



NEWS & VIEWS

November 2025 Volume 45 Issue II

November 18 Luncheon Thibaut van Marcke, Senior Vice President of Orlando Health

Thibaut van Marcke serves as Senior Vice President of Orlando Health and President of Baptist Health. Thibaut previously served as Senior Vice President of the Orlando Health Southeast Region and President of Orlando Health Dr. P. Phillips Hospital, where he oversaw strategic plans and financial initiatives, while fostering an award-winning positive workforce culture.



Before joining Orlando Health in 2016, Thibaut spent 14 years working for Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) where he served in progressive leadership roles, including as vice president and chief operating officer for HCA - North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville, a 432-bed tertiary hospital, and HCA's flagship hospital in Florida.

Thibaut has served on multiple community boards including Visit Orlando and the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Richmond and a Master of Health Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Thibaut and his wife, Kristen, have two daughters, Mackenzie, 18, and Sophie, 16.

LUNCHEON SPONSOR

Baptist Health Brookwood Hospital

Baptist Health is a private, not-for-profit, faith-based healthcare system dedicated to providing high-quality, accessible care for the communities of Central Alabama. With five acute care hospitals and Alabama's largest primary care network with 70 clinics, Baptist Health is committed to ensuring the community receives innovative and compassionate patient care close to home. Baptist Health is actively involved in community outreach and education, providing health screenings, wellness programs, and support groups to advance wellness for the entire region. Learn more at BaptistHealthAL.com



Dear Chamber Members,

It is hard to believe that we are already in November and nearing the end of another year. October was a wonderful month for our Chamber and our city. Haunt the Hills was our biggest yet, and it was such a fun night for families and businesses alike. It continues to be one of those special events that truly brings Vestavia Hills together. It gives our businesses a chance to give back to the community while providing families a fun and safe way to celebrate Halloween. I am so thankful for our participating businesses, our generous sponsors, and our many volunteers who helped make it possible. Thank you also to our partners with the city, the Vestavia Hills Police Department, and the students from Vestavia Hills High School for lending their time and support. The success of events like this reminds us how powerful it is when we all come together.



The city also hosted its 75th anniversary celebration in October, and it was such a joy to see our community come together again to honor how far Vestavia Hills has come. It was a great showcase of the city's accomplishments over the past 75 years and a reminder of what makes our community so special. The future of Vestavia Hills will continue to be shaped by the involvement and energy of its residents and business owners, and I am grateful to be a small part of that story.

As we move into November, we take time to honor and give thanks for the men and women who have served our country. Veterans Day is such a meaningful reminder of the sacrifices made by those who have defended our freedoms and protected our communities. We are deeply grateful for their courage and service, and we honor them this month and every month. In observance of Veterans Day, our Chamber luncheon will be held on the third Tuesday of November this year instead of the second. We hope to see many of you there as we come together to celebrate community, connection, and gratitude.

We also begin the "Holiday in the Hills" season, which features a series of festive events happening throughout November and December. These events bring joy and connection to our community and highlight so many of the local businesses that make Vestavia Hills shine. Shopping local this time of year truly makes a difference. We all know convenience sometimes wins out, but I encourage you to explore what our local shops and restaurants are doing this season. Many are creating experiences that make it easy and fun to support them. Try something new, visit a local store you have not been to before, and see what makes shopping local so rewarding.

I am continually amazed by the creativity, generosity, and dedication of our Chamber members. You each play an important role in making Vestavia Hills such a vibrant and connected place to live and work. Thank you for all that you do to support one another and our community. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming holiday events and to celebrating another successful year together.

Warmly,

Keri Bates
Board Chair, 2025

Happy November!

It's hard to believe the holiday season is already upon us—what a wonderful time of year! November brings a full calendar of business networking opportunities, community gatherings, and festive events. We hope you'll join us throughout the month!

November Chamber Luncheon

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

We are looking forward to an informative and engaging luncheon with **Thibaut van Marcke of Orlando Health** as our guest speaker.

- **Networking:** 11:30 AM

Buffet Opens: 11:45 AM



Michelle Hawkins

Ribbon Cutting

The DEAN Building

Tuesday, November 4, 2025 at 4:00 PM

Location: 4553 Pine Tree Circle, Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

Help us welcome this new addition to our business community!

Events & Announcements

Lunch & Learn with Fidos Facility Dogs

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 | 11:30 AM

Lunch will be provided. We hope to see you there!

Salute to Veterans – Honoring Those Who Served

Monday, November 10, 2025 | Vestavia Hills Civic Center Ballroom

- 12:00–1:00 PM: Senior Luncheon (open to ages 55+)
- 1:00–5:00 PM: Health & Resources Fair
- 2:00–3:00 PM: Patriotic Program hosted by Mayor Ashley Curry

Deck the Heights – Holiday Open House & Pop-Ups

Saturday, November 15 | 2:00–7:00 PM

A free family event — come enjoy local shopping, treats, and festive fun!

Holiday Photo Booth – Library in the Forest

Saturday, November 17

Reservations required: app.link/holidaystudio

Vestavia Hills Tree Lighting Festival

Thursday, November 20 | 6:00 PM

Front Lawn at Vestavia Hills City Hall & Civic Center

A magical community tradition — we'd love to celebrate with you!

Shop Local This Season

As always—and especially during the holidays—remember to **SHOP. DINE. PLAY. in Vestavia Hills!**

Chamber Office Holiday Closures

- **Tuesday, November 11** – Veterans Day
- November 27–28** – Thanksgiving Holiday

It is my joy and honor to serve our Vestavia Hills Chamber members.

Warmly,

Michelle Hawkins

President

November 18 Luncheon

Reservations must be made by 4:00 PM Thursday, November 13, 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, November 13 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 katiew@vestaviahills.org

2025 Dates:
November 18
December 9

Vestavia Hills Shares

The Vestavia Hills Shares Card is a fundraiser partnership between the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce and Vestavia Hills Schools. Shares Cards can be used to receive deals at local businesses now through May 2026!
\$30 Each



Scan here to purchase



Save the card to your phone's wallet or pick up a physical card at the Chamber Office

Sponsored by:



Piddlin Art & Antiques

Davenport's Pizza Palace

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ New Day Car Wash
CJ Williams
4752 Cahaba River Road
Birmingham, AL 35243
(205) 669-8700
newdaycarwash.com
Category: Car Wash◆ Allstate Insurance-Jacob Leake Agency
Jacob Leake
4200 Oakview Lane, Suite A
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243
(205) 970-2555
allstate.com
Category: Insurance◆ Jersey Mike's Subs-Vestavia
Webster Staggers
1031 Montgomery Highway, Suite 120
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
(205) 769-6140
jerseymikes.com
Category: Restaurants◆ RNS Project Solutions
Rashmee Sharif
2628 17th Ave N.
Birmingham, AL 35234
(205) 454-0216
rnsprojectsolutions.com
Category: Project Management◆ KidStrong
Charigan Dobbins
1360 Montgomery Highway, Suite 164
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
(205) 490-1143
kidstrong.com
Category: Athletics; Education◆ The Law Office of Avery Brown
Avery Brown
P.O. Box 660942
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
(205) 296-5344
averybrownlaw.com
Category: Attorneys | <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The Standard
Kooki Kim
700 Montgomery Highway, Suite 164
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
(205) 490-1143
standardbhm.com
Category: Restaurants◆ LJC Defense Contracting
Laura Clark
3785 Village Lane
Birmingham, AL 35223
(205) 999-7008
Category: Construction Management |
|--|--|

To: Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce Members
From: Nominating Committee
Subject: Election of 2026 Board of Directors

In accordance with the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce By-Laws the Nominating Committee submitted the following slate of candidates for Officers and Directors for 2026. Serving on the committee were Chairman Taylor Burton, Keri Bates, John Henley, Carter Slappey, and Roger Steur. Michelle Hawkins served as Ex-Officio.

Chair: Taylor Burton, Taylor Burton Co.

Chair Elect: Christina Babineaux, IRA Innovations

Vice Chair, Membership Development: Kelly Atchison, TWO MEN AND A TRUCK

Vice Chair, Business Development: Katherine McRee, The Lili Pad

Vice Chair, Community Affairs: Bob Barker, Barker Advertising

Vice Chair, Programming: Andrew Burke, The BOSS Company

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: Keri Bates, Rocky Ridge Drug Co.

Directors include:

Jamie Black, McDonald's-Black Family Restaurants

Avery Brown, The Law Office of Avery Brown

Brian Fisher, Community Bank

Elizabeth McDonald, Avadian Credit Union

Suzanne Scott-Trammell, Vestavia Hills Methodist Church

Kim Smith, Baptist Health Brookwood Hospital

Grant Thomas, ALFA Insurance-The Thomas Agency

Kevin Wade, ITAC Solutions

SELECTING AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Article IV - Section 2

A. Nominating Committee: At the regular August meeting of the Board, the Chairperson shall appoint, subject to approval by the Board, an Ad Hoc Nominating Committee consisting of five (5) Members of the Chamber.

(a) The Nominating Committee members shall be the current Chairperson of the Board, the current Chairperson-Elect of the Board, One (1) Director or Officer, and two (2) Members at large.

(b) The current Chairperson-Elect shall serve as the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

(c) The President shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Nominating Committee.

(d) The Nominating Committee shall present to the Board for approval prior to October 31, a slate of candidates to serve as Directors and Officers of the Chamber for the following year. Each candidate must be a Member in good standing and must have agreed to accept the expected responsibilities.

B. Publication of Nominations: Within ten (10) days of receipt of the report of the Nominating Committee, the Chairperson shall give Notice to the general membership of the names of persons nominated as candidates for Directors and Officers and the right of petition as contemplated in these Bylaws.

C. Nomination by Petition: Additional names of candidates for Directors and Officers may be nominated by a petition bearing the genuine signatures of at least fifteen (15) Members of the Chamber. Such petition shall be submitted to the presiding Chairperson within ten (10) days after Notice has been given of the original nomination as contemplated in Article IV(2)(B). The determination of the Board as to whether the petition(s) complies with these Bylaws for consideration shall be final.

D. Determination: If no valid petition is properly submitted within the designated period, the nominations shall be closed and the nominated slate of candidates shall be declared elected by the Board of the Chamber at the November Board Meeting, regardless of whether a Quorum is present at such meeting.

If a valid, proper, and legal petition shall present additional candidates, the names of all candidates shall be arranged on a ballot in alphabetical order and applicable instructions for voting will be included. The Chairperson shall give Notice of this ballot to all Members within twenty (20) days of receipt of the valid, proper, and legal petition.

The ballots shall be marked by the Members in accordance with the voting instructions printed on the ballot and returned to the Chamber's office within ten (10) days of the date of the ballot. The members of the Chamber shall, at their Annual Meeting, declare the candidates with the greatest number of votes elected.



HOLIDAY in the HILLS
Vestavia Hills

Mark your calendar! For more information, visit <https://vhal.org/community/city-events>.

<i>Saturday, November 15</i> Deck the Heights 2-7pm The Heights Village 3162 Heights Village	<i>Thursday, December 4</i> All is Bright 6-8pm Vestavia City Center 700 Montgomery Highway
<i>Monday, November 17</i> Holiday Photo Booth Opens Reservation required: app.link/holidaystudio Library in the Forest 1221 Montgomery Highway	<i>Sunday, December 7</i> Holiday Parade & Party in the Park 2pm Liberty Park (Rain Date: December 14)
<i>Thursday, November 20</i> Tree Lighting Festival 6pm City Hall Complex 1032 Montgomery Highway	<i>Saturday, December 13</i> Breakfast with Santa 7:30-10am Civic Center 1090 Montgomery Highway
<i>Monday, December 1</i> Light Up Vestavia Hills City-Wide	<i>Sunday, December 21</i> Menorah Lighting 5:30pm City Hall 1032 Montgomery Highway

Get involved!

Set up a booth at the Tree Lighting

- Vendors must be either located in Vestavia Hills or a member of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce.
- Vendors are allowed to sell items, but must have a Vestavia Hills Business License.
- Space is limited and will be reserved on a first come basis.
- New this year: Tree Lighting Passport. The Chamber will be handing out passports at our table with each vendor listed on it. Vendors will each be given a stamp to put on passports when people visit your table. When they have visited each vendor and filled their passport, they can turn it back in to the Chamber to be entered in a prize drawing.

Register by November 15. Email katiew@vestavhills.org for the registration form.

Be in the Holiday Parade and/or set up a booth at the Party in the Park!

Registration forms available at vestaviahills.org



FEATURED TOPIC

The Next Level – BUSINESS Mastermind Group

Author Michael Gerber has studied small businesses and figured out the specific reasons many of them falter. His book *"E-Myth Revisited"* addresses these and spells out how to take your business to the next level. Join us on Wednesday mornings starting October, 2025. We will spend eight weeks with you and a great network of other business owners to help you and your venture become even more successful. We embark on a journey together for 8 weeks by breaking down every part of a small business and putting structure, policies, procedures, and confidence back into your small business.

Week 1 (October 1): The E-Myth & American Small Business (Chapters 1-3)

Week 2 (October 8): The E-Myth & American Small Business (Chapters 4-6)

Week 3 (October 15): The Turn-Key Revolution: A New View of Business (Chapters 7-9)

Week 4 (October 22): The Business Development Process and Your Business Development Program (Chapters 10-11)

Week 5 (October 29): Your Primary Aim, Your Strategic Objective (Chapters 12-13)

Week 6 (November 5): Your Organizational Strategy (Chapter 14)

Week 7 (November 12): Your Management and People Strategy (Chapters 15-16)

Week 8 (November 19): Your Marketing and Systems Strategy Graduation Day! (Chapters 17-18)

Each Wednesday

October 1-November 19, 2025

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

At Pinnacle Financial Partners

569 Brookwood Village, Suite 705

Birmingham, AL 35209

We will provide you with the book in advance. Please RSVP by scanning QR code. If you have any questions, contact Kacy.Peacock@pnfp.com.

***Please note that this is an 8-week commitment.**

OUR COMMITMENT TO LEARNING

Learning is one of seven core values of Pinnacle's culture. As part of our commitment to our clients and associates, we offer workshops, forums, and Mastermind sessions for continuous learning opportunities.

Mastermind sessions are specifically for owners and operators of small businesses, providing lessons learned from other businesses and an opportunity to build a new network of colleagues to rely on as resources going forward.

For more information about upcoming events, visit the Learning Center on our Website at www.pnfp.com.

RSVP to reserve your spot today.



Our Values:

Integrity • Partnership • Fairness • Results • Learning • Balance • Discipline

Member Notes

- Join **Rocky Ridge Drug Company** for our Holiday Open House... a cozy evening of sipping, snacking, shopping, and holiday cheer! There will be special sales, cocktails, appetizers, and fun giveaways all night long. We can't wait to kick off the season with you on Tuesday, Nov 4 from 5-7 PM!
- **Neptune Society** invites you to an open house, with refreshments and giveaways, on Wednesday, Nov. 5 from 11:00 am-2:00 pm. We'll be celebrating our recent opening, and we want you to be part of it! 3439 Colonnade Parkway, Suite 500
- **Mudtown Eat & Drink** is celebrating their 20th anniversary on November 5! Join them from 3-6 pm for Happy Hour, cake, Philly Cheesesteaks and more! 3144 Green Valley Road
- Join **Piddlin Art & Antiques** for our Fall into Christmas Open House from 11 am to 5 pm on Tuesday November 11th. Come help us celebrate our Veterans and our one year anniversary of being in business! We will have refreshments and Door Prizes. 2025 Kentucky Avenue Ste A
- The **Vestavia Hills Garden Club** presents the 2025 Sibyl Soiree, November 13 at 11:00 am at the Vestavia Country Club. All community members are invited to purchase tickets and join in the festivities. The Sibyl Soiree will take place at Vestavia Country Club and will include a luncheon, special guest story teller - Mary Alayne Young - The Alabama Housewife, and a silent and live auction with ALL PROCEEDS benefiting the maintenance and upkeep of our beloved Sibyl Temple - the gateway to our city! Come join us!
- Mark your calendars for **VHMC's** Magical Marketplace on November 13-14! Get a head start on your holiday shopping with our exclusive early shopping event on Thursday evening, November 13, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. For just \$5, you'll gain access to a first look at all the unique gift items our vendors have to offer. All proceeds from this event directly benefit Unless U. Join us on Friday, November 14, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm for a full day of holiday shopping. With over 50 vendors showcasing their one-of-a-kind crafts and gifts, you're sure to find something special for everyone on your list.
- Join **Down Syndrome Alabama** for our 3rd annual GLASSES UP for Down Syndrome brought to you by Clyde May's Whisky on Thursday, November 13, from 6:30-9:30 at Vestavia Country Club. This is an amazing impactful evening that includes tastings from Clyde May's Whisky, Prospero Tequila, McConnell's Irish Whisky, and Van Gough Vodka; Heavy Hors d'oeuvres; live music; guest bartender, serving signature cocktail The Debbie; silent auction of rare and select bottles; games; and fun! Must be 21 to attend. Tickets can be purchased at <https://downsyndromealabama.org/glasses-up-for-down-syndrome/>
- The **Amanda Pair Foundation** Legacy Run is a family-friendly 5K open to walkers and runners of all ages, happening on November 15 at 8 am. Held in Liberty Park, the race will loop around the community beginning and ending at Vestavia Hills Elementary Liberty Park. Everyone who registers by October 27th will get a race shirt. Parking will be available at Liberty Park Middle School. Invite your friends and join us for this morning of energy, impact, and family fun! Register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/AL/Birmingham/AmandaPairFoundationLegacyRuninthePark>
- Market Noel is an annual holiday market hosted by the **Junior League of Birmingham**, featuring over 100 vendors selling a variety of gifts like home decor, clothing, jewelry and candles. Proceeds benefit the Junior League's community projects. Happening November 19-22, purchase tickets at <https://www.marketnoel.net/>

Member Notes (continued)

- Before the big game kicks off, bring the family to Santa's Pregame Pep Rally on November 29 from 10 am -12 pm at **Andy's Creekside Nursery!** Santa will be here to hear holiday wishes and take festive photos — bring your camera or phone and our helpful elf can snap the pic for you. Enjoy hot cocoa and popcorn while you browse our beautiful selection of Fresh Frasier Fir Christmas Trees, festive wreaths, cheerful poinsettias, holiday gifts & more. Start your Iron Bowl Saturday with a little holiday cheer! 3351 Morgan Drive
- Read the latest issue of **Birmingham Christian Family** magazine 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@vestaviiahills.org.



RIBBON CUTTINGS



You're Invited to a
Ribbon Cutting

the DEAN

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

4:00 pm

4553 Pine Tree Circle

Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

Celebrate the opening of
The Dean Building, a new
Co-working Community!



Neptune Society
AMERICA'S MOST TRUSTED
CREMATION SERVICES

Free Food,
Drinks, &
Giveaways

Please join us for our

**OPEN HOUSE &
RIBBON CUTTING**

**Wednesday, November 5th
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

3439 Colonnade Pkwy Ste. 500
Birmingham, AL 35243
(205) 858-5954

We have assisted families, their loved ones, and caregivers for over 50 years and are pleased to share our location with the community. Our compassionate staff is ready to serve you, making difficult times a little easier with trusted, professional cremation plans.

We look forward to seeing you!

www.NeptuneSociety.com

2025 Trustees

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 Frank Buck-Frank S. Buck, P.C.
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 Robin Morgan*-Morgan Properties
 Jared Redman-Next Level AVL & On-Site Productions
 Amanda Heaslett-Payroll & Benefits Solutions
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 Steve Smith-SouthPoint Bank
 Kelvin Johnson-Spire
 Dan Starnes-Vestavia Voice
 Senator Jabo Waggoner
 Jay McGowan-The Welch Group

*Chamber Past Chair



CHAMBER CHAMPIONS

PLATINUM CHAMPIONS



GOLD CHAMPIONS



CORPORATE CHAMPIONS



Board of Directors

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Chair Elect: Taylor Burton, Taylor Burton Co.
Vice Chair, Membership Development: Katherine McRee,
The Lili Pad
Vice Chair, Business Development: Andrew Burke, The
BOSS Company
Vice Chair, Community Affairs: Christina Babineaux, IRA
Innovations
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
Roger Steur, Method Mortgage
Grant Thomas, ALFA Insurance-The Thomas Agency
Kevin Wade, ITAC Solutions

Michelle Hawkins, President

Phone: 823-5011 Fax: 823-8974

Email: michelleh@vestavi hills.org

Web: www.vestavi hills.org

Tracy Thornton, Dir. Membership/Marketing

tracyt@vestavi hills.org

Katie Woodruff, Communications Manager

Email: kati ew@vestavi hills.org

Upcoming Chamber Meetings

Nov 18
Nov 20

Monthly Luncheon, 11:30 am, Vestavia Country Club
Board of Directors, 7:45 am, Chamber Office

Events

Nov 4
Nov 5
Nov 20

Ribbon Cutting: The Dean Building, 4 pm
Ribbon Cutting: Neptune Society, 11 am
Tree Lighting Festival, 6 pm, Civic Center



News and Views

Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce

1090 Montgomery Highway

Vestavia Hills, AL 35216