

COMMUNITY NEWS

News & Events for the City of Vestavia Hills | November 2023

A joint publication of the City of Vestavia Hills, Vestavia Hills City Schools & Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce



Ashley Curry,
Mayor
City of
Vestavia Hills

WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?

Last month I presented the State of the City address at the Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon. I noted that the two major factors that define the “state” of our city are the quality of life that we enjoy and the financial strength of our city. The financial strength of our city enables us to support and enrich the quality of life that we enjoy. As such, we continue to be rated as one of the most livable cities in Alabama.

Our annual Community Night Out event was also held last month and it is a great opportunity to embrace our sense of community while enhancing the relationship between our first responders and our citizens. We need to recognize the families

of our first responders as they support their loved ones in what could be dangerous or life-threatening events.

This month we will celebrate two big events: Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. It would be safe to say that if it were not for our veterans, we probably would have nothing to be thankful for. Without the freedoms that they fought for we would not be able to live in a country that allows the quality of life that we enjoy.

We must honor and remember the service of our men and women currently serving in the military, as well as those who served previously. The sacrifices made by our veterans should never be forgotten.

In Vestavia Hills, we will be remembering our veterans with two separate events. **The annual Salute to Veterans celebration will be held on Sunday, November 5 from 2-4pm at the Vestavia Hills Civic Center.** This event features patriotic-themed entertainment and a variety of family-friendly activities to honor all branches of service. This year’s keynote speaker will be Vestavia Hills native, Major General David Burford (retired). **Another event honoring veterans will be held at the New Merkel House in Cahaba Heights on Wednesday, November 8 at 11am.** All are welcome to attend these events.

What are you thankful for this Thanksgiving? I suspect many of you will respond with family, friends and good health. But there is so much more for which to be thankful. Our homes, the food on our table and even our city. I am grateful for all our employees, our civic clubs, our churches, our citizen volunteers and all of our citizens that contribute so much to our city.

Mark your calendars for November 28 and join us in kicking off the holiday season with the annual Tree Lighting Festival at City Hall. Hope to see you there. In the meantime, I wish you all an enjoyable and happy Thanksgiving.

BOARD VACANCY

• APPLY NOW •

There are many volunteer opportunities for Vestavia Hills residents to get involved in the community. Volunteering is a rewarding way to serve your city, meet new people, discover new interests, have fun and learn something new. **Applications are being accepted NOW through 5pm CST Monday, November 13, 2023 for vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Board and the Library Board of Trustees.**

We hope you will invest in your community by volunteering your time and talents! For more information or to apply, visit <https://vhal.org/community/get-involved>.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

November 2023

- 2 Design Review Board,**
Executive Conference Room,
6 p.m.
- 5 Salute to Veterans Celebration,** Civic Center,
2 p.m.
- 8 City of Vestavia Hills Incorporation Anniversary**
- 8 Veterans Day Celebration,**
New Merkel House, 11 a.m.
- 9 Planning and Zoning Commission,** Council Chamber, 6 p.m.
- 10 Municipal Offices Closed**
in observance of Veterans Day
- 13 Senior Citizens Association Luncheon,** Civic Center,
Dogwood Room, 11:30 a.m.
- 13 City Council Meeting,**
Council Chamber, 6 p.m.
- 14 Chamber Luncheon,**
Vestavia Country Club,
11:30 a.m.
- 16 Board of Zoning Adjustment,**
Council Chamber, 6 p.m.
- 20 Council Work Session,**
Council Chamber, 6 p.m.
- 21 Parks and Recreation Board,**
Civic Center, 7:30 a.m.
- 23 & 24 Municipal Offices Closed**
in observance of Thanksgiving*
- 27 City Council Meeting,**
Council Chamber, 6 p.m.
- 28 Tree Lighting Festival,**
City Hall & Civic Center, 6 p.m.

**Sanitation holiday. Amwaste closed Thursday ONLY; all Thursday and Friday routes will be serviced on a one-day delay.*



**Todd Freeman, Ed.D.,
Superintendent**
Vestavia Hills
City Schools

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Our nation's history is rich with stories that illuminate the spirit of entrepreneurship. We are the most economically prosperous nation in the world because of the grit and determination of citizens who built small businesses and sprawling urban centers. Those intrinsic qualities have created limitless possibilities for our future generations.

Alabama is home to elite postsecondary institutions that prepare students to be successful in business. The names Brock, Collat, Culverhouse and Harbert are embedded in the resumes of many successful entrepreneurs across the state. Degrees from these institutions prepare future business leaders by instilling

in them the knowledge, skills and character virtues necessary to be successful. This is important to me because we have many students interested in this career path. In fact, one out of every three Vestavia Hills High School graduates who attend Auburn University or The University of Alabama choose a business major.



1 in 2 | **3 in 10**

VESTAVIA HILLS RESIDENTS EMPLOYED IN MANAGEMENT, SALES, BUSINESS, OR FINANCE

VESTAVIA HILLS RESIDENTS FIRST BACHELOR'S DEGREES ARE IN BUSINESS

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

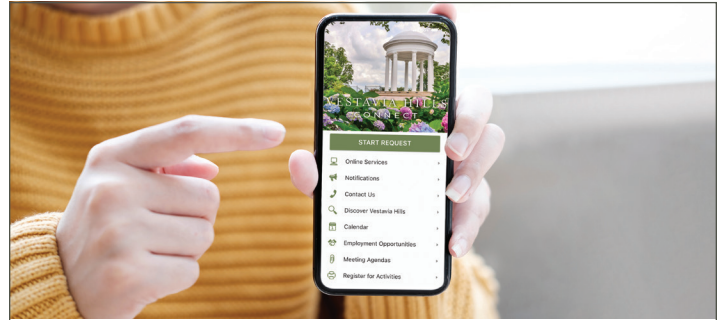
Join us for Coffee & Classrooms!
November 28, 8:30 a.m. @ Liberty Park

VHHS students can prepare early for this path by taking courses that teach the same skills they will learn in college. One unique opportunity at VHHS that harnesses students' entrepreneurial interests is a program called INCubatoredu. Now in its third year, this entrepreneurial class has tripled in size.

INCubatoredu is part of a class that teaches students how to start their own business. Teacher Justin Davenport says, "Students start by exploring problems that people experience in their daily lives. They work on turning those problems into solutions by developing their own product or service startup. Students test their ideas, conduct market research and estimate their costs and future revenue. This entire process leads up to our Final Pitch where our students present their business ideas and plans to a panel of judges. The winner of the VHHS Final Pitch is then nominated to compete at the INCubatoredu National Pitch in Chicago. If our local winning team is selected to participate, they could get the chance to pitch for real funding by real investors who are interested in their business."

Bright Mobile, Coca-Cola, Eco Three, Howl Services and Whitlee Creative partnered with INCubatoredu last year to elevate the success of the program. Mr. Davenport adds, "Throughout the year we invite local entrepreneurs to come into the classroom to serve as mentors guiding students throughout the process." This is just one of many

ways that local businesses can pay it forward by investing in our next generation of entrepreneurs. If you are interested in partnering with this growing program, we would love to hear from you.



CONNECTING VESTAVIA HILLS

The Vestavia Hills Action Center is now Vestavia Hills Connect!

The City recently introduced a new app and web enabled system to serve as a one-stop shop for our residents to engage with the City for services or information. The new customer interface is clean and simple and intuitively guides you through your request.



The app is available for download for Apple and Android devices by searching "Vestavia Hills Connect" or by scanning this QR code. We hope you enjoy the upgraded technology!



ACTIVE ADULTS
Vestavia Hills

For more information
about any of these
programs or events,
call 205.978.0166
or visit
www.vhpsandrec.com

> **Monday Night Dance: EVERY Monday, 6-9pm**

Show off your dance moves at the Civic Center! This is a fun opportunity for seniors to let loose and enjoy dancing with others.

> **Silver Sneakers Exercise Class: EVERY Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 11:15am**

The Civic Center is home to Silver Sneakers classes starting with a Cardio and Strength class taught by Kristin Long!

> **Senior Luncheon & Veterans Salute: November 13, 12pm**

Enjoy a delicious lunch at the Civic Center as we celebrate and honor Veterans! The cost is \$8 per person. Bring your friends along for an enjoyable afternoon of fun.

> **Winter Formal Concert: November 17, 6pm**

Live music by Three On A String, delicious food and dancing in a festive atmosphere will make for a memorable night of fun! Dress in your finest attire, sip on warm beverages and create cherished memories with friends and fellow seniors. Don't miss this special event designed to warm your heart on a chilly night!



HOLIDAY in the HILLS

Vestavia Hills

Mark your calendar for this year's Holiday in the Hills events!

Saturday, November 11

Deck the Heights

2-7pm

Cahaba Heights

*Sunday, December 3**

Holiday Parade & Party in the Park

2pm

Liberty Park

* Rain Date: December 10

Tuesday, November 28

Tree Lighting Festival

6pm

City Hall & Civic Center

Saturday, December 9

Breakfast with Santa

7:30-10am

Civic Center

Saturday, December 2

All is Bright

5:30-7:30pm

Vestavia City Center

Thursday, December 14

Menorah Lighting

5:30pm

City Hall

Thank You!

19 Years of Dressing Vestavia Hills



BE KIND. BE GRACIOUS. BE YOU

3140 Heights Village



the lili pad

children's boutique

3138 Heights Village

"where being a Mom just got a little easier."

VESTAVIA HILLS BEAUTIFICATION BOARD
INVITES OUR NEIGHBORS TO

Light Up Vestavia Hills

Vestavia Hills residents are encouraged to place a tree (real or artificial) featuring white lights, a menorah or any other seasonal symbol in the front yard, visible from the street, this holiday season. Let's all...



Light Up
Vestavia Hills

We
are
here.



In the little moments and major milestones of childhood, we are here for our patients and their families – helping, healing, teaching and discovering.



Children's
of Alabama®

ChildrensAL.org



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 www.vhal.org

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JOHN C MAXWELL
#1 LEADERSHIP EXPERT AND BEST-SELLING AUTHOR



MARCUS BUCKINGHAM
BEST-SELLING AUTHOR, GLOBAL RESEARCHER, AND STRUCTURE REVOLUTIONIST

NOVEMBER 9
 TYSON HALL

VHMC.ORG
 TO REGISTER