale Now at vestaviahills.org!

Shop Dine and Play Vestavia Hills!! Shop locally and support our schools while you support our community.

2ND ANNUAL LEADOFF DINNER
BENEFITTING
VESTAVIA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL
THIS YEAR CELEBRATING

BUY TICKETS NOW

SENATOR J.T. "JABO" WAGGONER
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE VESTAVIA HILLS SPORTS HALL OF FAME REUNION

CATERED DINNER | CASH BAR | SILENT AUCTION
LIVE MUSIC | GUEST SPEAKER | SPECIAL GUESTS

JAN 16, 2025 DOORS OPEN @ 5:30 PM
VH CIVIC CENTER 1090 MONTGOMERY HWY

Member Notes

- **Clean Cajun Cookin** is offering a great deal to start off the new year! Get \$200 off your 1st personal meal prep service, plus an additional \$100 off your following 3 meal prep services. Contact Chef Kimm Free at (504) 295-3109 or cleancajuncookin@gmail.com
- Read the latest issue of *Birmingham Christian Family* magazine that features Chamber members The Trak Shak, Sav-A-Life, and more online at <https://birminghamchristian.com/issues/>.
- Join **Vestavia Hills Methodist Church** for their upcoming events:
 - 21 Days of Prayer: Beginning Sun., Jan.5 - Sat, Jan. 26, join us for a walk through the Psalms on weekdays at 6:00am in Tyson Hall and Sat. at 7:30am. (also available on Livestream)
 - Marriage Retreat: Fri., 1/24, a romantic dinner at Galley and Garden - Sat., 1/25 in Tyson Hall with a day of fun and great topics.
 - Women's Retreat: Fri., 1/31, 6-9pm - Sat., 2/1, 8:30 - 3pm. Welcome Sophie Hudson as guest speaker. Cost is \$50 and includes meals. Contact Alison McCall with questions. Space is limited

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

Review Your Membership Information

Start 2025 with a freshly updated Member Listing! Take a few minutes to review your contact info and make sure it's current. Visit www.vestaviiahills.org and click on Directory under the Membership drop-down menu to see how your business is listed in our directory.

Send any changes to katiew@vestaviiahills.org.

2025 Trustees

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
 Jane Dewitt-Cahaba Dermatology Skin Health Center
 Dr. Darcy Schofill-Cahaba Mountain Brook Animal Clinic
 Gerry Travis-Cameron Travis & Company, CPAs
 Representative Jim Carns
 David Surber-Cellular Sales Agent of Verizon Wireless
 Calvin Brown-Dog U
 Jonathan Handey-Eco Three
 Donnie Dobbins*-First Horizon Bank
 Dan Bundy-First US Bank
 Ashley Mathews-Grandview Health Center
 Stan Glantz-KPR-Vestavia City Center
 Jamie Pursell-Leaf & Petal
 Jennifer Yates-Liberty Park Joint Venture
 Mark Macoy-Mark W. Macoy, LLC
 Chip McCallum-McCallum Hoaglund & McCallum, LLP
 Jason Frey-Medical Properties Trust
 Robin Morgan*-Morgan Properties
 Kerry Adkins-OnTime Service
 Maury Wald-Over the Mountain Journal
 Meredith Chisenhall-Payroll & Benefits Solutions

Scott Perry*-RealtySouth
 Robert Davis-Regions Bank
 Senator Dan Roberts
 Lauren Trim-Sentry Heating, Air Conditioning,
 Plumbing & Generators
 Maury Molyneaux-Shoe Station
 Warren Giardina-Southern States Bank
 Steve Smith-SouthPoint Bank
 Kelvin Johnson-Spire
 Taylor Burton-Taylor Burton Company
 Steve Vickery-Truist
 Tommy Cannon-UAB St. Vincent's Health
 Sean Johnson-United Community Bank
 Dan Starnes-Vestavia Voice
 Senator Jabo Waggoner
 Jay McGowan-The Welch Group
 Mark Yanosky, D.M.D.-Yanosky Orthodontics

*Chamber Past Chair



CHAMBER CHAMPIONS

PLATINUM CHAMPIONS



GOLD CHAMPIONS



SILVER CHAMPIONS



Board of Directors

Chair: Keri Bates, Rocky Ridge Drug Co.

Chair Elect: Taylor Burton, Taylor Burton Co.

Vice Chair, Membership Development: Christina Babineaux, IRA Innovations

Vice Chair, Business Development: Andrew Burke, General Informatics

Vice Chair, Community Affairs: Kelly Atchison, TWO MEN AND A TRUCK

Vice Chair, Programming: Jamie Black, McDonald's-Black Family Restaurants

Vice Chair, Public Education: Ashley Moss, Village Dermatology

Treasurer: Roger Jackson, Jackson, Howard & Whatley CPAs

Secretary/Legal Counsel: Mark Macoy, Mark Macoy LLC

Past Chair: Clabe Dobbs, Peoples Bank of Alabama

Directors

Bob Barker, Barker Advertising

Brian Fisher, Community Bank

Bridgett Glasgow, ERA King Realty

Tyler Kime, Standard Heating, Cooling & Plumbing

Katherine McRee, The Lili Pad

Roger Steur, Method Mortgage

Grant Thomas, ALFA Insurance-The Thomas Agency

Kevin Wade, ITAC Solutions

Michelle Hawkins, President

Phone: 823-5011 Fax: 823-8974

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Web: www.vestavihills.org

Tracy Thornton, Dir. Membership/Marketing

tracyt@vestavihills.org

Katie Woodruff, Communications Manager

Email: katiew@vestavihills.org

Upcoming Chamber Meetings

Jan 14

Monthly Luncheon, 11:30 am, Vestavia Country Club

Jan 16

Board of Directors Retreat, 7:00 am, Vestavia Library

Events

Jan 9

Ribbon Cutting: Piddlin Art & Antique, 12 pm

Jan 15

Masterminds Workshop, 8 am, Chamber Office

Jan 28

Viva Vestavia, 6:30 pm, Vestavia Hills Civic Center



News and Views

Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce

1090 Montgomery Highway

Vestavia Hills, AL 35216