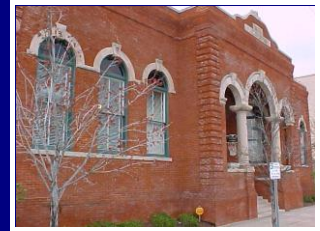


Communique

Communication: The Key to Successful Business



JULY 2013

Bessemer
Area Chamber of Commerce

UPCOMING EVENTS CHAMBER

- 07/23 Board of Directors Meeting** at 11:45 am at Chamber
- 07/23 Business After Hours** at the Legacy YMCA from 4:30 - 6:30 pm. Tour the facility and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, fellowship and networking.
- 08/08 22nd Annual Bessemer Awards Day** ~ Location and Time TBA

Thursday, July 4th

The City of Bessemer's
4th of July Celebration
6:30 - 9 pm
Roosevelt Park on Hwy. 150
Fireworks @ 8:45



Brookwood Occupational's BAH Knocked the Lights Out

All right, it was tremendous, outstanding, and a little wild, er fun. But the Brookwood Occupational business after hours really was one of our best. If you missed it you missed an experience. Kim Starling and the staff at Brookwood made the evening one to remember. Pictures of attendees express the fun that we enjoyed, hopefully they will not be shown to too many folks.



The food was great, furnished by McAlisters, and the atmosphere energizing. Door prizes were furnished by Brookwood both directly and through their Chamber Corporate sponsorship. Kim was the perfect hostess and made everyone feel at home. Thank you Brookwood for a great event.



BBQ & Blues Increases in Success

Van Sykes outdid himself again! With great planning, outstanding support, and the help of Elaine Lyda, Van was able to bring to Bessemer one of the area's premiere events: The Fourth Annual BBQ & Blues Festival. Over 4,000 people spread out through Debardeleben Park to enjoy the food and music. The park was lined with vendors and excitement for the children on June 1st. Entertainers included; Sassy Brown Band and Diedra, the Ruff Pro Band., Aretta Woodruff & the Revue Band, 2 Blu & the Lucky Stiffs, Victor Wainwright & Wild Roots and Nikki Hill. If you missed it put it down for next year, we are sure Van will outdo himself again! It was tremendous.



Aerotec Holds Open House and Ribbon Cutting

The Chamber's newest member James Dow and his staff welcomed a large crowd of well wishers to the Aerotec Open House on June 12th. Dow is the founder and CEO of **Aerotec**, a high-tech firm located at the Bessemer Airport. "We're a small, little company, and we have lots of fun here every day because we do lots of different things,"

The firm uses advanced airborne remote sensing, data capture and data analysis to provide incredibly detailed topographic maps and models to its customers throughout North America. Attendees at the event Wednesday included Mayor Kenneth Guley and other Bessemer city officials, city council members, Chamber staff and Ambassadors, local businesses, and Aerotec employees.

"We just joined the Chamber of Commerce," Dow told a reporter after the event. "We were so small, and most of our clients were out of state, so we never joined prior to this." Bessemer helped Aerotec. Dow said, "For one thing, we didn't have any money, and the Bessemer (Industrial) Development Board decided to build this office and hangar for us." Aerotec has 36 employees, including four at a small production facility opened recently in Picayune, Miss., which is Dow's hometown where his son, Scott Dow, heads the office and manages flight operations for the firm.

Dow said that he was encouraged to join the Chamber recently by Nikki Jordan, the chairman of the board of the Bessemer Airport Authority and Chamber Ambassador. Nikki said joining the Chamber can really help a company's marketing efforts because of the networking opportunities. She said events like the ribbon cutting and open house were good for the business and the airport.

Join the Chamber in wishing Aerotec and James Dow the best and help us promote his business. It will help the western Jefferson County area.



A Plus After School and Tutoring Center RC

Located at 319 19th St N in Bessemer the A Plus After School facility offers enrichment and tutoring services of children during the summer and after school year round. Owner, Ms. Angela Jackson welcomed a large contingent of Chamber Ambassadors and City leaders to their location on June 19th for their official opening and ribbon cutting. City Councilperson Sarah Belcher and Chamber Ambassador Coordinator Claire Mitchell helped cut the ribbon and welcomed A Plus to the downtown area.



Chamber Ambassador Coordinator Claire Mitchell presents Ms. Angela Jackson of A Plus After School and Tutoring Center with their ribbon cutting certificate



2013 Board of Directors

Chairman

Billy Parsons, CPA

Chairman Elect

Charles King, Regional Paramedical Services

Treasurer / Finance Chairman

Eric Messer, Rural Metro Ambulance

Rev. Reginald Calvert, New Jerusalem Baptist Church

David Darby, Trustmark National Bank
Regina Doriety, Lawson State Community College

Joni Holt, Holt Insurance Company

Rob Kirkland, Legacy YMCA

Judy Mathis, Moore Coal Company

Jerrellis Melton, Alabama Gas Company

Kyle Sain, Town & Country FORD

Jon Staggs, Alabama Power Company

Kim Starling, Brookwood Medical Center

Chuck Taylor, Splash Adventure

Anthony Underwood, Anthony Underwood Auto.

Neil Walker, First Financial Bank

2013 Ambassadors

Coordinator

Claire Mitchell, LaShun's Beauty Salon

Co Coordinator

Nikki Jordan, Sarrell Dental

Secretary

Nelda Pate, Retired

Jill Amburgey, Rural Metro Ambulance

Michael Ashmore, Stellar Staffing

Kay Baggett, Retired

Sarah Beasley, Joe Beasley Memorial Foundation, Inc

Sarah Belcher, Bessemer City Council

Beverly Edwards, Rural Metro Ambulance

Connie Fuell

Louise Hickey, Retired

Shirley Horn, Retired

Doris Lewis, City of Bessemer

Minnie Roper, Retired

Lula Walter, City of Bessemer

Ericka Watson, Individual

Trisston Wright Burrows, Moore Coal Co.

Committed to Bessemer. *Committed to You.*



David C. Darby

Community Market President
and Commercial Lender
ddarby@trustmark.com

(205) 665-3361

People you trust.
Advice that works.



Member FDIC

trustmark.com



Trustmark

SAVE THE DATE!

22ND ANNUAL GOLF 'FORE' PROGRESS TOURNAMENT

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3RD AT BENT
BROOK @ NOON**

FOR SALE - Commerical



6,000sq ft Building \$550,000
Divided into 3 Units.

650 9th Ave (Bessemer Super Hwy)
Across From B.P.D. - 911Center
& Dollar General

Weaver Land & Realty, Inc.

205-428-4139

wlandco.com

Chamber News *(continued)*

Chamber Ambassador Nikki Jordan Promotes the Bessemer Airport

Bessemer Mayor Kenneth Gulley, in his last State of the City address, expressed a desire to more effectively market the airport and to take advantage of its location near the Mercedes-Benz automobile plant in Tuscaloosa and the other Mercedes suppliers in the area. The Mayor's emphasis is to expand and improve the airport to be an alternative to the Birmingham airport.

Chamber Ambassador and Chairperson of the Board of the Bessemer Airport Authority, Nikki Jordan works tirelessly to promote and improve the airport. She has a vision of making the airport exactly what the Mayor emphasizes. James Dow, CEO of Aerotec says, "We are impressed with the vision for the airport and we support it. That's why we joined the Chamber. I think the city can take a big advantage of this airport. It's well-located geographically to grow with the area."

The Bessemer Airport is located at 900 Mitchell Field Road. For more information, call 205-424-7234 or go to www.bessemerfbo.org.



Chamber Ambassadors Doris Lewis, Sarah Beasley, Nikki Jordan, Beverly Townsend and Shirley Horn distributed Bessemer information and promotional items in Debardeleben Park at the Bob Sykes BBQ & Blues Festival on Saturday, June 1st.

Community News

BHS Street Dance

Bessemer Hall of History Board member Bobby Cooper who also graduated from Bessemer High School, hosts an annual BHS Street Dance at the Hall of History. This year the event was held June 8th from 7:30-midnight at the Hall of History Parking lot and 1st Avenue. Always well attended the event raises money for the Hall as well as provides the alumni of BHS classes of 1910-1970 to get together.

Thursday, July 4th

The City of Bessemer's 4th of July Celebration



6:30 - 9 pm

Roosevelt Park on
Hwy. 150

Fireworks @ 8:45

NEW MEMBERS – JUNE

Core Focus Personnel, Inc.

CJ Richardson
5299 Southland Circle, Bessemer, AL 35022
PH 205-475-7120
cjrichardson@cfpersonnel.com
www.cfpersonnel.com
**Staffing*

Rock Mountain Lakes Landowners Association, Inc.

Nancy Reid
PO Box 205, McCalla, AL 35111
PH 205-424-1272
Ntreid01@yahoo.com
**Non Profit*

Business News

"I Thought You Were a Christian"

by Glenn Shepard June 4, 2013

In last week's column, we looked at the manipulative employee that tries to get you to feel guilt for holding them accountable, with comments like "I thought we were friends". Another is "I thought you were a Christian".

One appropriate response would be "That's an inappropriate comment". After all, if you as a manager ever said that to one of your employees, you'd be sued till the cows come home. But this one is so out there that it deserves one of those "Come to Jesus" meetings.

The pretense of the statement is that a person of faith wouldn't confront an employee for doing something wrong. This is not only a specious argument; it's absurd. A basic tenet of most religions is caring about our fellow man.

Religion aside, anyone with a modicum of decency has a natural desire to help others when they're in danger. If the average person saw a 4-year-old running out into a busy street, they'd try to stop the child. By the same token, when an employee is doing something that could result in them losing their job, a good manager would try to prevent them from losing their job.

Explain this to your employee, and share with them Glenn's Gospel of Termination: "Managers don't fire employees. Employees fire themselves". Then let them know that if they ever say something so ridiculous again, you will accept it as their resignation.

Never be "Sorry"

Author Unknown

"I'm **sorry** this didn't happen.."

"I'm **sorry** that happened.."

"I'm **sorry** we didn't do that.."

Pretty soon, we're going to start sounding like a "Sorry Organization."

If we must apologize and we must from time to time, consider saying "I wish!" instead of "I'm sorry."

"**I wish** we could have made this happen.."

"**I wish** we would have had a better outcome.."

"**I wish**.." keeps you positive and moving forward.

It's Your Business

By: Ronnie Acker, President

As we celebrate the freedom of our great nation on July 4th we should be grateful all 365 days a year for the freedoms we enjoy. No one should doubt that the USA is resolved to be the bastion of liberty in this cockeyed world. As John F. Kennedy said, "Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty." Those enemies of America both foreign and domestic who would make us less than we are and want us on a par with other so called progressive countries in the world. Yes we have enemies among us our own citizens who apologize for our greatness, our leadership and our success.

We should be proud to be Americans. Let us remember the words of Lee Greenwood's song "Proud To Be An American":

"And I'm proud to be an American,
Where at least I know I'm free,
And I won't forget the men who died,
Who gave that right to me

And I'll proudly stand up next to him to defend her still
today,
Cuz there aint no doubt I love this land,
God bless the USA"

The millions of men and women who have died, suffered wounds, been maimed, and who sacrificed for us should make us proud and determined to stand up and defend our country. Being cowardly or a pacifist in defending our nation means being willing to give up freedom, to be enslaved by others. Freedom is never free, if we give an inch those who want to weaken our country and our constitution will try to take a mile. We as American business men and women must be stalwart and firm in not only defending our individual freedoms, our nation but the basis of our businesses, the free enterprise system.

So let us sing the praises of liberty, the love we have for this blessed land, the land that all others on this earth wished they could be a part. Irving Berlin penned a song that resonates the tone of our nation:

"God bless America, land that I love,
Stand beside her, and guide her,
Through the night, with the light from above,
From the mountains, to the prairies
To the oceans, white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home,
God bless America! My Home Sweet Home!"

Steadfastly we must resolve to be free, never backing away from defending our freedoms. And as Abraham Lincoln stated: "We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation shall have a new birth of freedom; and that this government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE MOVE-IN

BESSEMER MEDICAL BUILDING
1088 9TH AVENUE SW
BESSEMER, AL 35022



- GROUND LEVEL PARKING & ENTRY
- LARGE WAITING ROOM
- EXTREMELY COMPETITIVELY PRICED
- 2000 SQ.FT AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
TAMMY GUNNIN AT 426-7796



304 - 19th Street North
Bessemer, Alabama 35020

***Are you Looking for the Best Quality and
Value for Office Space in Bessemer?***

The Bright Star Realty is your best value.

We have 12,500 sq. ft of full service lease space available.

Contact Stacey Craig at 205-913-1825

United Way of Central Alabama Volunteer Opportunity

MAKE AN IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

United Way of Central Alabama is working to advance the common good by focusing on four impact areas:
Education, Income, Health, and Access to Services.

We need the heads, hands and hearts of committed people like you to tackle the problems facing our community.

You are invited to serve as a member of a

United Way Visiting Allocation Team

As a volunteer, you will:

- Review funding requests from United Way partners
- Meet with agency representatives
- Make funding recommendations

To register and/or obtain additional details, please visit:

www.uwca.org



United Way
of Central Alabama, Inc.

Registration Period: April 1, 2013 - August 16, 2013

Questions?

Please call 205-458-2063

Give. Advocate. Volunteer. LIVE UNITED.



Canaan Baptist Church
824 15th Street North
Bessemer, Alabama 35020

July 3, 2013

Dear Community Partners and Leaders:

Canaan Baptist Church Outreach Ministry is a 501c3 non-profit organization located in Bessemer, Alabama. We are conducting our 2nd Annual School Supply Donation Drive from NOW to August 10 to prepare underprivileged kids grades K -12 (also 1st year college students) for the new school year. Many families can barely get by or pay their household bills to keep a roof over their children's heads and they need our help desperately. We are already receiving calls from families requesting school supplies for 12th graders heading off to college.

You can donate in person or by mail at Canaan Baptist Church, 824 15th Street North, Bessemer, Alabama 35020 (100% of ALL donations will benefit those in need), we also have volunteers 2 days a week to pick up donations within 30 miles of Bessemer, Alabama 35020. We can use donated gift cards to purchase school supplies as well. ALL donations are tax deductible for every cent that you spend and all donations go directly to providing much needed supplies, clothing, and shoes for these many children in true need. PLEASE help us make this upcoming school year another success!

Students have a very long list of supplies that they must have on the 1st day of school so please help us fill every need these children who live in poverty/low-income households truly need, they are our future and they are depending on US to help them begin their new school year prepared.

For more information please contact Etta Williams @ 205-566-1437, Lottie Garrett @ 205-428-2767 or Pastor Douglas Caddell @ 205-541-6604.

Sincerely,

Canaan Baptist Church Outreach Ministry

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS!

You are invited to the Bessemer Public Library's Love Your Library Tour & Fundraiser The Public Is Invited



The Bessemer Public Library welcomes you to come see what we have to offer by touring our facility. Join us on this evening for hors d'oeuvres, music, book sales and conversations. Book sale sponsored by Friends of the Library

~Love Your Library Tour & Fundraiser~

**Friday, July 19, 2013
5 P.M. - 8 P.M.**

Your donations will be used to enhance the library's resources and support the library's mission to inform, inspire and delight our diverse community.



**12th ANNUAL GREENWOOD
4th OF JULY PARADE
THURSDAY, JULY 4th
9 A.M. - 11 A.M.**



WE WILL BEGIN AT THE INTERSECTION OF DICKEY SPRINGS ROAD AND SPRINGDALE ROAD CONCLUDING AT THE HOME OF SYLVIA BLACKERBY (END OF SPRINGDALE ROAD).

THERE WILL BE A SIGN MARKING WHERE THE PARADE IS TO BEGIN. PLEASE LINE UP ON EACH SIDE OF DICKEY SPRINGS (IN THE YARDS). PLEASE DO NOT BLOCK ENTRANCE TO SPRINGDALE ROAD.

WE ARE DOING REFRESHMENTS AGAIN THIS YEAR SO PLEASE BRING ENOUGH OF THE FOLLOWING FOR YOUR FAMILY AND TO SHARE WITH OUR HONORED GUESTS AND CITY OFFICIALS:
COLD DRINKS/WATER, WATER POPSICLES, COOKIES, BROWNIES AND SLICED, ICE COLD WATERMELON.

BRING YOUR FOLDING CHAIRS AND ENJOY THIS TIME WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS.

LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT CELEBRATION OF OUR INDEPENDENCE AND FREEDOM.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

(NOTE: There will be no bathroom facilities available)

2013 CORPORATE SPONSORS



DOLLAR GENERAL

2013 SMALL BUSINESS PARTNERS



Paden & Paden, PC



Julie Bell, Agent



Reid S. Christopher, MD
Wallace B. Purdy, MD

Board Certified, Internal Medicine

GROUND LEVEL PARKING • ON-SITE LAB & BONE DENSITY SCREENING

Bessemer Medical Building
1088 9th Avenue SW • Bessemer • 35022 • 426.0546



Olga Sanchez-Hernandez, D.M.D., M.S., M.S.

4814 Bell Hill Road
Bessemer, AL. 35022

205-477-8004

JOIN THE CITY OF BESSEMER

AND THE BESSEMER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE

4th of July

CELEBRATION

Fireworks Begin
Approximately at 8:45 PM



Meet
Your Elected
Officials

Thursday, July 4th, 6:30-9 pm

Located at Roosevelt Park on Hwy. 150

Enjoy Fresh
Watermelon

Listen to
Patriotic
Music

Giveaways
at 7:00



NFL Star Kerry Rhodes, Bessemer's Son, Brings His Foundation Back Home

Bessemer, Alabama On Saturday, July 13th and Monday, July 15th 2013, NFL star and Bessemer native Kerry Rhodes is bringing his charity, The Kerry Rhodes Foundation, and "Now Let's Get Fit" program to Bessemer's Legacy YMCA. Kerry, along with Karina Smirnoff from the hit TV show Dancing with the Stars, and former Miss California Tami Farrell, would like to invite the City of Birmingham to the free family affair that will include fitness activities, educational information, health screenings by UAB Medical West, healthy food choices from Bob Sykes Bbq, Pepsi products, kids activities and more. "Now Let's Get Fit" is a nationwide health, fitness and quality of life event designed to inform communities of health risks and higher costs of living associated with obesity. www.TheKerryRhodesFoundation.com

Saturday, July 13, 2013

8am-3pm at the Legacy YMCA

Kerry Rhodes and Tami Farrell with host "Now Let's Get Fit" family day. Ages 5 and up can participate in fitness related exercises that can be done at home, school, or work for up to one hour per day. The event will consist of free obesity health related testing, screening, and educational material on nutrition and healthy eating on a budget.

Monday, July 15, 2013

5pm-9:30pm at the Legacy YMCA

Karina Smirnoff and Kerry Rhodes will host 2 adult fitness workout classes along with free obesity related testing, screening for adults along with healthy nutritional tips and how to eat on a budget. **Call to reserve your spot due to limited space.** Please contact Eileen Koch at 310.441.1000 or email eileenkoch@eileenkoch.com Kerry Rhodes is a leading NFL Safety with a long record of athletic merit. After excelling on the field at the University of Louisville, played for the New York Jets for five years earning All Pro honors. In 2010, he began playing for the Arizona Cardinals and was most recently honored by Pro Football Focus as a 2012 Pro Bowler. Kerry has long used his knowledge of fitness to achieve outstanding results on the field and to help improve the lives of others through his educational charity.

Legacy YMCA

1501 4th Avenue SW

Bessemer, Alabama

205.426.1211

www.legacymca.org

Find us on Facebook for updates



NOW LET'S
GET FIT



Take Your Lunch Break and Join Us For Our COOKOUT ON THE GRILL FUNDRAISER



Tuesday, July 16th from 11 am – 2pm

at the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce - Next door to City Hall @ 321 18th St. N.

PICK UP ONLY – Advance Orders are Required

		Hotdog	Sausage Dog
Combo #1	Feed 1 {2 Dawgs, 1 Chip, 1 Cookie, 1 Bottled water}	\$ 5.00	\$ 7.00
Combo #2	Feed 2 {4 Dawgs, 2 Chips, 2 Cookies, 2 Bottled water}	\$ 10.00	\$ 14.00
Combo #3	Feed 4 {8 Dawgs, 4 Chips, 4 Cookies, 4 Bottled water}	\$ 20.00	\$ 28.00
Combo #4	Feed 8 {16 Dawgs, 8 Chips, 8 Cookies, 8 Bottled water}	\$ 40.00	\$ 56.00

Complete the entire order form and fax it to 425-4979 no later than Friday, July 12th @ 5pm

PICKUP TIME: _____ Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____

INDICATE MEAL CHOICE: Combo #1 _____ Combo #2 _____ Combo #3 _____ Combo #4 _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE = \$ _____ **Indicate type of dawg:** Hotdog _____ Sausage Dog _____

Company: _____ **Contact:** _____

Street Address _____

PAYMENT: Check _____ Cash _____ Visa _____ MC _____ Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name/Business on Card _____ {Make checks payable to the BACOC}

Proceeds benefit the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce's programs and the Community Service Scholarship



The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce Invites You to Attend Our

Business After Hours

TUESDAY, JULY 23RD 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

The Legacy YMCA

1501 FOURTH AVENUE SW, BESSEMER, AL 35022

Tour the facility and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, fellowship and networking. We will showcase our new YMCA logo.

CALL THE CHAMBER TO RSVP AT 205.425.3253 BY JULY 19TH IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND

