



VESTAVIA HILLS  
CHAMBER  
of  
COMMERCE

# NEWS & VIEWS

February 2025

Volume 45 Issue 2

## February 11 Luncheon Susann Montgomery-Clark, Megan Montgomery Foundation to Prevent Domestic Violence

Susann served for 36 years in nonprofit leadership roles: As Director of Philanthropy at St. Vincent's/Ascension Health in Birmingham, and United Way of Central Alabama where she led their award-winning legacy giving, public relations and communications campaigns for 15 years. She retired in 2010 to create Clark Consulting LLC, to train nonprofit boards and staff on the art of major and legacy gift giving. When her youngest daughter Megan died in 2019, she closed her consulting practice to create and volunteer full time for Megan's mission. She has served as President of the Boards of The Alabama Association of Fundraising Professionals, The Alabama Planned Giving Council, Komen for the Cure & many other non-profits. She is a member of Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church in Shelby County.



LUNCHEON SPONSOR

## Jackson, Howard & Whatley, CPAs

For years, Jackson, Howard & Whatley, CPAs has been providing quality, personalized financial guidance to local individuals and businesses. Jackson, Howard & Whatley, CPAs' expertise ranges from basic tax management and accounting services to more in-depth services such as audits, financial statements, and financial planning.



JACKSON, HOWARD  
& WHATLEY, CPAS

Jackson, Howard & Whatley, CPAs is one of the leading firms in and throughout Birmingham. By combining our expertise, experience and the team mentality of our staff, we assure that every client receives the close analysis and attention they deserve. Our dedication to high standards, hiring of seasoned tax professionals, and work ethic is the reason our client base returns year after year.

We are committed partners to our community, with members of our team serving on the board of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce for over 20 years, including Mike Jackson as 2003 Chair, Ben Chambliss as Treasurer from 2002-2024, and Roger Jackson as the current treasurer, as well as providing services for the Chamber and Vestavia Hills Schools.

Dear Vestavia Hills Community,  
Happy February! As we move into the heart of the new year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the exciting and productive start we've had in 2025. Despite the chilly weather and a little snow to play in, our community has already shown incredible energy, engagement, and drive. Here's a quick look at some of the highlights from January and what's coming up in February:



#### January Highlights:

- **A Successful First Board Meeting with Our New Board:** Our new board has hit the ground running, and our first meeting together was a success! We're excited to work with such a talented group of individuals committed to the continued success of our Chamber and the businesses in our community.
- **Approval of the 2025 Budget:** We've officially approved our budget for 2025, setting the stage for another year of strong programs, events, and support for our local businesses. We are focused on delivering the resources and opportunities our members need to grow and thrive.
- **Business Development Meeting with Andrew Burke:** January saw a well-attended business development meeting led by Andrew Burke. The conversations were rich, and there was a lot of enthusiasm around supporting and enhancing our business districts. It's clear that we're all ready to work together to ensure our local businesses continue to flourish in 2025.
- **VIVA Vestavia – A Delicious Night for a Good Cause:** We kicked off the year with a fantastic evening of food, fun, and community spirit at VIVA Vestavia. This event, organized by Donnie Dobbins, Kelly Atchison, Christina Babineaux, and Stacy O'Shields, was a true celebration of our local restaurants. The evening was a hit, and the proceeds benefited the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported this great cause.
- **Ribbon Cutting at Pidlin Art and Antiques:** Our first ribbon cutting of the year took place at Pidlin Art and Antiques, a hidden gem here in Vestavia Hills! If you haven't visited yet, I highly recommend stopping by to explore the unique treasures they have on offer. It's a perfect spot to spend an afternoon finding something special.

#### Looking Ahead to February:

- **February Luncheon:** In February, we have an incredibly moving event planned. We'll hear the powerful story behind the Megan Montgomery Foundation at our upcoming luncheon. This foundation is doing incredible work in the community, and we're honored to help share their mission. It's sure to be an inspiring and impactful gathering, so be sure to mark your calendars!
- **Show Some Love to Your City and Local Businesses:** As we move into the month of February, I encourage you to show some love to your local businesses and our vibrant city. Whether it's enjoying a meal at a local restaurant, shopping in one of our many unique stores, or simply connecting with a fellow Chamber member, every act of support helps make Vestavia Hills an even stronger community.

We've had a busy and productive start to 2025, and I'm excited to see what we'll accomplish together as the year unfolds. Let's continue to work together, support one another, and make this year our best yet!

Warm regards,

*Keri Bates*  
*Board Chair, 2025*

Happy February Vestavia Hills!

As we step into February, we want to take a moment to thank you for being part of our vibrant Chamber and Community. January was an exciting month, highlighted by our incredible **Viva Vestavia** food and wine event!

### **Viva Vestavia Recap**

A huge thank you to everyone who attended and supported **Viva Vestavia**! It was an unforgettable evening filled with delicious food, exceptional wines, and great company. Your participation helped make this event a success, and we are grateful for the support of our amazing local restaurants, sponsors, and volunteers.



**Michelle Hawkins**

We'd also like to recognize our **Viva Vestavia award winners**:

**Best Food:** *Miss Astrid's* – Their incredible flavors wowed us all!

**Best Presentation:** *Cookie Fix* – A stunning display that was just as delicious as it looked!

Thank you to all the amazing restaurants that participated, we couldn't have done it without you!

### **Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!**

#### **February Chamber Luncheon – Tuesday, February 11, 2025**

Join us for our **February Chamber Luncheon**, a fantastic opportunity to connect with fellow business and community leaders. This month's keynote speakers are the **founders of the Megan Montgomery Foundation**, sharing their impactful mission and advocacy work. Don't miss this inspiring event!

#### **Mastermind Small Business Workshop – Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 8:00 AM**

Calling all entrepreneurs and business owners! Join us for our **Mastermind Small Business Workshop**, where you'll gain valuable insights, connect with like-minded professionals, and learn strategies to grow and strengthen your business. Don't miss this opportunity to collaborate and learn!

#### **Mini Masters – Saturday, April 12, 2025**

Get ready to tee off for fun! **Mini Masters** is our lighthearted and competitive mini-golf tournament that promises a great time for all ages. Whether you're aiming for a hole-in-one or just looking for a fantastic way to connect with friends and neighbors, this event is for you. Plus, part of the proceeds will go to **RISE**, supporting an important cause in our community. Don't miss out on this exciting event!!

#### **Dogwood Prayer Breakfast – April 22, 2025**

Join us for a morning of inspiration, fellowship, and community at the **Dogwood Prayer Breakfast**. This year's featured speakers are **amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) advocates, Gary and Carol Godfrey, along with Kerry and Tonja Goode**. Their inspiring stories of faith, perseverance, and advocacy will make this a morning you won't want to miss.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing you at our **February Luncheon next week!** Stay connected with us on Instagram and Facebook, and feel free to reach out with any questions.

Wishing you a wonderful February!

*Michelle Hawkins*  
*President*

## February 11 Luncheon

Reservations must be made by 4:00 PM Thursday, February 6, 2025 and cost \$25. Late reservations will cost \$30. Make your reservation by visiting [www.vestaviiahills.org](http://www.vestaviiahills.org) or by calling 823-5011.

### Please Note:

- Reservations that are made and not cancelled by 4:00 pm Thursday, February 6 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 NO JEANS in the ballroom where we hold our monthly luncheons.**

## 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 [katie@vestaviiahills.org](mailto:katie@vestaviiahills.org)

2025 Dates:

February 11  
March 11  
April 8  
May 13  
June 10

August 12  
September 9  
October 14  
November 18  
December 9

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

◆ Alabama Pressure Washing  
Collin Vonn  
350 State Farm Parkway  
Homewood, AL 35209  
(205) 521-2142  
birminghamalpressurewashing.com  
Category: Pressure Washing

◆ Workshop Local  
Katherine Thrower  
186 Oxmoor Road, Suite 220  
Homewood, AL 35209  
(205) 966-1524  
workshoplocal.com  
Category: Event Facilities

◆ Kiwanis Club of Vestavia Hills  
Tamera Driskill  
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216  
(256) 504-9773  
k20778.site.kiwanis.org/  
Category: Organizations

◆ Connect: Pediatric Speech-Language Services  
Courtney Hamilton  
2017 Canyon Road, Suite 45  
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216  
(205) 968-1348  
connectgroupal.com  
Category: Therapy

◆ ACCi  
Clay Fuqua  
2496 Valleydale Road  
Birmingham, AL 35244  
(205) 987-8711  
acci.com  
Category: Information Technology

◆ McCorquodale Transfer  
Seneca Reid  
2714 2nd Ave N  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
(205) 870-7474  
mtmoves.com  
Category: Movers



# RIBBON CUTTINGS



## RIBBON CUTTING



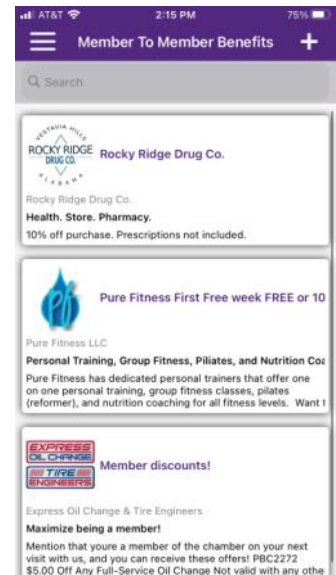
Monday, February 10, 2025  
12:00 pm

1401 Montgomery Highway, Suite 171  
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

Join us in welcoming Iron City Biomechanics to Vestavia Hills!

## Member<sup>2</sup>Member Discount

Did you know discounts are available from your fellow Vestavia Hills Chamber members? Login to your Member account either through [www.vestaviiahills.org](http://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.



📅 **February 19, 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

# Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce



BOOK NOW  
& SAVE  
**\$100**  
PER PERSON

*presents...*

## Spotlight on **TUSCANY**

with optional 3-Night Rome Pre Tour Extension

**November 5-13, 2025**

### 9-Day Cultural and Natural Wonders Tour

MONTECATINI TERME TOUR  
LUCCA TOUR -- INCLUDING A FAMILY-OWNED WINERY VISIT  
FLORENCE TOUR  
PISA TOUR -- INCLUDING IN A COOKING CLASS  
SIENA TOUR  
SAN GIMIGNANO TOUR -- INCLUDING A CHEESE FARM VISIT

*Secure Your Spot and  
Start Your Adventure!*

PRICE GOOD THROUGH  
MAY 06, 2025

PRICE  
**\$3,899**  
/ PERSON

### Package

- ✓ Round Trip Air from BHM, hotel transfers, and accommodations included.
- ✓ Guided City Tours and Cultural Experiences.
- ✓ All Transportation Between Destinations.
- ✓ 9 Days • 10 Meals: 7 Breakfasts, 3 Dinners

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

**DAFNEY DOOLEY**  
205-517-7070

DAFNEY.DOOLEY@CRUISEPLANNERS.COM  
OR THE VESTAVIA HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**collette**



## Save the Date

### 34th Annual **DOGWOOD PRAYER BREAKFAST**

**Ticket &  
Sponsor Info  
Coming  
Soon!**

**Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at  
Vestavia Hills Civic Center**  
7:00 a.m. Buffet Opens  
7:30 a.m. Program Begins

This year's speakers are amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) advocates,  
**Gary & Carol Godfrey and Kerry & Tonja Goode.**



*Save the Date*  
**MINI MASTERS**  
A FAMILY PUTT-PUTT EVENT  
SATURDAY, APRIL 5  
10AM-1PM

PRIZES  
FOOD  
VENDORS

SIGN UP A TEAM  
TRACYT@VESTAVIAHILLS.ORG

**Sponsorships available!**

Contact Tracy Thornton at [tracyt@vestaviiahills.org](mailto:tracyt@vestaviiahills.org) for sponsorship information.



## 2024-2025 Vestavia Hills Shares Card

**On Sale Now at [vestaviiahills.org](http://vestaviiahills.org)!**

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

## Member Notes

- It's **Girl Scout** Cookie Time! Find a booth at [girlscoutsna.org/en/cookies/find-cookies](http://girlscoutsna.org/en/cookies/find-cookies)
- Join **Village Dermatology** on February 11 from 4-7 pm for a Galentine's Day Party! Sip & Shop: Enjoy light bites, sparkly and mocktails while you browse great deals and pop up shops.
- Whether you're celebrating with your sweetheart or your galentines, **Ashley Mac's Kitchen** and Bayou Gourmet are bringing the perfect Valentine's Day bundle for you! Place your order by visiting [ashleymacs.com](http://ashleymacs.com)!
- **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](mailto: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/>.

*If you have any news or events you would like to put in the News & Views, email it to [chamber@vestaviahills.org](mailto:chamber@vestaviahills.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.vestaviahills.org](http://www.vestaviahills.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@vestaviahills.org](mailto:katiew@vestaviahills.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  
 Dr. Darcy Schofill-Cahaba Mountain Brook Animal Clinic  
 Gerry Travis-Cameron Travis & Company, CPAs  
 Representative Jim Carns  
 Calvin Brown-Dog U  
 Jonathan Handey-Eco Three  
 Donnie Dobbins\*-First Horizon Bank  
 Ashley Mathews-Grandview Health Center  
 Fred McFadden-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  
 Senator Dan Roberts  
 Maury Molyneaux-Shoe Station

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

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Michelle Hawkins, President

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Tracy Thornton, Dir. Membership/Marketing

tracyt@vestavi hills.org

Katie Woodruff, Communications Manager

Email: katiew@vestavi hills.org

**Upcoming Chamber Meetings**

Feb 11

Monthly Luncheon, 11:30 am, Vestavia Country Club

Feb 20

Board of Directors, 7:45 am, Chamber Office

**Events**

Feb 10

Ribbon Cutting: Iron City Biomechanics, 12 pm

Feb 19

Masterminds Workshop, 8 am, Chamber Office



*News and Views*

*Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce*

*1090 Montgomery Highway*

*Vestavia Hills, AL 35216*