

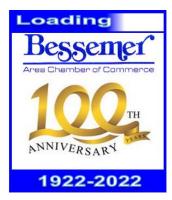
# COMMUNIQUE

Celebrating 99 Years

1922 - 2021

AUGUST

#### The Bessemer Chamber Prepares to Celebrate Centennial Anniversary



The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce will celebrate 100 years in business in 2022! The Bessemer Chamber has been a united voice of the business community in the city, county, state, and federal levels. We work daily to be a networking resource for the business community, an integral part of the city and community, and an advocate for growth.

As we embark upon the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we reflect upon the fact that we are standing tall on the shoulders of many that laid the foundation for this organization. The Bessemer Chamber of Commerce was organized on May 1, 1922, as a community organization and was composed of leading industrial, business, and professional men. We have come a long

way with great leadership and dedicated volunteers. We've made it this far because many of you realized the value of your local chamber of commerce and have maintained your partnership.

2022 will be a year of celebration! We will kick off the year with the publication of the 100<sup>th</sup> "SPECIAL EDITION" Anniversary Magazine. We ask you to celebrate with us throughout the entire year. Show your support, starting with the Bessemer Magazine!

Please review the advertising investment opportunities listed on page 8 and select your advertisement size. This is a great way for you to market your company/organization, but it is also a great way to display your support/partnership with your chamber. Our goal is to have every chamber member to advertise in this SPECIAL EDITION of the magazine and WE NEED YOUR HELP! Can we count on you?





Bessemer Municipal Court – Maurice S. Muhammad 23 15<sup>th</sup> Street North Bessemer, AL 35020 P: (205) 425-2853

Email: <u>mmuhammad@bessemeral.org</u> \*Government

Noah Rocker 1414 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North Bessemer, AL 35020 P1: (205) 434-2374; P2: (251) 769-3518

**Fountain of Life Church** 

Email: pastor@afountainoflife.com
Website: www.afountainoflife.com

\*Church



# **BUSINESS NEWS**

#### **Lawson State Community College Partners with Miles College**

By Ryan Michaels, The Birmingham Times

Lawson State Community College (LSCC) students with an associate's degree can now easily transfer to Miles College to obtain a bachelor's, presidents of the two schools announced Tuesday. After completing 64 transferable hours or obtaining an associate's from LSCC, Miles College will provide admissions to Lawson State students and/or alumni who possess at least a GPA of 2.0 in their core curriculum or a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0. Bobbie Knight, president of Miles College, said the agreement will have a long-lasting impact for both institutions. "The most significant impact will be for the students of both campuses, and specifically, the [LSCC] students who will find a home at Miles College, said Knight. LSCC president Dr. Cynthia T. Anthony



said, "When you put two great institutions together, nothing but success can happen . . . At Lawson State we are laser focused on student success. That is our mantra, we live it every day. . . . We see that this partnership with Miles College just represents another piece of that continuum toward student success." This is not the first time LSCC and Miles have worked together on initiatives for students. In January, the two colleges collaborated with Propel Center in Atlanta, which will support innovative learning and development for Historically Black College and Universities (HBCUs). Miles is also committed to providing more than just transferal of credits for LSCC students, Knight said. "I have asked every member of my administration to pull out all the stops to ensure that [LSCC] students have everything they need to succeed," Knight said. "This represents a partnership between my office and that of Dr. Cynthia Anthony. This means scholarships for [LSCC] students, joint programs and activities between our academic success centers, our educational programs and career development programs." "Miles College is proud to partner with [LSCC] and excited about the opportunity to serve our future Mileans," Knight said. Dr. Jarralynne Agee, Vice President of Academic Affairs for Miles, pointed out that the schools are just 3.7 miles away, "but this document brings us a little bit closer," she said.

#### New Construction in Bessemer to Create a Combined 1500 Jobs

By Lauren Walsh, ABC 33/40



West Jefferson County is quickly becoming the place companies want to build, especially distribution centers. New projects opening in Bessemer this year and next year will create a combined 1,500 jobs. For example, Fed Ex on Lakeshore Parkway is expected to open later this year with 250 jobs. On Lakeshore, you 'll also find Amazon 's new last mile facility under construction, expected to employ 250 people. TSF Sportswear broke ground on a new facility, expected to employ 175 people in 2022. The company, currently on Oxmoor Road, is expanding and relocating to the Bessemer site. On Morgan Road, Lowe's is building a 1.2 million square foot facility, expected to employ 150 people. Carvana just opened not far from there, with 450 jobs. 'You probably can't find five places in America

seeing this level of investment," Birmingham Business Alliance President Ron Kitchens said of the concentrated level of investment of a specific industry. Kitchens says companies saw the faith Amazon put into the area. "The validation of Amazon selecting that area and continuing to invest in it both said geographically it's a great location to distribute from and then in terms of the quality of the workforce and quality of governmental relations," Kitchens said. "We've got hard working people, blue collar people in the city of Bessemer and it's just a combination of the land availability and all those things coming together," said Mayor Kenneth Gulley. Gulley notes the high starting pay and great benefit packages for the new jobs. "Everybody who wants a job can find a job, not just any job, a good paying job where you can provide for your family," Gulley added. He admits there may be a challenge filling them. He knows Alabama is experiencing a worker shortage and Bessemer is even experiencing a shortage of city workers right now. "We are a city of roughly 27,000 citizens and we've created more than 10,000 jobs in the last decade," said Gulley. "That means we're going to have those problems regardless of whether we're in a pandemic or not." Kitchens shares the workforce concerns and is helping to work on a plan. "The only holding us back is the labor issue and we've got to address that Mayor Gulley says to stay competitive- some of the projects were offered tax abatements. Others did not use any incentives from the city.



# **BUSINESS NEWS**



#### **WELCOME TO BESSEMER**

The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce would like to welcome the following businesses to the city of Bessemer:













The Law Offices of Merika Coleman, LLC's ribbon cutting was held on Thursday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. The Law Offices of Merika Coleman, LLC is located at 401 19th Street North, Ste. 103 Bessemer, Alabama. Ph1: (205) 800-7660; PH2: (205) 276-4324; www.alabamabankruptcylawfirm.com











JL Beauty Bar's ribbon cutting was held on Friday, August 6th, 2021. JL Beauty Bar is located at 1900 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Ste. 112 Bessemer, Alabama.



# BUSINESS/COMMUNITY NEWS













Heritage Christian Academy's ribbon cutting was held on Friday, August 6th, 2021. Heritage Christian Academy is located at 6200 Lou George Loop, Birmingham, Alabama.

PH: (205) 978-6001; www.hcachristian.org



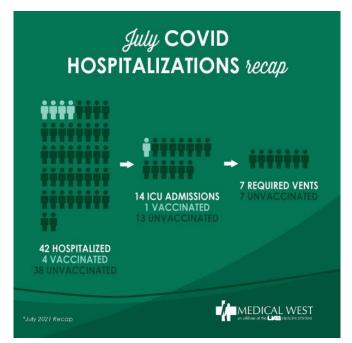
Are you opening a new business and would like to celebrate with a ribbon cutting or groundbreaking ceremony? Contact the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce and complete the Ribbon Cutting/Groundbreaking Registration Form today! Ceremonies are complimentary on behalf of the BACOC.



#### Message from Chamber Member,



As our COVID hospitalization numbers rise, we wanted to provide you all with a recap of our July numbers. In July, we had a total of 42 COVID hospitalizations, 14 of those critically ill with 7 on ventilators. All 7 on ventilators were unvaccinated. The numbers don't lie, and they are continuing to grow. For our community, your loved ones and our staff working tirelessly to help those who are sick, please consider getting vaccinated. #GetVaccinated #protectyourself #StopTheSpread





# **COMMUNITY NEWS**

"Seek the Peace" Ministries Partnered to Organize Community Event

A group of local church leaders called "Seek the Peace" Ministries partnered with Housing Authority of the City if Bessemer to organize the "Community Unity Fun Day" in Bessemer's Southside Homes community on August 1st, 2021. The event was a success; dozens of children in the area came out for a great time and enjoyed food/snacks, drinks, music and a bookbag filled with school supplies! Thanks to the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce, Lawson State Community College, and Chambers Funeral Home for contributing to the success of this event!

















**Amazon Delivers School Supplies to Bessemer City Elementary Schools** 

By Ashley Gooden, ABC 33/40



Special Amazon deliveries came Tuesday afternoon. The important boxes came to schools in the Bessemer City School district. Each box contained exactly what's needed for the start of the school year. Sometimes it's a surprise seeing an Amazon Prime package, but imagine getting a phone call and Amazon telling you to expect 150 packages at your door! "It is wonderful," says Mildred Posey, the principal at J.S. Abrams Elementary School. Abrams Elementary was one of many stops. The school received boxes filled with backpacks, notepads, pencils, markers and more. At the end of the initiative, Amazon will have delivered 3500 school supplies boxes to Tuscaloosa, Birmingham and Bessemer. Parents won't have to worry about this part of the school year. "We're not asking parents to provide any school supplies this year. We want to do everything for them because we know that the children, parents too have

gone through a lot during this COVID season," says Posey. While it's off to another strange start, Abrams Elementary will roll with the punches. "In any school year you have to adapt and adjust to whatever changes come your way, and that's what we have done, that's what we're going to continue to do," Posey says. For many students school is a refuge, a safe place... one of these boxes could mean a lot more than anyone knows. "We all have things that happen in our lives that might effect you a different way than someone else, so we just have to be attentive to our children at all times," Posey says.

Bessemer City Schools kick off the school year August 12th and offer a friendly reminder to parents who are waiting until the last minute, If you have not registered, make sure you visit the website of your child's school and do so.



# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### Your Chamber Leadership Team



Carlton Jackson Bessemer Fire Dept. Chairman



Mitch Avery Spire Chairman Elect



Charles King Regional Paramedical Services Past Chairman



Antoinette Madison Alabama Power Treasurer



Dr. Cynthia Anthony Lawson State Community College New Jerusalem Baptist Church Finance Chairman



Dr. Reginald Calvert



Cortney Coleman Bess. Housing Authority



Bryonda Collins Chambers Funeral Home



Katie Dugas-Truss Legacy YMCA



Dr. Autumm Jeter Bessemer City Schools



Deaunka L. Webster Individual



Kem L. Marks Maj. Cleveland Moore Just In Time Legal Solutions Jeff. Co. Sheriff's Office



Sheriff Mark Pettway Jeff. Co. Sheriff's Office



Robert Pollard Premiere Chevy



William Smith Marco's Pizza - Bessemer



Paul Teasley Buffalo Rock



LaVada Varner Alabama Technology Network Bessemer Development Board



Devron Veasley

# **AMBASSADORS**



Standing – Left to Right

Daryl Owens (New Jerusalem Baptist Church), Danielle Matthews (Matthews & Associates), Minnie Roper (Retired), Tamala Briggins (Oak Trace Care & Rehabilitation), Donna King (D & K Lawncare), Cathy Ackerman (First Financial Bank)

Sitting – Left to Right

Sarah Belcher (Retired), Claire Mitchell (Retired), Sarah Beasley (Joe Beasley Memorial Foundation, Inc)

Not pictured

Denise Jackson (New Jerusalem Baptist Church), Anna Wooten (First Financial Bank), Sebrena Davis (Salvation Army), Lori Chisem (Lawson State Community College), Dorian Waluyn (Lawson State Community College), Akilih Haley (Lawson State Community College), Connie Fuell (Dex Imaging)

Ambassadors are the key resource in extending hospitality in the Bessemer area and are experienced in business, community, and promotional arenas.

An Ambassador must serve as an active public relations arm of the Chamber and be prepared to meet visitors, local businesses, and various forms of the media.

We encourage you join the ambassador program. The ambassadors meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 12 pm at the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce.

# 2021 CORPORATE SPONSORS

# **PLATINUM SPONSOR**



# **GOLD SPONSORS**











#### SILVER SPONSORS

















#### SMALL BUSINESS PARTNERS

AMERICA'S FIRST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
CHAMBERS FUNERAL HOME
COMFORT CARE HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE
JUST IN TIME LEGAL SOLUTIONS, INC.
LEGACY YMCA
REGIONAL PARAMEDICAL SERVICES
JULIE BELL, AGENT - STATE FARM INSURANCE

WILLIAM PARSONS, CPA



# THE BESSEMER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

1922 - 2022

100 YEARS

2022 Magazine Rate Sheet [ad sizes and rate]

MEMBER					NON-MEMBER
Size	Non-bleed	Non-bleed Bleed Color (M)			Color (NM)
2 Page Spread	14 x 10	16.75 x 11.125	\$2,000		\$2,350
Full Page	7 x 10	8.375 x 11.125	\$1,450		\$1,825
2/3 Page	4.625 x 10	NA	\$1,100		\$1,425
1/2 Page Horizontal	7 x 4.875	NA	\$ 900		\$1,175
1/2 Page Vertical	4.625 x 7.5	NA	\$ 900		\$1,175
1/3 Page Square	4.625 x 4.875	NA	\$ 675		\$ 875
1/3 Page Vertical	2.125 x 10	NA	\$ 675		\$ 875
1/6 Page Vertical	2.125 x 4.875	NA	\$ 550		\$ 750
1/6 Page Horizontal	4.625 x 2.25	NA	\$ 550		\$ 750
Business Card	3.25 x 1.75	NA	\$ 250		\$ 450



#### premium positions

(full page 4-color, Members Only)

Back Cover	\$2,800 SOLD
Inside Front Cover	\$1,950 SOLD
Inside Back Cover	\$1,950
Page 1	\$1,950 SOLD

#### deadline extended

<b>Space Reservation</b>	Oct. 1, 2021		
Advertising Copy [NO EXCEPTIONS]	Oct. 5, 2021		
Publishing Date	January 2022		

#### payment terms

All rates are net. Payment terms:

\*100% payment with contract required\*

All checks made payable to: Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce

Contact the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce with any questions at 205-425-3253 or LaTasha Cook Williams at 205-283-2659 or email mmilan1@bellsouth.net.

Email this form and your completed ad to mmilan1@bellsouth.net in pdf format.

Advertisers must provide ads in high resolution pdf files by email to mmilan 1@bellsouth.net no later than Oct. 5, 2021.

\*Business card ads should be sent as original design files in PDF format\*

Need to hire a graphic designer for your ad? The project's graphic designer can design your ad for \$50 per hour. Forward all text, logo, photos, etc. and any instructions to mmilan1@bellsouth.net for ad design when reserving your ad space. (This cost is in addition to your ad space cost) Advertiser will be given a proof, the option to edit at no charge and a revised proof. Additional changes to the ad after the revision will be charged at the rate of \$50/hour.

#### **Specify Ad Information**

Ad Size Required	_ Ad Cost	+ Production Rate	= \$ TOTAL COST
Company:		Contact:	
Address:	City:		Zip:
Phone: Fax:	Ema	il:	
Method of Payment:Credit CardChe	eckCash		
Credit Card #:	Exp. 1	Date: CVV #	
Billing Address (IF different from above):		City	Zip:
Print Cardholder's Name:	Authorized Signat	ure	Date

I authorize the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce to charge my credit card for ad rates and agree to pay the above total according to card issuer agreement.

Mail payment to Bessemer Chamber at 321 18th St. N., Bessemer, AL 35020



# 30th Annual Golf Tournament



# THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021

#### FRANK HOUSE GOLF COURSE SHOTGUN START AT 12:00 PM

Benefits Chamber Programs

### Schedule

10:00 am Registration
11:00 am Lunch
12:00 pm Tee Time
4:30 pm Awards / Dinner

#### Hole in One provided by



**TOWN & COUNTRY** 



Come and enjoy networking, good food, a game of golf, prizes, 50/50 raffle and the silent auction

#### Deadline for Sponsors & Players. Sept. 30th

# Sponsorships Opportunities

#### TITLE SPONSOR - \$ 1500

Includes Logo recognition on selected Golf Promotions, Exposure to over 90 area golf enthusiasts, Includes two 4 person teams, Opportunity to display and distribute company product / merchandise, Opportunity to include promotional items in goody bags, Company name and/or logo on driving range, Pre & Post event publicity, Additional beer coupons, Post event mailing labels

#### SILVER SPONSOR - \$ 650

Includes 4 person team, Includes 18 x 24 in. sponsorship sign, with your company logo at hole on course, Exposure to over 90 area golf enthusiasts, Pre & Post event publicity

#### TENT SPONSOR - \$ 500

Includes 2 players, Opportunity to display a tent (provided by sponsor), Includes  $18 \times 24$  in. sponsorship sign, with your company logo at hole on course, Pre & Post event publicity

#### HOLE SPONSOR - \$ 150

Includes 18 X 24 in. sponsorship sign, with your company logo at hole on course, Pre & Post event publicity

#### DOOR PRIZE SPONSOR - \$ 100

A golfer's door prize with a minimum value of \$100 will be purchased in your company's name





# Registration DEADLINE: Sept. 30th

Please fill out the information below and be sure to indicate which sponsorship you are choosing.

Company:	<u>.</u>
Contact Name:	
Address:	
	Zip:
Phone:	Fax:
Email:	
Sponsorship Type: [Indicate	
Title (\$1,500) Silve	r (\$650) <b>Tent</b> (\$500)
Team of 4 (\$500)	<b>Hole</b> (\$150)
Individual Player (\$125)	Door Prize (\$100)
Power Pack (\$20) (Includes 2 Mulligans + 1 Pov	# × \$20 = \$
<b>50/50 Raffle</b> (\$10)	# × \$10 = \$
Method of Payment:	Credit CardCheck
Credit Card #:	
	# Billing Zip
Billing Address:	,
Print Cardholder's Name:	
my credit card for golf to	rea Chamber of Commerce to charge urnament fees and agree to pay the ing to card issuer agreement.
Authorized Signature	Date
BACOC, 321 18th S	egistration & payment to St. N., Bessemer, AL 35020  DUAL REGISTRATION  Thursday, Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>
Player 1:	
Phone #:	Handicap
Player 2:	
Phone #:	Handicap
Player 3:	
Phone #:	Handicap
Player 4:	
Phone #:	Handicap

QUESTIONS? Call 205.425.3253 or email mmilan1@bellsouth.net

# BESSEMER CHRISTMAS PARADE

**DOWNTOWN BESSEMER** 

THE PARADE WILL START ON 19<sup>TH</sup> ST & 1<sup>ST</sup> AVE @ 2PM

Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 2 pm



# **Theme: A Cure for Christmas**





Decorate your entry in honor of or in memory of someone who has or had cancer...



For more info: www.bessemerchamber.com

Facebook page or call 205.425.3253

# Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce Membership Subscription Contract

Company:			
Contact Name & Ti	tle		
Address:			
Phone #1		Phone #2	Fax:
E-mail:			
			ategory listing at www.bessemerchamber.com)
Please provide your	online links: [For exam	ple: Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTub	e, Urban Spoon, Yelp]
Give us a brief desci	ription of your compa	my's business for your listing on o	ur website
	222	***	
	and want times — to		-
	What yea	r was your business established?	
			amerce the appropriate amount for membership
		time employees. This organization believes t ership dues are determined by the listed char	hat you are best qualified to determine the value
SEAY SE	S <del>-2</del> 6 €	*	
Signature			Date
# of Full Time	Membership	<b>Choose Billing Method:</b>	All dues are paid once annually
Employees	Investment	Dues Amount: \$	per year
0-3 4-6	200.00 260.00		
7-10	330.00	# oj Fun 11me Employee.	s# of Part Time Employees
11-25	400.00	Indicate Today'	s Payment Method
26-39 40 and up	520.00 600.00	CheckCash	Invoice Credit Card

# Non Profits & Individuals 125.00 Financial Institutions 750.00 Utilities 1000.00 Associate Member 75.00 (Only for employees of existing members)

Choose I	Billing Me	thod:	All dues d	are paid once annually
	Dues .	Amount: \$	pe	r year
	_# of Full Tin	ne Employees	# of Par	t Time Employees
	Indic	cate Today's I	Payment Me	thod
	Check	Cash	Invoice _	Credit Card
9 <del>.</del>	Nan	ne / Company	on Credit (	Card
CC#				Exp. Date
CVV	7 #	CC Billin	g Zip Code _	-

#### Debit/Credit Card payments can be processed by phone, mail or in person 205-425-3253

Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce at 321 18th St. N. Bessemer, AL 35020

ONCE YOU'RE AN ACTIVE MEMBER, PLEASE GO TO WWW.BESSEMERCHAMBER.COM TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING UNDER YOUR COMPANY'S LISTING:

JOB LISTINGS / BUSINESS PROMOTIONAL EVENTS / MEMBER TO MEMBER DISCOUNTS / COMPANY NEWS



# Alabama Chambers Benefit Program



The Alabama Chambers Benefit Program helps members reduce health benefit costs by providing a unique, specialized program tailored to small and mid-sized businesses that emphasizes wellness, cost saving education, and concierge-level service.

#### **Program Eligibility:**

- Each chamber must be a member of the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama and businesses must be a member of a local chamber
- · Employees must be working full-time (at least 30 hours a week)
- · Company must have two or more employees to apply
- · Independent contractors are not eligible

#### **Program Features:**

- · Customer service team dedicated to delivering an exceptional experience
- · Stable health benefit costs
- · Access to Smart Health 360 which equips members to live healthy
- $\cdot$  24/7 access to a Doctor through Teladoc with a \$0 copay
- Utilizes the VIVA HEALTH Network

#### **Benefits to Chambers**

- · Enhanced member satisfaction and retention
- · Attractive healthcare program to offer as a member benefit

### **Benefits to Members**

- · Easy access to customer service and resources
- · Lower and stable health benefit costs

Benefit Program administered by











"TIDBIT TUESDAYS" IS A WEEKLY VIDEO HIGHLIGHTING BESSEMER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS AND THEIR SERVICES. THE PURPOSE OF THE WEEKLY VIDEOS IS TO EMPOWER AND INFORM VIEWERS ABOUT CHAMBER MEMBERS' PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

#### **Options for Filming:**

- 1. Record your video (no more than 2 minutes) on your cellular device and submit along with this form to Micole Dudley at bessemerchamber.memberserv@gmail.com.
- 2. Schedule on site filming, allowing chamber staff to come out and film for you. Contact chamber staff to schedule day and time.

Company:			
Address:			
Contact Name:			
Contact Number:	Email address:		
Quick History of Business:			
Hours of Operation:			
Summarized Tuesday Tidbit tips: <b>(Keep in m</b> product/service being promoted! See exan	15 AND 15	needs to be relevant and tied	d to the
( ) Product OR ( ) Service:			

Please feel free to add additional pages if needed!

"Tidbit Tuesdays" is a product of the "BUY BESSEMER" Campaign sponsored by:





Your spotlight will be featured in the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce Monthly Newsletter and on the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook page. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM, ONE PHOTO AND YOUR COMPANY LOGO, IF APPLICABLE, ASAP.

Company/Organization:
Address:
Hours of Operation:
Owner(s)/Contact Representative(s):
Phone (include fax number):
E-mail:
Website/Social Media:
How did your business get started (Brief history)?
What products and/or services do you offer?

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Why did you choose to open your business in the Bessemer area?
What is your favorite part about living and/or working in Bessemer?

Feel free to use additional pages if needed.

