



Celebrating 99 Years

1922 - 2021

MARCH/APRIL

**on the Green** Pros – Beginners - Ladies

# **GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Spring is in the Air...... "Spring on the Green" with us on Friday, April 23, 2021 for the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce's golf tournament.

We have designed this tournament to be a tad bit different from the Golf "FORE" Progress tournament held annually in October. We're calling for ladies and beginner golfers to take advantage of this opportunity for you to enjoy learning the basic of golf, play golf with skilled golfers, network with community and business leaders and enjoy some great food in a safe environment.

We're super excited about the food this year: lunch will be prepared onsite by Bessemer Elks Lodge 721, and dinner will be prepared onsite by Spire.

Do not wait; call your co-workers and friends today and encourage them to join you for the "Spring on the Green" Golf Tournament. There will be great prizes for not only the top teams but the worst teams also. Bring some extra cash for the 50/50 raffle and the silent auction!

For those who do not play golf, we have some incredible opportunities for you as well. Please consider the multiple sponsorship investments. This is a great way to advertise your company.

Please review the attached registration form for cost and other information. The registration forms can be found on the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce website and Facebook page. The "Spring on the Green" tournament will be a tournament that you will remember.

We look forward to seeing you at Woodward Golf Course on Friday, April 23rd!





## **CHAMBER NEWS**

#### The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce Premieres 99th Annual Meeting Virtually

The Bessemer Chamber premiered their 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting virtually via Facebook on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at noon. With Micole Dudley as the mistress of ceremony, Dr. Reginald Calvert of New Jerusalem Baptist Church opened the program with prayers for the city of Bessemer, its leaders, and citizens. BACOC President LaTasha Cook Williams, IOM thanked the business and community leaders for their continuous support of the chamber and recognized the 22 businesses who make up the chamber's 2021 Corporate Sponsors. 2020 Chairman



of the Board Charles King of Regional Paramedical Services talked about his year as chairman, highlighting the difficulties brought upon by the COVID 19 pandemic. After the ceremonious exchange of the gavel, 2021 Chairman of the Board Captain Carlton Jackson of the Bessemer Fire Department informed viewers on what they could expect from himself as well as the Bessemer Chamber. Mayor Kenneth Gulley gave closing remarks, thanking the Bessemer Chamber for their continued efforts in growing and expanding Bessemer's business community. *If you would like to view the 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, visit the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook page!* 

#### Dr. Cynthia Anthony Appointed President of Lawson State Community College



On Wednesday, Chancellor Jimmy H. Baker announced the appointment of Dr. Cynthia Anthony as President of Lawson State Community College. Anthony has been serving as Interim President at the college since September 2020. Dr. Anthony has 30 years of higher education experience, recently serving as Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Success for the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) and Executive Vice President and Dean of Students at Lawson State. Prior to her leadership at Lawson State, Anthony served at Bessemer State Technical College, which merged with Lawson State in 2005. In addition to various other leadership roles within the ACCS, she served as Interim President at three other ACCS institutions: Drake State Community and Technical College. Shelton State Community College, and Enterprise State Community College. "Dr. Anthony is a proven leader who cares deeply about student success and it is truly a privilege to appoint her as President at a college she knows so well," Chancellor Baker said. "Lawson State students, faculty, and staff will be well-served by Dr. Anthony's innovative leadership and commitment to improving the lives of others." Dr. Anthony earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Talladega College. She received both her Educational Specialist degree in Educational Leadership and her Master of Education degree in Counseling from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She completed her Doctorate in Educational Leadership through a joint program at UAB and the University of Alabama. She was awarded UAB's Department of Education's Outstanding Alumni Award in 2005. "It is an honor to continue my service to the Birmingham and Bessemer communities in the role of President at Lawson State and I look forward to working alongside other community leaders to forge a better future for our region," said Dr. Anthony. "I

care deeply about the Lawson State community and I'm eager to continue our successful efforts to prepare students for their best possible future. Go Cougars!"

Dr. Anthony's tenure as President at Lawson State Community College will begin on April 1, 2021.



## **BUSINESS NEWS**

#### Carvana Facility Opens Doors, With Four Other Logistics Facilities Not Far Behind

Carvana has cut the ribbon on its \$40 million distribution and fulfillment center on Lakeshore Parkway in Birmingham. It is expected to create more than 450 jobs and is one of four anticipated projects along the busy Lakeshore corridor that represent more than \$166 million investment and nearly 1,000 jobs for the region. By the end of 2021, facilities for Amazon, FedEx and Lowe's Home Improvement should be up and running, said Jeff Traywick, vice president of economic development at the Birmingham Business Alliance, who assisted on all four of these economic development projects. "Despite the wider economic downturn in 2020 related to the pandemic, the Birmingham region has seen a high level of activity in the logistics sector," Traywick said. "Much of that activity has been centered on the Lakeshore corridor, and these four facilities along with the quality jobs they bring represent a high level of economic impact. These projects are helping put Birmingham on the map as a hub for modern logistics activity, especially activity related to e-commerce." And the corridor is expected to get busier as a 187,000-square-foot facility is being developed by Graham & Co. for an as-yetundisclosed tenant on about 11 acres across from the Dollar General distribution facility, according to the Birmingham Business Journal. The Birmingham Business Alliance has been working with Graham & Co. on this project.



### **WELCOME TO BESSEMER**

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



Carvana's ribbon cutting was held on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. Carvana is located at 1951 Morgan Road, Bessemer, AL 35022



#### **This Generation Recruitment**

Kortni Sheffield PO Box 100893, Fairfield, AL 35064 PH1: 205-585-5869 PH2: 800-405-6157 Website: www.thisgenerationrecruitment.com Email: kortni@thisgenerationrecruitment.com \*Staffing

#### Woodward Golf and Country Club

Jeremy Kutsch 2141 Wheel Drive, Bessemer, AL 35020 PH1: 205-424-5500 PH2: 205-428-0307 Fax: 205-428-0339 Website: www.golfwoodward.com Email: golfwoodward1916@gmail.com \*Golf Course



## **CITY/COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### Bessemer's Sam Dunn's Saloon is Getting a Makeover

Claire Hancock, Bham Now



Sam Dunn's Saloon in downtown Bessemer has been empty for years, a relic of revelry on the corner of 1st and 20th. But thanks to new activity in Bessemer, the Saloon is getting a full renovation. Sam Dunn's Saloon was built in 1910, and as the signage on the side of the building states, it was first used as a bar and saloon for Bessemer locals. Looking at the building, it isn't hard to imagine the wild revels that used to take place there. Think rowdy bar patrons and liquor flowing out the front doors while a lively band starts up in the back. In later years, Sam Dunn's Saloon was used as a pharmacy, providing medicine and general goods to the residents of Bessemer. Now the Saloon is on the National Registry of Historic Registry. Currently, Sam Dunn's Saloon in Bessemer is undergoing renovations and is set to reopen in 2022 as a full saloon for downtown Bessemer. Work has been ongoing on the structure to bring this to completion. The current owner is working to give the building a

makeover, while still keeping as much of the original architecture in place. While the building has suffered some damage over the years, the original windows on the upper floor are intact and the bones of the structure have certainly stood the test of time. The future is bright for Sam Dunn's Saloon in Bessemer. Located in an opportunity zone, the Saloon will add to the incoming developments in downtown Bessemer, like the upcoming Train Depot renovation. The Saloon is also centrally located in Downtown. When complete, you can walk from the famous Bright Star restaurant, United Textiles, Memory Lane vintage clothing, and Simon Sporting Goods.

#### Bessemer Train Depot to Get Major Redevelopment

#### Claire Hancock, Bham Now

The Bessemer area has exploded with new jobs and opportunities in the past couple years. One part that is now catching up with the times is the Bessemer Train Depot, now that it has been purchased by Brian Giattina, Blox CFO and founder of Bessemer Redevelopment Corps. Keep reading to see the past, present and future of this Bessemer icon. The history of the American Great Southern Railway Train Depot in Bessemer began in 1917 when the depot was first built as a replacement for former wooden shacks that served five railroads in Bessemer. American Great Southern Railway built the depot, intended to house passengers between trains. Most recently, the Depot was purchased by Blox CFO Brian Giattina through his nonprofit the Bessemer Train Depot, LLC. as part of his Bessemer Revitalization Corps. The clean-up process has



already begun, with 40 20-foot dumpsters of garbage being removed from the site. In due time, the Southern Railway Terminal will be renovated to become a communal space for Bessemer residents to congregate. Giattina's plans include adding a community garden concept within the next few months that will provide locals fresh fruits and vegetables for little to no cost. The project will also bring in art and music classes for children and adults. The goal is to provide an increased access to nutritional food and education for Bessemer residents. His energy and excitement for this project is tangible, even over the phone. He describes the goal of the Depot revitalization effort: "We see this project as a way to begin to pull some folks together and offer them a place that's as low cost as it can possibly be. We want to get folks working together and align our resources to tackle some of these problems." The hope for the Bessemer Train Depot revitalization project is to uplift the entire Bessemer community, and particularly the downtown area. The project is also working with the Bessemer Hall of History to further improve the Depot and full development. The future of the train depot in Bessemer is bright. Giattina credits the dedication of the Bessemer Redevelopment Corp. and Bessemer's elected officials like Mayor Gulley and the city council for laying an excellent foundation for the Depot and affordable housing development projects. But Giattina's passion for revitalizing Bessemer goes a long way, backed by equally energetic and excited people. In recent years Bessemer has experienced great growth, with the addition of Amazon, Blox, Lowes, and other companies providing tons of jobs to the rea. The Train Depot renovation is expected to help nourish and educate current and future Bessemer residents as they come into town for these new jobs.



## **CITY/COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Bessemer City Schools Coordinates Staff and Community Vaccinations**

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, with the support of Bessemer City School's superintendent Dr. Autumm Jeter, Alabama State Representative Terri Sewell, Jefferson County Commisioner Sheila Tyson, Bessemer Chamber member Cahaba Medical Care, and Mrs. McCoy, Bessemer City Schools Director of Student Services, Bessemer City School's staff and members of the community were able to receive vaccinations at Bessemer City Hgh School. Both Rep. Sewell and Comm. Tyson were able to visit the vaccination site, with Rep. Sewell discussing the state and community efforts to vaccinate hard-to-reach and disproportionately impacted communities in Alabama.



#### Habitat for Humanity Set to Build New Houses, \$25 Million Development to Bessemer The Cutoff News



Habitat for Humanity of Greater Birmingham is set to build 125 new houses in the Hopewell Community located near Morgan Road in Bessemer, Alabama. The new \$25 million development will bring much needed housing to the growing area. Two parcels of land make up the 50-acre site. More than half of the property was purchased from U.S. Steel last year and the remainder portion recently acquired is located in unincorporated Jefferson County. Site preparation is underway with plans to start new house construction late fall. House prices will vary according to house sizes ranging from 1,200 to 1,800 square feet. "The need for quality, affordable housing is outpacing supply," said Charles Moore, President & CEO of Habitat for Humanity Greater Birmingham. "The Coronavirus pandemic has increased the demand for affordable housing further. Home matters now more than ever."

### Cahaba Medical Care Hosts a Vaccination Event at the Bessemer Civic Center

The Bessemer Civic Center served as a site for a COVID-19 vaccination drive on Wednesday, March 3, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Those interested were asked to register for their vaccinations online, resulting in Cahaba Medical Care administering up to 500 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.







### **GET RELIEF FROM SEASONAL ALLERGIES**

To help keep you symptom-free this allergy season, use these 10 tips:

#### **1. IDENTIFY IF IT'S REALLY ALLERGIES**

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When temperatures fluctuate quickly (swinging from cold to warm), it can be hard to tell if your congestion is caused by allergies, a cold, or a virus. If your congestion lasts more than two weeks, your symptoms increase after being exposed to a common trigger, or your eyes, nose, and throat are itchy, you might suspect allergies over a cold or virus. However, instead of turning to Google to diagnose the cause of your symptoms, visit a provider to see if you're experiencing allergies.

#### 2. USE OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATION

Over-the-counter (OTC) decongestants and antihistamines can help reduce allergy symptoms. Decongestants such as pseudoephedrine (Sudafed), phenylephrine (Sudafed PE), or oxymetazoline (Afrin) work by relieving congestion in your nose and sinuses. Oxymetazoline (Afrin) should only be used for 1-2 days. Antihistamines alleviate allergy symptoms such as coughing, itching, or a runny nose. There are two types of antihistamines: first generation and second generation.

#### First-generation antihistamines include:

Brompheniramine (Dimetapp) Chlorpheniramine (Chlor-Trimeton) Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)

#### Second-generation antihistamines include:

Fexofenadine (Allegra) Loratadine (Claritin) Cetirizine (Zyrtec)

While they provide relief from allergy symptoms, using OTC medications can also produce side effects such as drowsiness, constipation, and **rebound congestion. Speak with your provider** about which OTC option is best for you.

#### **3. TRY A SALINE NASAL RINSE**

Saline rinses can be done using either nasal sprays or a neti pot. Saline helps clear pollen from nasal passages to minimize allergy symptoms. If nasal sprays bother you, try gargling a saline solution (salt water) twice a day to ease irritation and inflammation in your throat.

#### 4. STAY INDOORS ON WINDY DAYS

Wind helps carry pollen through the air. According to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA), pollen can travel up to 400 miles from its original source. By staying inside on windy days if you are allergic to pollen or have seasonal allergies, you can greatly reduce your symptoms. If you suffer from allergies, the best time to be outside is after a rainy day. Rain helps clear the air of pollen by minimizing the pollen count.

#### 5. KEEP WINDOWS CLOSED AND USE AIR CONDITIONING

It is best to keep your windows closed if you have seasonal outdoor allergies. Rather than coming into contact with a pollen-filled breeze, use an air conditioning unit to help circulate clean air throughout your home. Alternatively, if you have indoor allergies such as pet dander, dust, or mold, open your windows to get some fresh air to clear out those indoor allergens. Whether you suffer from indoor or outdoor allergies, using a furnace air filter specifically designed to trap allergens will also help reduce your symptoms.

#### 6. KEEP AN EYE ON THE POLLEN COUNT

Local weather and radio stations forecast and report the pollen count — how much pollen is in the air — each day. If the count is high, you may want to stay indoors or wear a mask if you're planning on going outside.

#### 7. REMOVE POLLEN PARTICLES FROM YOUR CLOTHES, SKIN, AND HAIR

After spending time outside, you'll want to change your clothes and take a shower to remove pollen from your skin and hair. Change into clean clothing and leave your shoes by the door to avoid spreading allergens throughout your home.

#### 8. AVOID OUTDOOR TASKS WHEN POSSIBLE

If you suffer from seasonal allergies, consider delegating your outdoor tasks to those who aren't affected. Whether it's mowing your lawn, pulling weeds, gardening, or hanging laundry outside, find someone who can help you.

#### 9. USE A MASK IF YOU GO OUTSIDE

If you spend a lot of time outside, use a surgical mask to minimize your exposure to pollen and other allergens. When purchasing a mask look for "N95". This number means the product meets the standards of the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and filters out 95% of allergy-causing particles.

#### **10. FOCUS ON YOUR WELL-BEING**

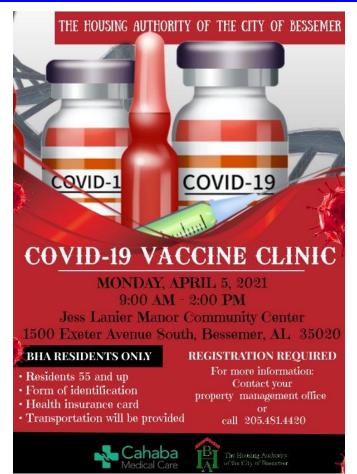
Allergy symptoms can take a lot out of you. So, above all, focus on your own well-being and how you're feeling. If you are not feeling well, don't overdo it. Listen to your body. If you are tired, take a break and rest.



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## **UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**



## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

**4.24.21** 8:00a.m.-11:30a.m. or until capacity is met.

Site 1) First Baptist Church Gardendale-South Location-940 Main Street, Gardendale, 35071 Site 2) Classic Car Motoring-3900 Grants Mill Road, Irondale, 35210 Site 3) City of Bessemer Public Works Laydown Yard-1205 15th Avenue North, Bessemer, 35020

### **Collection Items:**

- Ammunition
- Appliances
- Batteries
- Electronics
- Household Cooking Grease
- Motor Oil and Antifreeze
- Pain
- Paper Shredded Onsite (Limit: 5 boxes)
- ✓ Pesticides, Herbicides, and Fertilizers
- Prescription Drugs
- Tires (Limit: 8, no rims)

Jefferson County Residents Only/No Businesses Allowed For Additonal Information and Safety Guidelines Visit WWW.JCDH.ORG Pocahontas Road





**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** 

Meet at Premiere Cinema Parking Lot (4801 Promenade Pkwy, Bessemer, AL 35022)

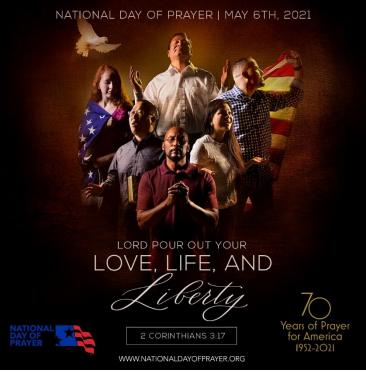
To ensure safety of the volunteers, local and state safety guidelines will be followed.

Bags, gloves, and safety backpacks are provided. Wear long pants, NO open-toed shoes.

> For more information contact: Peggy Coates 205-999-4492

This event is being coordinated by the Jefferson County Commission in conjunction with the Alabama People Against A Littered State (AL PALS) and the McCalla Community.

### Save the Date: May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021!



\*BESSEMER LOCATION AND TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED!



## **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



Finance Chairman



Dr. Cynthia Anthony Dr. Reginald Calvert Lawson State Community College New Jerusalem Baptist Church



Cortney Coleman Bess. Housing Authority



Sheriff Mark Pettway Jeff. Co. Sheriff's Office



Robert Pollard

Premiere Chevy

Bryonda Collins Chambers Funeral Home



Katie Dugas-Truss Legacy YMCA



William Smith Marco's Pizza - Bessemer



Bessemer City Schools



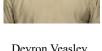
Paul Teasley Buffalo Rock



Dr. Autumm Jeter Deaunka LeBeauf-Webster Just In Time Legal Solutions



LaVada Varner Devron Veasley Alabama Technology Center Bessemer Development Board



Kem L. Marks



Maj. Cleveland Moore

Jeff. Co. Sheriff's Office

Pete Winslett The File Depot

### 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)

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 8:30am at the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce.

# **2021 CORPORATE SPONSORS**







Ford

"A New Attitude"



Utilities

ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL &

FORESTRY SERVICES COMPANY

SILVER SPONSORS



**District Attorney** Lynneice Washington

### SMALL BUSINESS PARTNERS

AMERICA'S FIRST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION CHAMBERS FUNERAL HOME **COMFORT CARE HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE** LEGACY YMCA MARCO'S PIZZA **REGIONAL PARAMEDICAL SERVICES** STATE FARM INSURANCE, JULIE BELL, AGENT WILLIAM PARSONS, CPA



Mail completed registration/payment to BACOC, 321 18th St. N., Bessemer, AL 35020

QUESTIONS? Call 205.425.3253 or email mmilan1@bellsouth.net



### "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 mind that your useful tip(s) needs to be relevant and tied to the</b> product/service being promoted! See example on back.)
() Product OR () Service:

Please feel free to add additional pages if needed!

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

