



COMMUNIQUE

Celebrating 99 Years

1922 - 2021

MAY

Jefferson County Opening a FEMA Sponsored Community Vaccination Site in Bessemer

The Cutoff News

FEMA, in partnership with the State of Alabama, Jefferson County, and the City of Bessemer, held a news conference to explain how the new Community Vaccination Center (CVC), opening Wednesday, April 21st at WaterMark Place (4500 Katies Way, Bessemer, AL 35022), will provide vaccinations to citizens. This site was brought to Central Alabama and the Birmingham Metro region by Federal, State, and local partnerships to provide better and more equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccine to Alabamians. The community vaccination center located at WaterMark Place will be equipped to vaccinate up to 1,000 people per day. Vaccine delivery will primarily be done through a drive-thru clinic process that also has the capability of providing services to high occupancy vehicles such as buses; however, walk-ins can be accommodated. Appointments are recommended but not required. Jefferson County residency is NOT required for an appointment. Vaccinations are free. To schedule an appointment, call 205-858-2221 or visit <https://myturn.timetap.com>. The hours of operation for the CVC are: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; Tuesday, Thursday: 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm; Saturday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; and Sunday: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

On hand for the news conference were Jefferson County Commissioners Shelia Tyson and President Jimmie Stephens; Bessemer Mayor Kenneth Gulley; Bessemer City Council members Ron Marshall, Jesse Matthews, Jarvis Collier, LaTricia Crusoe and Kimberly Alexander; Jefferson County Health Officer Mark Wilson, Alabama State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris, leadership from FEMA, leadership from Alabama EMA, a representative from U.S. Congresswoman Terri Sewell's office, leadership from the Alabama National Guard and others. Bessemer businessman Anthony Underwood, owner of WaterMark Place, was the host of the event.



CHAMBER NEWS

The Bessemer Chamber Hosts 1st Annual “Spring on the Green” Golf Tournament

The chamber held its inaugural “Spring on the Green” Golf Tournament Friday, April 23rd at Woodward Golf and Country Club. With Dollar General as the tournament sponsor, 17 teams enjoyed an amazing day of golfing, on site lunch and ribeye steak dinners prepared by Spire’s cooking team, and the chamber’s 50/50 raffle ticket drawing at the end of the night! Golfers also had the chance to bid on four silent auction packages and win an array of door prizes. Congratulations to the tournament’s 1st-3rd places winner: 1st – Bessemer Fire Department; 2nd – Regional Paramedical Services; and 3rd – Medical West.



Special Thanks To Tournament Sponsor:

DOLLAR GENERAL

Allstate – Isaac Ephraim • Bessemer Fire Department • Bessemer Housing Authority • Bessemer Police Department • Birmingham CVB • Billy • Buffalo Rock Company • Cell Phone Repair • Chancie Rogers • Claire Mitchell • Comfort Care Home Health & Hospice • Coston General Contractors • Dex Imaging • Dollar General • First Financial Bank • Jefferson County Sheriff’s Department • Killings & Poe • Lawson State Community College • Lynneice O. Washington, Jefferson County District Attorney, Bessemer • Medical West • Moore Coal Company • Oak Trace Care & Rehabilitation Center • Premiere Chevrolet • Regional Paramedical Services • Russell & Company • Spire • United Prosthetics & Orthotics • Wheeler Wrecker

Thank You For Your Support!



CHAMBER NEWS



Bessemer Chamber Volunteers Celebrate Dr. Anthony's Appointment as Lawson State's President

On Wednesday, April 7th, chamber staff, board of directors and ambassadors collaborated to host an intimate reception to honor fellow board member Dr. Cynthia Anthony as Lawson State Community College's newly appointed president. With over 30 years in education experience, Dr. Anthony is Lawson State's first African American female president. Dr. Anthony has volunteered as a Bessemer Chamber board member over the years and has been instrumental in the chamber's continuous partnership with Lawson State Community College. Congratulations again, Dr. Anthony!



CITY/COMMUNITY NEWS

Jeffco Sheriff's Office Partners with Clergy, Groups on 'Jobs Not Jail' Program

Al.com

Jefferson County Sheriff Mark Pettway announced Monday a partnership between his office, clergy and area organizations to connect county residents with employers. The "Jobs not Jail" program, Pettway said, will operate twice a month on the second and fourth Fridays of the month, when the sheriff's office's mobile command center will go to communities where residents can apply for jobs. The program also includes clothing donated by several groups to help applicants dress for success on job interviews. "This is a great program that will bring wages well above the minimum wage," the sheriff said during a news conference Monday announcing the initiative. "This is going to present individuals an opportunity to become gainfully employed, it's going to cut back on crime, etc.," said Harold Bass, pastor at Olivet Monumental Baptist Church in Birmingham and president and founder of Clergy Concerned for the Community. "And we want our neighborhoods to know we are here for you and we are definitely happy to be a part of 'Jobs not Jail.'" Kortni Sheffield, owner of This Generation Recruitment and a former job recruiter, is providing "Jobs not Jail" with job opportunities from employers. She said some of the positions require background checks but others do not. Gregory Clarke, pastor at New Hope Baptist Church and founder of the Birmingham Peacemakers -- a group that walks dangerous city streets at night to help curb violence and works with victims to help reduce retaliations -- said he was excited that Pettway and the organizations started the "Jobs not Jails" program. "We are honored to work along with a sheriff who has vision, who has foresight and who has the community at heart," he said. The program offers more than job opportunities, Pettway said, including providing resources for housing, transportation and voter registration. "We will be in the community as long as we have careers to match the applicants," the sheriff said. "We're bridging the gap between law enforcement and the community and curbing the violence in our neighborhoods."



JOBS NOT JAIL

JOBS MOBILE

A PROGRAM SPONSORED BY JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



WELCOME TO BESSEMER

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



**After Five Event Center's ribbon cutting was held on April 30th, 2021.
After Five Event Center is located at 1829 13th Avenue North, Bessemer.**

COMMUNITY NEWS

Bessemer City High School's Senior Class Parade

BCHS's Class of 2021 organized a parade through Downtown Bessemer on Friday, April 30th to celebrate their upcoming graduation! City and school board officials joined the students, as their families, friends, and local community leaders lined 18th and 19th Streets, cheering and congratulating each student as they passed in their own decorative "Class of 2021" vehicles. Congratulations to the Bessemer City High School Class of 2021!



FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY

Psalm 72:14

"He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight."



SEEK THE PEACE RALLY

SAT, 8 MAY 2021
5:00 PM

Be uplifted through
intercessory prayer, singing,
and inspiration from
faith-based leaders.

DEBARDELEBEN PARK
DOWNTOWN BESSEMER



Watermark Place Transformation For Vaccination

Drive thru 7 days a week
Phizer to 16 and over

No Appointment
Necessary

Sunday. 12:00-4:00
M/W/F/Sat. 9:00-4:00
Tues/Thurs. 11:00-6:00

For Additional info:
Call 205 858-2221

BUSINESS NEWS



5 WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH YOUR CHAMBER!

The more effort you put into interacting with your local chamber, the more you can gain. Here are five ways to support your local chamber of commerce any time of the year. After all, when you support an organization whose mission is to bolster the local economy, your business will reap the benefits.

1. Support Other Chamber Members

Visiting chamber of commerce member businesses strengthens community ties, boosts the local economy, improves the chamber of commerce's reputation and influence and creates professional relationships among members. Each local chamber of commerce website contains a directory that makes it easy to find businesses that meet your needs. Whether you are looking for an advertising company, a PR firm, or a place to go to lunch, these directories highlight the best organizations your area has to offer.

2. Volunteer

Volunteers are vital to ensuring that the chamber is able to provide the workshops, services and events businesses need to grow in their markets. Check out your local chamber's upcoming events calendar to see your opportunities to get involved, or even offer to host an event at your business. Chambers appreciate all the help they can get. You know you can count on them to help your business, so why not return the favor?

3. Encourage Other Businesses to Join

Two-thirds of consumers believe that chamber of commerce members are more likely to use good business practices, are reputable, care about their customers and are involved in the community, according to a national study conducted by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives. Becoming a chamber of commerce member helps businesses establish a good reputation, as consumers are 49% more likely to think favorably of member businesses as well as 80% are more likely to purchase goods or services from them. More chamber of commerce members leads to a larger number of small businesses prospering in the area, and therefore a stronger local economy.

4. Follow Your Chamber on Social Media

If you haven't already, follow your local chamber on Facebook, to stay up to date on the programs and events that are being offered.

5. Communicate!

Chambers of commerce exist to support their communities and bolster business growth. If there are services, information or training you need to aid productivity, don't hesitate to reach out to board members to see if they can set something up. Your membership is a powerful resource. Odds are, if your business is struggling with a problem, other business are as well.



The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce is looking for local businesses to **PARTNER WITH US.**

If you have constituents that are not members of the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce, please send them our way!

**JOIN THE BESSEMER AREA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

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
Finance Chairman



Dr. Reginald Calvert
New Jerusalem Baptist Church



Cortney Coleman
Bess. Housing Authority



Bryonda Collins
Chambers Funeral Home



Katie Dugas-Truss
Legacy YMCA



Dr. Autumm Jeter
Bessemer City Schools



Deaunka LeBeauf-Webster



Kem L. Marks
Just In Time Legal Solutions



Maj. Cleveland Moore
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 Center



Devron Veasley
Bessemer Development Board

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), Sebrana Davis (Salvation Army), Lori Chisem (Lawson State Community College), Dorian Waluyn (Lawson State Community College), Akiliah 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

70
Years of Prayer
for America
1952-2021

NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER



*Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the
spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty
2 Corinthians 3:17*



THE CITY OF
BESSEMER



LORD POUR OUT YOUR
LOVE, LIFE, AND
Liberty

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER PROGRAM

THURSDAY, MAY 6TH AT NOON

Debardeleben Park, Downtown Bessemer



Speaker:
Reverend Alfonza January
Old St Paul Missionary
Baptist Church

Dr. Reginald W. Calvert, Facilitator
New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church
Bessemer Chamber of Commerce Board Member

**Please join area
ministers,
businesses, civic &
community leaders,
as we pray for peace
in our city, county,
state and nation**

A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED WHILE THEY LAST

This event is hosted by the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information call 205.425.3253



TIDBIT TUESDAY

“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: (Keep in mind that your useful tip(s) needs to be relevant and tied to the 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:

Bessemer
Area Chamber of Commerce

**BESSEMER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
AMBASSADOR NOMINATION FORM**

Ambassador Candidates: You or your employer must be an active member of the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce. Candidates should submit this form (completed in full) to the Chamber after which the Executive Committee will review the application for consideration. The application must be signed by a supervisor or a current member of our Board of Directors. You will be contacted by the Chamber President within 30 days of your submission.

AMBASSADORS are individuals who are motivated, enthusiastic, and articulate who serve as the backbone of the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce's membership enhancement and retention programs. Ambassadors are the key resource in extending hospitality in the Bessemer area and are experienced in business, community, and promotional arenas. **All ambassadors MUST make every effort to meet the minimum expectations in order to participate in the ambassador program.**

In order to serve as an ambassador, you or your company must be an active member of the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce. There will be a 90-day trial period to allow individuals time to consider their decision. If an Ambassador has been inactive (without contacting the chamber or the Ambassador coordinator) for a period of 60 days the coordinator will contact them, regarding their future in the program, after 90 days they will be deleted from the current ambassador group.

**Ambassadors' monthly meetings are held on the
first Tuesday of each month at 12 noon at the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce.**



Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Company: _____ Position/Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Secretary Name: _____ Business Phone: _____

Cellular Phone #: _____ Fax: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Spouse Name: _____

Most available day: _____ e-mail address: _____

Extracurricular Activities / Hobbies: _____

Boards/Civic & Community Organizations: _____

**Please fill out and return by fax (205) 425-4979 or email, bessemerchamber.memberserv@gmail.com.
If you have any questions, call (205) 425-3253.**

