

COMMUNITY NEWS

News & Events for the City of Vestavia Hills

April • May • June 2025

A joint publication of the City of Vestavia Hills & Vestavia Hills City Schools

From Mayor Ashley Curry Celebrating 75 Years

I hope you are having an enjoyable spring season and that a March that “came in like a lion” will have left “like a lamb.” We have many things to consider this quarter as we prepare for the remainder of the year.

We are eagerly anticipating the opening of new restaurants on the southern end of Highway 31, as well as substantial completion of the pedestrian bridge and the roundabout at Cahaba Heights Road and Sicard Hollow Road.

The most significant upcoming event will be the celebration of our city’s 75th anniversary. The event is tentatively scheduled for October 2, 2025, and will be held at the Vestavia Hills Civic Center.

The City of Vestavia Hills was incorporated on November 8, 1950. From a humble beginning of a few homes atop Shades Mountain and a population of approximately 600, we have since grown to a population of just under 40,000 and a geographic area of roughly 20 square miles.

Our history, from its inception in 1950 until 2000, is well documented in the book entitled “Vestavia Hills, Alabama: A Place Apart” authored by Marvin Whiting and published and copyrighted by the Vestavia Hills Historical Society on the City’s 50th anniversary in the year 2000.

The Vestavia Hills Historical Society emerged from the community’s desire to preserve its history and was officially founded on January 8, 1987. Longtime Vestavia Hills resident Ruby Landis Denson drafted the articles of incorporation, and upon approval, the Vestavia Hills Historical Society came into being.

There have been many developments in our history since the year 2000 – acquisition and development of Cahaba Heights, growth and restructuring of our city schools and the ongoing residential and commercial development in Liberty Park, to name a few.

As we prepare to celebrate our wonderful city, **I want to recruit new members for our Historical Society.** How would YOU like to be part of the next group observing and documenting the significant milestones of our city? To apply or simply express interest in joining the Historical Society, visit <https://vhal.org/vh-historical-society>. I encourage those who are interested to get involved in recording and preserving our city’s history. After all, if we don’t know where we’ve been, how do we know where we’re going?



Community Calendar

April 2025

- 2 **Dogwood Luncheon,*** Vestavia Country Club, 10am
- 3 **Design Review Board,** Executive Conference Room, 6pm
- 5 **Mini Masters Golf Event,** Scout Square, 9am
- 8 **Chamber Luncheon,** Vestavia Country Club, 11:30am
- 10 **Planning and Zoning Commission,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 12 **VH Garden Club Yard Sale,** Scout Square, 8am
(Rain date, April 26)
- 14 **Senior Citizens Association Luncheon,** Civic Center, 11:30am
- 14 **City Council Meeting,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 15 **Parks and Recreation Board,** Civic Center, 7:30am
- 17 **Board of Zoning Adjustment,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 18 **Municipal Offices Closed,** Good Friday
- 21 **VH Historical Society Presentation,** Council Chamber, 2pm
- 22 **Dogwood Prayer Breakfast,*** Civic Center, 7:30am

- 26 **Wing Ding,*** City Hall, 4pm
- 27 **Heights Hangout,** Heights Village, 2pm
- 28 **City Council Meeting,** Council Chamber, 6pm

**Ticketed event*

May 2025

- 1 **Splash Pad Opens,** 9am
- 1 **Design Review Board,** Executive Conference Room, 6pm
- 8 **Planning and Zoning Commission,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 10 **Hazardous Waste Collection Day,** Sicard Hollow Athletic Complex, 8am-12pm
- 12 **Senior Citizens Association Luncheon,** Civic Center, 11:30am
- 12 **City Council Meeting,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 13 **Chamber Luncheon,** Vestavia Country Club, 11:30am
- 15 **Board of Zoning Adjustment,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 20 **Parks and Recreation Board,** Civic Center, 7:30am
- 21 **City Council Meeting,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 23 **Aquatic Complex Opens**

- 26 **Municipal Offices Closed,** Memorial Day
Sanitation holiday. Routes will be serviced on a one-day delay.

June 2025

- 5 **Design Review Board,** Executive Conference Room, 6pm
- 9 **Senior Citizens Association Luncheon,** Civic Center, Dogwood Room, 11:30am
- 9 **City Council Meeting,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 10 **Chamber Luncheon,** Vestavia Country Club, 11:30am
- 12 **Planning and Zoning Commission,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 17 **Parks and Recreation Board,** Civic Center, 7:30am
- 19 **Board of Zoning Adjustment,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 23 **City Council Meeting,** Council Chamber, 6pm
- 26 **I Love America Night,** Wald Park, 6pm
(Rain date, July 1)

For additional event dates or to subscribe to the City calendar, visit vhal.org/calendar.

Planning for the Future

On February 24 and 25, 2025, the Mayor, City Council and City staff leadership gathered for two days of strategic planning exercises. The effort began with recognizing the value of our employees and their long service to our organization and city, followed by a comprehensive review of our successes and opportunities in calendar year 2024 and a discussion of the 2025 Citizen Survey results. After this review, the strategic planning session transitioned to forward-thinking efforts focused on three themes: (1) the City’s growth to the east, (2) recognizing the power of innovation to affect organizational culture and (3) “dreaming big” to envision the ideal actions for the future without immediate constraint on resources availability. At the conclusion of the planning process, the Mayor and Council were asked to discuss and prioritize efforts for the next 12 months to make staff efforts and funding opportunities as effective and efficient as possible.

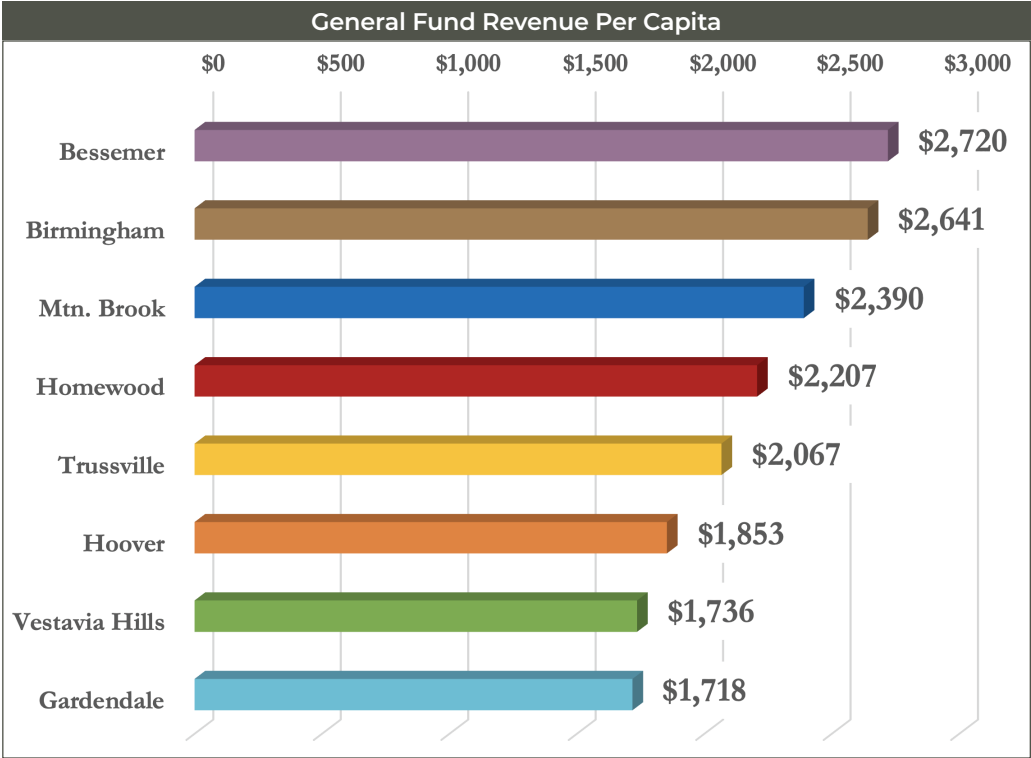
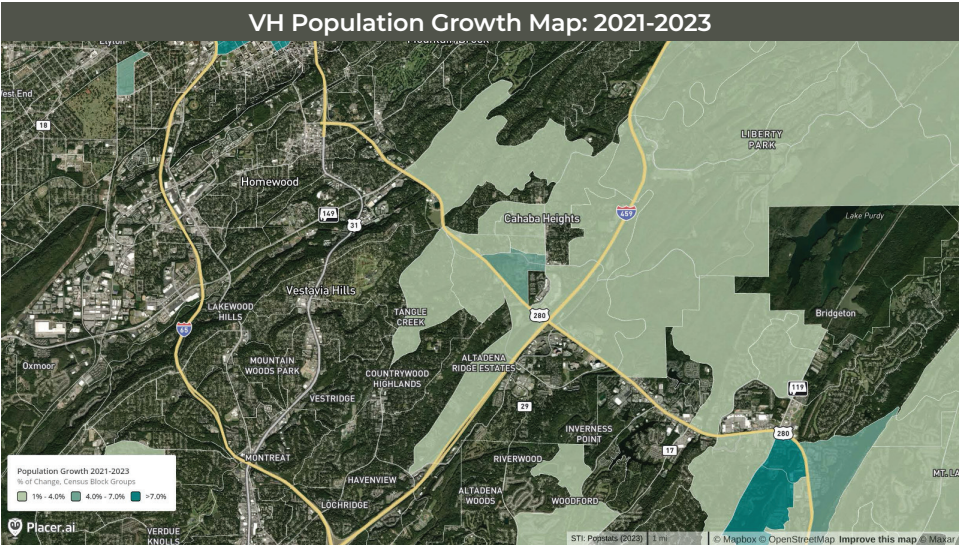
A review of the aforementioned 2024 data indicated many successes during the previous year. Customer service ratings from the biennial Citizen Survey and post-activity reports were notably strong and trending positively from previous annual reviews. Resident feedback was complimentary of attention to stormwater infrastructure, safety, education, recreation and library programs and facilities. There was a significant demand to improve the quality of walkability, transportation infrastructure and sanitation services. Following the data review, attendees strongly supported the fact that the City of Vestavia Hills is headed in the right direction.

An analysis of demographic and migration trends in the geographic region in and around Vestavia Hills supports the theory that from 2021 until present, the area generally east of Highway 280 has seen population growth while the area west of Highway 280 has seen static or reduced population demographics. This is seen most notably on the population growth map at right. It is further reinforced by growth trends in the analysis of residential and commercial new construction permit activity.

With these demographic trends in mind, various departments expressed the need for an enhanced operational presence on the east side of the City to properly serve residents in that area, including Police, Fire, Library, Parks and Recreation and maintenance.

The City organization has long lauded the fact that we do more with less. With limited overhead costs and a focus on innovation and efficiency, the City provides a full complement of municipal services utilizing less per capita revenue than most other jurisdictions in Jefferson County, Alabama. (See the “General Fund Revenue Per Capita” chart.) Addressing east side growth demands will require intentional planning so the City remains good stewards of taxpayer dollars.

At the conclusion of informational sessions, the Mayor and City Council provided input to prioritize most, if not all, of the expressed facility and service enhancements. Further financial planning and scope evaluations remain as their prioritization potentially becomes an action plan. **For more information, visit <https://vhal.org/strategic-plan>.**



Congratulations
Abbie Stockard!

From Vestavia Hills...



...to American royalty.



Vestavia Hills High School
Class of 2021
Miss America 2025

Congratulations
REBELETTES

Varsity
2nd in the Nation



Junior Varsity
National Champions



Congratulations **CHORAL STUDENTS**



The Vestavia Singers Show Choir had a very successful competition season for their 2025 show, Reading Rainbow!

Singers took 3rd place at the Capital City Classic in Montgomery, AL, and 2nd place with Best Musicianship at the King of the Mountain Show Choir Invitational at Oak Mountain High School.

AMEA ALL-STATE

Vestavia Hills High School

Aubrie Kate Atkinson
Clint Cameron
Riley Beth Glasscock
Lizzie Hargrove
Mya Looney
Katelyn Merrill
Julianna Mize
Isaac Plant
Alexis Rudolph
Emma Salamone
Kendall Wilkerson
John Lee Wimberly
Richard Wright

Pizitz Middle School

Lucia May
Olivia Vanderver
Lizzy West

Liberty Park Middle School

Caroline Cox
Maci Davis
Lydia Duffey
Edgar Fuqua
Dylan Hardee
Smith Harmon
AnnMarie Haughery
Adelaide Johnson
Ethan Lazarre
Grant Monty
Sarah Stinson
Jonah Williams



Congratulations **THEATRE STUDENTS**

Vestavia Hills High School
students, **Kate Till and
RJ Johnson**, won **1st Place**
in the Duet Acting Comedic
category at this year's
State Competition.



Theatre students, **Blake Krablin and Finley Stephenson**, were selected as the Keynote Emerging Artists of Promise for this year's Southeastern Theatre Conference!

Don't miss these upcoming VHCS theatre productions:

VHHS Theatre Presents

Cinderella
April 24-27



Tickets available on GoFan

*Liberty Park Middle School Theatre
Presents*

**THE STINKY
CHEESE
MAN**



**Friday May 9th 6:30 pm
Liberty Park Middle School**

Congratulations **VISUAL ARTS STUDENTS**

Three Vestavia Hills students received Honorable Mention at this year's State Superintendent Art Exhibit!



Connor Peterson

11th Grade, VHHS

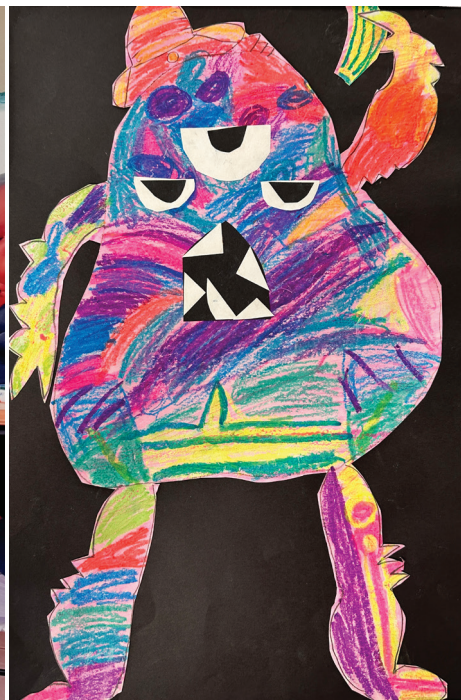
Mrs. Rushing



Krislyn Thomas

11th Grade, VHHS

Dr. Fisk



David Borgan

1st Grade, VHEE

Mrs. Rushing



34th Annual
DOGWOOD PRAYER BREAKFAST
Vestavia Hills

*Get your tickets today for this year's
Dogwood Prayer Breakfast!*

April 22, 2025

6:45 a.m. Buffet Opens
7:30 a.m. Program Begins

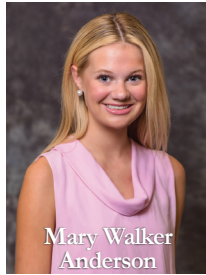
Vestavia Hills Civic Center
1090 Montgomery Highway
Vestavia Hills, AL

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

Tickets are **\$30** each and sell out fast!
To purchase, visit www.vestavi hills.org.

Vestavia Belles

2025-2026



Vestavia Hills DOGWOOD FESTIVAL

Spring into Fun!

The Vestavia Hills Dogwood Festival celebrates all of the incredible things Vestavia Hills has to offer!

**THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE
DURING THE DOGWOOD FESTIVAL!**

April Events

- 2: Dogwood Luncheon**, Vestavia Country Club, 10am
- 4 & 5: Hunt the Heights**, Cahaba Heights Business District, 10am-5pm
- 5: Mini Masters**, Scout Square, 9am
- 6: Spring Yard Judging Concludes**
- 10: Liberty Park Spring Farmer's Market**, Liberty Park Great Lawn, 4-7pm
- 10: VH Arts Council Spring Fling**, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 5:30-7pm
- 10 & 11: Hunt Liberty Park**, Liberty Park Business District, 10am-5pm
- 12: VH Garden Club Yard Sale**, Scout Square, 8am-1pm
- 12: RISE Day**, VHHS, 4-10pm
- 12: Historical Society Self-Guided Home Tour Begins**, City-wide
- 18: Easter Extravaganza**, Wald Park, 11am-1pm
- 19: Cookie Crusher VH5K & Dash**, The Heights Village, 8am & 9:30am
- 19: Battle of the Bands**, Rocky Ridge Plaza, 5-9pm
- 21: Historical Society Presentation: Patrick Boone, Esq.**, Vestavia Hills City Hall, 2pm
- 22: Dogwood Prayer Breakfast**, VH Civic Center, 7-9am
- 26: Wing Ding**, VH City Hall Lawn, 4-7pm
- 27: Heights Hangout**, The Heights Village, 2-7pm
- 27: Historical Society Self-Guided Home Tour Concludes**, City-wide

Connect on social!



SCAN FOR DETAILED EVENT INFO
or visit
https://bit.ly/Dogwood_Fest



VESTAVIA HILLS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

presents

Guest Speaker, Patrick H. Boone

Monday, April 21 at 2pm – Vestavia Hills City Hall

In the past 45+ years, Patrick Boone has worked with numerous administrations in the City of Vestavia Hills, school superintendents and board members, and has played a part in the city's growth, from the inception of the school system to the annexations of Cahaba Heights and Liberty Park.



COMMUNITY NEWS

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Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

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EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

11 am - 1 pm • Wald Park

BUNNY HOP

2 pm - 4 pm • SHAC
(Splash Pad Pavilion)

April 18

