

COMMUNITY NEWS

News & Events for the City of Vestavia Hills | October 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

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to October! Many consider October the best month of the year. For southerners it means a break from the oppressive heat and humidity experienced during the summer. It is also generally considered the best month for the fall foliage. There's no better month of the year than October to enjoy the vibrant colors of the leaves.

On October 5, Vestavia Hills will have its Community Night Out, an opportunity for first responders to network with local businesses, civic groups, churches, schools and citizens in a symbolic stance to promote public safety. The public is invited to bring a chair or blanket and enjoy a night of free family fun as we

honor our first responders. There will be jump houses, a photo booth, pumpkin patch, free food and more! Thank you to Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Truist Bank and all of the other event sponsors.

October 5 is also National Do Something Nice Day. This holiday encourages us to perform acts of kindness for strangers or loved ones or both! It's easy to become so caught up in our own stresses and struggles that we forget to show kindness to others. This holiday is a great reminder that doing good deeds makes the world better — and might even help you better manage your own troubles in the process.

National Chamber of Commerce Day is October 18. We are fortunate to have a very active Vestavia Hills Chamber with membership over 700 members strong. We are thrilled with our growing roster because it means that we are able to better support local businesses and help strengthen our local economy, which translates into improved City services and a higher quality of life for all Vestavia Hills residents.

In November, the City will have two separate events to honor our veterans. Salute to Veterans is scheduled for Sunday, November 5 at the Vestavia Hills Civic Center. There will be food and fun for the whole family, including patriotic music and entertainment. This year's guest speaker will be retired Major General David Burford. The second event will be held on Thursday, November 9 at the New Merkel House in Cahaba Heights. These two events are intended to pay tribute to the men and women that have served our country in all branches of the military, Coast Guard and the U.S. Merchant Marine. Please join us as we salute our veterans.

I love the fall season. As F. Scott Fitzgerald said, "Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall."

Salute to Veterans

Honoring Those Who Served

Mayor Ashley Curry and the City of Vestavia Hills will host a family-friendly Veterans Day celebration honoring veterans from all service branches on Sunday, November 5, 2-4pm at the Vestavia Hills Civic Center, 1090 Montgomery Highway. Enjoy light refreshments, entertainment and programming with a patriotic theme including activities for children, booths featuring information and services for veterans, antique military vehicles and more.

Send us your artwork! The Vestavia Hills Arts Council is hosting an artwork competition in partnership with the Veterans Day celebration. The theme of the competition is "Salute to Veterans." For more information, including art contest details, visit <https://vhal.org/community/city-events>.

We hope to see you there!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

October 2023

- 1-31 ARTStober Art Exhibit,**
City Hall, Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm
- 4 Design Review Board,**
Executive Conference Room,
6 p.m. *Rescheduled from 10/5*
- 5 Community Night Out,**
City Hall Lawn, 5 p.m.
Rain date 10/26
- 9 Senior Citizens Association Luncheon,** Civic Center,
11:30 a.m.
- 9 City Council Meeting,**
Council Chamber, 6 p.m.
- 10 Chamber Luncheon,** Vestavia
Country Club, 11:30 a.m.
- 12 Planning and Zoning Commission,** Council
Chamber, 6 p.m.
- 16 Council Work Session,**
Council Chamber, 6 p.m.
- 17 Parks and Recreation Board,**
Civic Center, 7:30 a.m.
- 19 Board of Zoning Adjustment,**
Council Chamber, 6 p.m.
- 23 Vestavia Hills Historical Society,** Council Chamber,
2 p.m.
- 23 City Council Meeting,**
Council Chamber, 6 p.m.
- 28 Haunt the Hills,**
Wald Park, 4:30 p.m.



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

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Math does not come naturally for most of us. It is, however, necessary in our personal and professional lives. As a student, I could not always make a connection to why I had to learn math. Thankfully, the way we teach the connections it has to our world has come a long way since then. This is good news for our younger generation who have great interest in pursuing future careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Without question, there is a vast wealth of knowledge and expertise right here in our backyard. Imagine the possibilities for designing meaningful learning experiences for children in all of our schools just by leveraging the brainpower within our own community. I invite you to attend one of the upcoming Coffee and Classrooms events to learn more about how you can get involved.

4 in 10
VESTAVIA HILLS RESIDENTS HAVE A STEM DEGREE

1 in 3 | **1 in 4**

VHHS GRADUATES MAJORING IN STEM AT ALABAMA & AUBURN

VESTAVIA HILLS RESIDENTS WORK IN A STEM OCCUPATION

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Join us for Coffee & Classrooms!
October 31, 8:30 a.m. @ Vestavia Hills HS
November 28, 8:30 a.m. @ Liberty Park

Each STEM discipline is unique in how it develops skills of logic, analyzing problems and designing solutions. STEM instills habits of mind that ignite creative and innovative thinking. No matter which

college or career path students take, those skills and habits will be important. The secret to children mastering these important skills is to connect them at the earliest ages with learning experiences that are meaningful.

One example of making connections to learning is the Engineering and Architectural Design program at VHHS. Teacher Steven Brooks says that the program “introduces the design process, practical design and documentation skills. Students can take courses in 3-D solid model design, architectural design fundamentals and architectural building information modeling.” Last year, students in the program worked to design a solution for a young athlete who sustained a hand injury to be able to better grip his baseball glove. This was, in part, possible because of partners like our PTO and Hanger Clinic providing resources necessary to designing an idea. That is making a real-world connection to STEM learning with a noble purpose!

VHCS graduates tell us they are interested in architecture and engineering. Each year, typically one in five graduates who attend Auburn University or the University of Alabama major in these fields. More broadly, 1 in 3 graduates who attend an in-state university will declare a major in a STEM-related field. Our community has a similar number of adults who are interested in it as well. According to the 2020 Census, 4 of every 10 college graduates who live in Vestavia Hills earned a STEM-related degree.



Haunt THE HILLS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28 4:30 PM
WALD PARK

PRESENTED BY

STANDARD (EATING COOLING RUNNING)
BLACK FAMILY RESTAURANTS
UB CALLAHAN EYE

STANDARD (EATING COOLING RUNNING)
Family Medical Supply Store
Slice
DC Drive Center State Farm
PEPSI

TRICK-OR-TREAT ON THE GRAND LAWN WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ENJOY GAMES AND INFLATABLES FROM 4:30-6:00 PM!

DRESS IN YOUR BEST FAMILY-FRIENDLY COSTUME FOR A COSTUME CONTEST. BRING YOUR CARVED PUMPKIN TO ENTER IN THE PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

BRING A CHAIR OR BLANKET TO WATCH A FAMILY HALLOWEEN MOVIE AT 6:30 PM.

VISIT VESTAVIAHILLS.ORG FOR MORE INFO.



VESTAVIA HILLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The next Vestavia Hills Historical Society meeting is October 23, 2023 at 2pm. **We will hear from local physician and historian, Dr. Fred Moss.** His presentation, “How Well Do You Know Alabama History,” will share interesting and little-known facts about the State of Alabama.

We hope you will join us at City Hall for this intriguing presentation. Attendance is FREE! See you there!



OCTOBER: FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

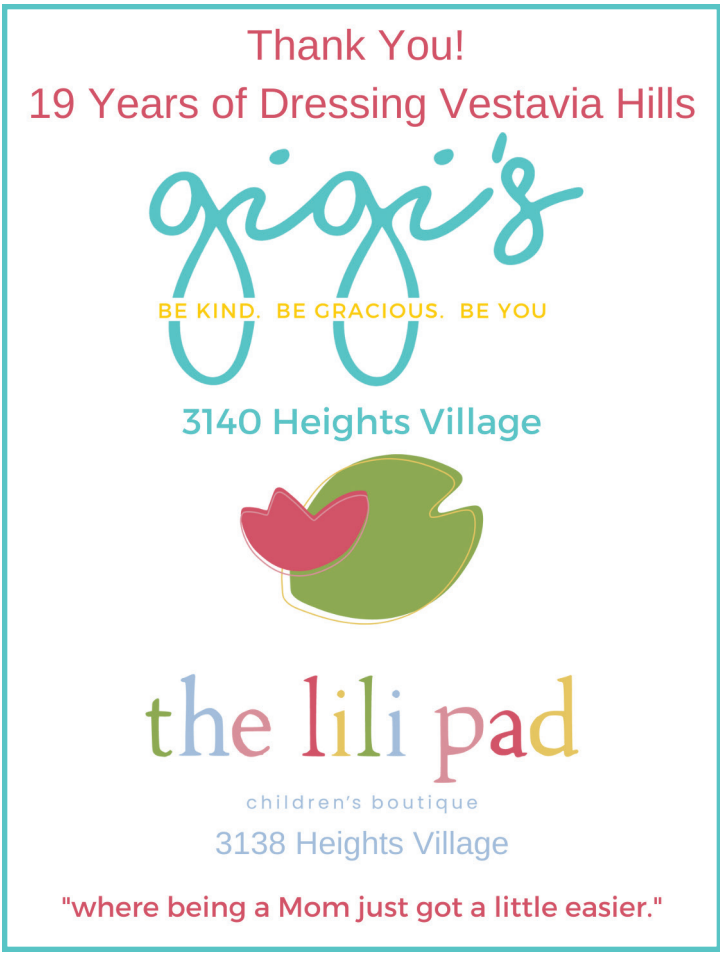
Every October, the Vestavia Hills Fire Department recognizes Fire Prevention month. This recognition serves as an opportunity to educate the public regarding fire safety by discussing smoke alarms, portable heaters and prevention of all types of fires. A majority of efforts are focused on presentations at Vestavia Hills elementary schools. The Fire Marshal's Office is very busy with these presentations. Students learn how to exit a house with smoke in a room, as well as learning the importance of having a plan to meet up after exiting and never re-entering the house once outside. The VHFD encourages you to discuss these concepts with your family, develop an escape plan in case of a fire and practice your plan often.



When people with extraordinary talent and passion are given the technology, the facilities, and the support, they achieve great things. The discoveries taking place today will help shape the future of treatments and lead to cures – benefitting not only our patients and families, but people across the country and around the world for years to come.



1600 7TH AVENUE SOUTH • BIRMINGHAM, AL 35233 • 205-638-9100





City of Vestavia Hills
 1032 Montgomery Highway
 Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
 205.978.0100
 www.vhal.org

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 BEST SELLING AUTHOR, GLOBAL RESEARCHER,
 AND STRONG'S REVOLUTION CHIEF

NOVEMBER 9

TYSON HALL

VHMC.ORG

TO REGISTER

SIMULCAST IS SPONSORED BY



VESTAVIA HILLS
 METHODIST CHURCH



Magical Marketplace
 NOVEMBER 16 | 5:00PM TO 7:00 PM
 NOVEMBER 17 | 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM
 VESTAVIA HILLS METHODIST CHURCH
 TYSON HALL ENTRANCE

JOIN US FOR
A Night in Bethlehem
 NOVEMBER 29 | 6 - 7PM
 VESTAVIA METHODIST | TYSON HALL