

# Communique



APRIL / MAY NEWSLETTER

## THESE COMPANIES ARE PROUD TO SERVE BESSEMER

The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce would like to thank our 2023 Corporate Partners. These companies and organizations support has made the difference in the success of Bessemer Chamber events. If you have attended and enjoyed an event that was hosted by the chamber, join us in thanking these companies. There is no doubt that they are proud to be a part of the Bessemer community.

### 2023 PLATINUM SPONSOR



### 2023 GOLD SPONSORS



### 2023 SILVER SPONSORS



**DOLLAR GENERAL**

### 2023 SMALL BUSINESS PARTNERS

America's First Federal Credit Union  
Bessemer Elks Lodge #721  
Chambers Funeral Home  
Julie Bell, Agent – State Farm Ins.

Killings & Poe  
Legacy YMCA  
The Principal & Associates  
William Parsons CPA

# CHAMBER NEWS



## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Bessemer Job Fair and Business Expo a Success!

This event held on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at the Bessemer Civic Center was created in 2015 to show the community that the Bessemer Area is a ONE STOP SHOP. Bessemer has it all; everything you need to accommodate your daily needs can be found in the Bessemer area. The event featured entertainment by Bad Boy Butch of 98.7 FM radio. Over 60 food, business and organization vendors were on display.

Food trucks were lined up outside ready for attendees to purchase a tasty meal. Inside the venue guests enjoyed three cooking demonstration segments with the following chef's: Chef Brandon Hicks (K'Shena); Chef Ron Cook (The Back Porch Restaurant) and Pastry Chef Ashley Dial (Sugar Coated Bakery). Attendees learned cooking tips and how to prepare a quick meal/party.

The vendors were pleased with the attendance for this year's event, which was well over 500.

We would like to thank the following sponsors



and vendors: AAA Bessemer, Acceptance Insurance of Midfield, Alabama Aerospace & Aviation High School, Amazon, America's First Federal Credit Union, ArtisticVisionz, Aveanna Healthcare, Bessemer Board of Education – Edith Hunter, Bessemer Business and Professional Women, Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce, Bessemer Police Department, Bessemer Public Library, Bessemer Recreation Center, Bessemer Utilities, Big Doon's Barbecue, Brown Beauty Barber School, Buffalo Rock, Chosen2Bake, Chuantae Brown for Judge Place 11, Clay Dansby Properties, Crimestoppers, De'Leshias Smashburgers, Dex Imaging, Dotedison, Focus on You Cosmetics, Fruit of Her Hands, Good Health to Be Hail, Grade A Asset Management, Holt Insurance, HomeCraft Gutter Protection, J. M. Smucker, Jefferson County Human Resources, Julie Bell, Agent – State Farm Insurance, Kshena Gourmet Soul, Lawson State Community College, Mary Kay Cosmetics – Daphne McClain, MeMe's Coffee and Deli, Milo's Tea Company, Mr. P Shave Ice, Nurturing Golden Hearts, Premier Chiropractic Center, Special Olympics, Spire, The Back Porch Restaurant, The Onin Group, The Recipe, The Takeout Birmingham, The Walk-In Closet, UAB MHERC and United Prosthetics and Orthotics





# CHAMBER NEWS





# CHAMBER NEWS



## Membership Meeting Recognizing Administrative Professionals

On April 26, 2023 we held our Membership Meeting Recognizing Administrative Professionals. During this event we got a chance to take a closer look at how self-care looks on a day-to-day basis on and off the clock. We also got a chance to dive in deeper to see what self-care looks like after retirement. Our speakers LeDeitrich Dial, Senior Market Advisor from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama, and Tonya Hill Allen, Certified Life Coach/Trainer and CEO of Falala Life, did a phenomenal job engaging with the guests and giving them the tools they need to prepare for retirement and to begin their journey of self-care.

During this wonderful event we presented the award for Administrative Professional of the Year to Elaine Holifield. Elaine Holifield is the Executive Assistant for Jefferson County District Attorney Lynneice Washington. We would like to Thank Dr. Cynthia Anthony & Lawson State Community College for allowing us to host this event on the Bessemer campus. We would also like to thank each and every person in attendance.



## Bessemer Chamber Helps Sponsor PINK Graduation

PINK – Positive Individuals Nurturing Knowledge is a mentoring program sponsored by Business and Professional Women's Organization for teenage girls from 12 to 14 years old that attend Bessemer City Middle School. These young ladies are matched with business women that guide them through highly interactive learning opportunities so that they gain additional perspectives on how to become leaders in their school, home and community. The program is a 6 month program that begins in October and ends in April with a graduation ceremony for the girls.

Meetings are held once a month, typically on a Tuesday or Thursday from 5:30 until 7 pm. Programs are set based on topics that will inform and enhance the teen's future. Topics are: Leadership, The Beauty of Transformation, Domestic Violence, Proper Etiquette, and How to Dress For Success. The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to support this empowering program.



# CHAMBER NEWS



The Chamber is excited about this group of individuals that will lead the chamber for 2023.

Our 2023 Chairwoman of the board, Dr. Cynthia Anthony, President of Lawson State Community College stated this year is going to be a BIG year for the Bessemer Chamber. Input, commitment, leadership, action and decision-making are the key elements that each individual brings to the board. These individuals have agreed to serve the chamber and have made the commitment to lead and direct the chamber of commerce and to represent the full membership of the Chamber in every capacity to guarantee that the organization achieves its mission.

## 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Dr. Cynthia Anthony, 2023 Chairwoman**  
Lawson State Community College

**Mitch Avery, Immediate Past Chairman**  
Retired (Spire)

**Carlton Jackson, Realtor, Finance Chairman** Realtor,  
ABR\* - Building Areas of Excellence

**Keith Pennington, 2023 Treasurer**  
Medical West

Micah Andrews, The Foundry Ministries  
Ashley Brazel, Truist

Mark Brown, Tennessee Valley Authority  
Cortney Coleman, Bessemer Housing Authority  
Charles King, Regional Paramedics (RAMS)

Antoinette Madison, Alabama Power  
Reggie Mays, United Prosthetics & Orthotics  
Claire Mitchell, Jefferson County Absentee Specialist  
Bessemer Division

Shane Morris, Buffalo Rock  
Nicole Newell, J. M. Smucker

Noah Rocker, The Fountain of Life Church  
Katie Truss, Legacy YMCA

Devron Veasley, Bessemer Development Board



The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce office is located at 321 18<sup>th</sup> Street N., Bessemer, AL 35020

**PH (205) 425-3253**

**www.bessemerchamber.com**

Office Hours are Monday–Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm

## STAFF

**LaTasha Williams IOM, President**

lacock1@bellsouth.net

**Mary Milan – Administrative & Accounting**

bessemerchamber.events@gmail.com

**Arliscia Dial – Membership & Event Coordinator**

bessemerchamber.memberserv@gmail.com

## AMBASSADORS

**Minnie Roper, Retired**  
*Ambassador Coordinator*

Tamala Briggins, Oak Crest Health & Wellness  
Lori Chisem, Lawson State Community College  
Eric Crosby, ArtisticVisionz  
Connie Fuell, Dex Imaging

Akilih Haley, Lawson State Community College  
Denise Jackson, New Jerusalem Baptist Church

Donna King, D & K Lawncare LLC  
Barnard Montgomery, Merrill Lynch

Daryl Owens  
Dorian Waluyn, Lawson State Community College  
Anna Wooten, First Financial Bank





# NEW MEMBERS



## AAA Bessemer

Deaunka LeBeauf Webster  
4933 Promenade Pkwy #120  
Bessemer, AL 35022  
PH 205-481-4620 / 205-481-4600  
F 205-425-8650  
Lebeaufwebster.deaunka@ace.aaa.com  
www.aaa.com  
*\*Insurance / Travel*

## Alabama Aerospace & Aviation High School

Ruben Morris, Wendy Brantley  
1414 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. N, Bessemer AL 35020  
PH 205-530-0702  
rmorris@alaahs.org  
wbrantley@alaahs.org  
www.alaahs.org  
*\*Education / Aviation*

## Bessemer City Council – Donna Thigpen

5115 Eastern Valley Road  
McCalla, AL 35111  
PH 205-281-3931  
F 205-424-0555  
donnahtigpen@gmail.com  
www.bessemeral.org  
*\*City Government*

## Beulah Baptist Church

Eugene Warren III  
1022 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. N, Bessemer, AL 35020  
PH 205-424-0861  
*\*Church*

## Blue Cross Blue Shield

LeDeitrich Dial  
420 Riverchase Pkwy East  
Hoover, AL 35244  
PH 205-220-5437 / 205-807-8087  
Ledeitrich.dial@bcbosal.org  
*\*Health Care / Hospital*

## Chuantae Brown for Judge, Place 11

6227 Letson Farm Trail  
Bessemer, AL 35022  
PH 205-515-9209  
chuantae.brown@gmail.com  
www.chuantaebrown.com  
*\*Individual*

## Clay Dansby Properties

Joy Roberson  
430 Ninth Avenue, Midfield, AL 35228  
PH 205-308-7214  
joyroberson@gmail.com  
www.airbnb.com/h/amidfieldretreat  
*\*Airbnb / Rental*

## Déjà vu Events & Designs, LLC

Ashley Bailey  
5135 Meadow Lake Trail  
Bessemer, AL 35020  
PH 205-260-5078 / 205-246-7345  
dejaveueventsanddesigns@gmail.com  
www.DejaVuEventsAndDesigns.com  
*\*Balloon Décor*

## Empower Community School

Derric Jones  
751A Academy Dr., Bessemer, AL 35020  
PH 205-413-8600  
djones@empoweral.org  
www.empoweral.org  
*\*Education*

## H & R Testing LLC

Naveah Jackson  
1709 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. N., Bessemer, AL 35020  
PH 205-310-3728  
hrtestingllc@icloud.com  
*\*Drug Screening*

## H.E.L.P.S. Ministries Inc.

Christopher Bouyer  
1927 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. N. Ste 1  
Bessemer, AL 35020  
PH 205-434-0929 / 205-568-2503  
Helpm120620@gmail.com  
*\*Church – Non-Denominational*

## Happier at Home

Patrick Devereux  
1819 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. N, Bessemer, AL 35020  
PH 205-894-8780  
patrickd@happierathome.com  
https://happierathome.com/locations/birmingham-al  
*\*Home Health Care / \*Hospice*

## Jefferson County Sheriff's Office - Anthony Dotson

2200 Rev. Abraham Woods Jr Blvd  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
PH 205-731-2840 / 205-602-7988  
dotsona@jccal.org  
*\*Government [Federal / State / City]*

## Latrice-Allan Company LLC

Gregory Poole  
2117 16<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Birmingham, AL 35211  
PH 205-586-6581  
greg@latraiceallanco.com  
https://latraiceallanco.com  
*\*Cleaning / Janitorial*

## MeMe's Coffee & Deli

Michelle Jackson  
415 19<sup>th</sup> St. N, Bessemer, AL 35020  
PH 205-436-2061  
Bettyboo74@yahoo.com  
*\*Restaurant*

## Merika Coleman For Senate Campaign

Senator Merika Coleman  
PO Box 28888, Birmingham, AL 35228  
PH 334-261-0853 / 205-919-9411  
Merikacoleman4alsenate@gmail.com  
www.merikacoleman.com  
*\*Government (Federal / State / City)*

## Seek the Peace

Reginald Calvert  
2430 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. N, Bessemer, AL 35020  
PH 205-425-9421 / 205-836-8874  
*\*Non-Profit*

## Stokes, William

936 Monetry Dr., Bessemer, AL 35022  
PH 205-541-6853  
Bstokes5942@hotmail.com  
*\*Individual*

## Sugar Coated Bakery

Ashley Dial  
22544 Limestone Drive  
McCalla, AL 35111  
PH 205-434-6423 / 205-202-9796  
wesugarcoatit@gmail.com  
*\*Bakery*

# NEW MEMBERS

## The Gathering Mentoring Networking

Jamie Oliver  
4309 Summerset Pk., Bessemer, AL 35022  
PH 205-789-8725  
Thegatherings22@gmail.com  
www.thegatheringsmno.org  
\*Non-Profit

## The Walk-In Closet

Cher L. Smoot-Johnson  
218 19<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bessemer, AL 35020  
PH 205-506-2897  
Chersmoot2@yahoo.com  
\*Retail

### Membership Benefits

Many business owners join their local chamber of commerce for networking opportunities.

You'll meet other members of your community and form business relationships.

Over time, the relationships you build can lead to valuable business partnerships.

Please review all the benefits of membership listed on our website.

*You're Invited*

**H.E.L.P.S. MINISTRIES**  
**GRAND OPENING**  
**Meet & Greet with Pastor Bouyer**  
Sat. June 3rd | 11 AM - 1 PM

First 100 people get a FREE MEAL from Simone's Kitchen ATL!

**WORSHIP IN THE WORD**  
Sun. June 4th | 10 AM

1911 4th Ave N  
Bessemer, AL



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



Bessemer Chamber Member **Grade A Asset Management** celebrated their newly renovated property with a ribbon cutting on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. The property is located at 830 22nd Street N Ste E, Bessemer.



Bessemer Chamber Member **Happier At Home** celebrated their opening with a ribbon cutting on Tuesday, April 18, 2023. The business is located at 1819 13th Avenue North, Bessemer.



# COMMUNITY NEWS



## Newly Appointed Police Chief



Chief Michael Wood is no stranger to the Marvel City of Bessemer. Being a product of the Bessemer School system, Chief Wood graduated from Jess Lanier High School. He furthered his education and obtained multiple degrees at the University of Alabama at Birmingham as well as Auburn University. Chief Wood has served in all capacities of the Bessemer Police Department in his 28 years of policing.

Please join the honorable Mayor Kenneth E. Gulley in congratulating and welcoming the newly appointed police chief of the Bessemer Police Department, Chief David Michael Wood.

## Firearm Safety Seminar



Seek the Peace Organization held a firearm with purpose seminar on Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church where Dr. Reginald W. Calvert is the pastor. The purpose of the seminar was to inform attendees of the proper time, the importance of safety locks and keeping your firearm out the reach of children. Speakers were Sheriff Mark Pettway, District Attorney Lynneice Washington and Bessemer Chief of Police Mike Wood. Clergy throughout the community were present to offer prayer and encouragement.

## Torch Run For Special Olympics



The Bessemer Police Department hosted a leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. They wish to thank everyone that came out to participate and support their efforts including the Bessemer Fire Dept., Pelham Police Dept., Hartselle Police Dept. and Alabama State Troopers, ALEA.

The "Flame of Hope," symbolizes courage and celebration of diversity, uniting communities around the globe. Known as Guardians of the Flame, law enforcement members and Special Olympics athletes carried the Flame of Hope into the competition arena in Troy Alabama on Friday. The torch went to Pelham, Calera, Montgomery before ending in Troy.



# COMMUNITY NEWS



## Bessemer's National Day of Prayer Program Was Fruitful

The City of Bessemer's National Day of Prayer Program hosted by the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce was a great success! The program was held on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at noon in Debardeleben Park in downtown Bessemer. Clergy, elected officials, business and community leaders, first responders and citizens united to pray for peace in our city, county, state, nation and globally. The National Day of Prayer was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the U.S. Congress and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. The original law called for "a suitable day each year, other than a Sunday" to be set aside "on which the people of the United States may turn to God in prayer and meditation at churches, in groups, and as individuals."

The 2023 theme was "Pray Fervently in Righteousness and Avail Much." It is taken from the Biblical book of James — "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much" (5:16b).

This year's 45-minute program included prayer petitions, music, a speaker and a brief Unity Walk around the park. A complimentary lunch was prepared by the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce and the Bessemer Elks Lodge #721.





# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Congratulations to the 2023 Teacher of the Year Recipients



The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to recognize Bessemer City Schools 2023 Teacher of the Year Recipients. We commend all teachers for the countless hours they spend preparing our students for the future.



Greenwood Elementary's Teacher of the Year Tiffany Elliott



Abrams Elementary's Teacher of the Year Kathryn Atkins



Westhills Elementary's Teacher of the Year John Dorsey



Bessemer City High's Teacher of the Year Ruthie Williams

### I'll Remember You Always

Rarely does someone  
Get to influence a person's life  
In a positive way  
for a lifetime,  
as a teacher can,  
fostering optimism and confidence,  
providing knowledge that leads to success,  
and being a good role model,  
as you have,  
and you are,  
and you will...  
forever,  
I'll remember you always.  
Thank you.

"It takes a special person  
to light that fire, to raise  
our children's  
expectations for  
themselves and never  
give up on them, no  
matter how challenging  
it might be. All of us are  
here because, at some  
point, somebody did  
that for us."

Great teachers empathize with kids, respect  
them, and believe that each one has  
something special that can be built upon.  
*Ann Lieberman*

A teacher affects eternity; he can never  
tell where his influence stops.

*Henry Brooks Adam*



# COMMUNITY NEWS



Jonesboro Elementary's Teacher of the Year LaReka Windsor-Staten



Hard Elementary's Teacher of the Year Dr. Alletesha Cain



Bessemer City Middle's Teacher of the Year Sarah Murry

## Congratulations to the 2023 Ora H. Foster Community Service Scholarship Recipients

The Ora H. Foster Community Service Scholarship is presented to a recipient that has shown exemplary community service, church, and school activities along with job experience. This scholarship is named after a lifelong resident of Bessemer, who was an educator in Bessemer City Schools for over 38 years. Upon retirement she continued to be an active role model in her community, where she was well known as Ms. Bessemer. She loved education, children, and her hometown.

The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to present this year's scholarship to the following:



Miss Jetericca Morris, a graduate of Bessemer City High



Miss Morgan Dial, a graduate of McAdory High School



# JOBS, JOBS, JOBS



Chamber Members, send us your information if you're hiring and we will include it in the next Chamber newsletter.

**Lawson State**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## WE ARE HIRING

### DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES

The Director of Library Services coordinates and implements the day-to-day operations of the College's comprehensive library program which supports the mission and goals of the college and the needs of its administrators, faculty, staff, and students.

Salary Schedule: Appropriate placement on Salary Schedule C2 (\$74,597-\$111,563) based on experience

Position Closes: 6/1/2023 11:59 PM CST  
Apply at [Lawsonstate.edu](http://Lawsonstate.edu)

## WE'RE HIRING

join our food services team!

[medicalwesthospital.org/careers](http://medicalwesthospital.org/careers)



**MEDICAL WEST**  
an affiliate of the **UAB** HEALTH SYSTEM




## NOW HIRING POLICE OFFICERS

**CERTIFIED & NON-CERTIFIED APPLICANTS**

**JOIN TODAY!**  
[WWW.PBJCAL.ORG/JOBSQUEST](http://WWW.PBJCAL.ORG/JOBSQUEST)



**COMPETITIVE SALARY**  
**PAID TRAINING & ACADEMY TUITION**  
**OVERTIME AND OFF-DUTY ASSIGNMENTS AVAILABLE**  
**5-10% EDUCATION PAY INCREASE**  
**LATERAL EXPERIENCE PAY INCREASE**

**MEDICAL, VISION, AND DENTAL BENEFITS**  
**LIFE INSURANCE AND STATE TIER I RETIREMENT PLAN**  
**UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT PROVIDED**  
**SPECIALIZED UNIT OPPORTUNITIES**  
**EXPEDITED HIRING PROCESS**

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- US CITIZENSHIP
- 19 YEARS OF AGE
- HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR GED CERTIFICATE
- VALID STATE OF ALABAMA DRIVER'S LICENSE
- PHYSICAL AGILITY
- NO FELONY CONVICTIONS
- 2 YEARS EXPERIENCE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR LATERAL ENTRY

APPLY USING THE QR CODE. FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL LT. REESE AT 205-369-4584.

**Lawson State**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## WE ARE HIRING

### OPEN POSITIONS

- Workforce Development Specialist
- Police Officer
- Fleet/Equipment Manager (Bus Driver)



**SEE POST**



# COMMUNITY EVENTS



## CAREER FAIR AND OPEN HOUSE

**June 1, 2023**  
**5:00 PM - 6:30 PM**  
 Scan QR Code  
 to Register



SCAN ME

You will learn about the medical device field of Prosthetics and Orthotics and to gain insight into a great future in helping others and building a great income and future for you and your family.



-Event Location-  
 Lawson State Community College  
 Ethel Hall Building

1100 Ninth Avenue, SW | Bessemer, AL 35022  
 Phone: 205-925-2515 | Fax: 205-424-5119

"I am very pleased to have found United Prosthetics and Orthotics to help with my custom compression garments. Reggie and Brittany have been genuinely interested in helping me get what I need, making sure I am totally happy and all in a very timely manner. It was initially the relief of a provider that would order custom garments and process my insurance, but such a pleasure in the process to find they truly care. Thank You and looking forward to working with you in the future."

-T. Mashburn-

## THURSDAY JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> Lawson State and United Prosthetics & Orthotics Career Fair & Open House

Lawson State Ethel Hall  
 Bldg.

Scan QR code to register

## SAT. JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> Central Alabama Caribbean Food & Music Festival

Debardeleben Park

Call 205-683-5324 or email  
 cacaonline@gmail.com

CENTRAL ALABAMA CARIBBEAN AMERICAN ORGANIZATION  
 PRESENTS

**SATURDAY  
 JUN 10  
 2023**

**Central ALABAMA**  
*Caribbean Food & Music Festival*  
 @ Debardeleben Park  
 Bessemer, Alabama

**Parade Route**  
 BESSEMER HALL OF HISTORY >  
 DOWN ALABAMA AVENUE TO 19TH STREET >  
 RIGHT ON 19TH TO 3RD AVENUE >  
 LEFT ON 3RD AVENUE TO 16TH STREET >  
 THEN LEFT ON 16TH

Featuring Special Guest Steel Band  
 musical, entertainment and so much  
 more activities.

**Starting Time: 11am - 9pm**

**PARADE! DANCING! MUSIC!**  
 BRING YOUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS | FOOD VENDORS | LOTS OF FUN

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL US AT CACAONLINE@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 205-683-5324

SPONSORED BY:

## THURS. JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup> Membership Appreciation Seafood Boil Business After Hours

Frank House Golf Course  
 Chamber Member  
 reservations required no  
 later than 6/15

## TUESDAY JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> City of Bessemer's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration

Bessemer City High School  
 Everything is free to the  
 public! Patriotic  
 giveaways, watermelon,  
 ice cream, beverages, etc.

Bring the entire family out for  
**THE CITY OF BESSEMER**

**4<sup>th</sup> of July**  
**CELEBRATION**

Meet and  
 Network  
 with our  
 elected  
 officials

**TUESDAY JULY 4, 2023**  
**6:30 UNTIL 9:00 PM**

**FREE**  
 Community  
 Event

**EVERYTHING  
 IS FREE TO THE  
 PUBLIC**  
 Ice Cream  
 Watermelon  
 Nachos  
 Beverages  
 Patriotic Giveaways  
 & Much, Much More!

**COME ENJOY  
 ONE OF  
 ALABAMA'S  
 LARGEST  
 FIREWORK  
 SHOW  
 BEGINS AT  
 8:45PM**

**Bessemer City High School**  
**4950 FRIENDSHIP PARKWAY**  
**BESSEMER, AL 35022**

For additional  
 information contact  
 The Bessemer Area  
 Chamber of  
 Commerce at  
 (205) 425-3253

Special Thanks to our 2023 Gold Corporate Partners:

**Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce**  
**SEAFOOD BOIL**  
**BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup> / 5 - 7 PM**  
**FRANK HOUSE GOLF COURSE**  
 801 GOLF COURSE RD, BESSEMER

**Door Prizes - Entertainment- Great Food**  
 BRING YOUR BUSINESS CARDS and network with Members, Board Members, Ambassadors  
 and Community/Business Leaders

Chamber Member: Make your reservation by June 15<sup>th</sup> @ 205.425.3253  
**Only 2 complimentary wristbands per company**  
**Additional wristbands may be purchased @ \$20 per person**  
**WALKUPS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED THE DAY OF THE EVENT**



# The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Bessemer Business Awards & First Responders Gala

Sponsored by the  
Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce

The Bessemer Business Awards are presented each year to Bessemer area businesses that have achieved success in their respective industry and size category. Submitted information is strictly confidential and maintained by the independent judging committee of the Chamber. You are encouraged to nominate any business that is located in the city limits of Bessemer, or any business located outside the city limits of Bessemer that is an active member of the Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce. Recipients from the past five years are ineligible (see reverse for recent recipients). Nominees must have been in operation for at least three years. **Nominations are due by Thursday, July 20, 2023 before 5pm.** Finalists and recipients will be recognized at the **Bessemer Business Awards and First Responders Gala in August 2023 at the Bessemer Civic Center.** For additional information call 205-425-3253.

## **NOMINATION FORM** **for the 2023 Business of the Year**

Nominees will be asked to complete a brief information questionnaire. Judges will select considering the following areas: community / civic / charitable involvement, growth in employment, company stability, capital investment, general profitability, industry recognition. Nominees should attach recognition, press announcement, achievements, safety programs/awards and other supplemental materials to support the overall success of the business.

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Company Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Employees: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Web address: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Nomination *(use additional pages if necessary)*:

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***Return Nominations To:***  
**The Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce**  
**321 18<sup>th</sup> Street North \* Bessemer, AL \* 35020**  
**Phone (205) 425-3253 \* Fax (205) 425-4979**



## **BUSINESSES OF THE YEAR**

*[Presented in 5 different categories through 2009]*

### **CATEGORY I**

1990 – WSMQ  
1991 – OK Tire and Battery  
1992 – B & C Rental  
1993 – Coxco  
1994 – Bessemer Fasteners and Supply  
1995 – Bessemer Furniture Gallery  
1996 – United Textiles  
1997 – Anthony Underwood Automotives  
1998 – Compliance Specialists  
1999 – Engineering, Environmental & Forestry Service  
2000 – Weaver Land Company  
2001 – Advanced Cardiac Solutions  
2002 – Farr Hardware & Food Shop  
2003 – The Western Star  
2004 – Brian's Carpet & Tile  
2005 – Holt Insurance  
2006 – Development Solutions, LLC  
2007 – Loyle Seymour Jewelry  
2008 – Tippi's Bakery & Deli  
2009 – Eagle Vision Eyecare

### **CATEGORY II**

1990 – The Bright Star  
1991 – Bob Sykes Barbecue  
1992 – First Federal Savings Bank  
1993 – Holmes Oil Company  
1994 – Dixie Nissan  
1995 – Carr Cabinet Doors  
1996 – Suburban Gas Company  
1997 – National Belt Service  
1998 – Moore Coal Company  
1999 – Air Carriers  
2000 – Fosco-Morval USA  
2001 – Vulcan Materials Co.  
2002 – White Industries  
2004 – Baumann Coatings, Inc.  
2005 – Fourth Avenue Supermarket  
2006 – ADCO Boiler Company  
2007 – The Hampton Inn  
2008 – Builders Millwork LLC  
2009 – ITT Technical Institute

### **CATEGORY III**

1990 – Long Lewis Ford  
1991 – Food Giant  
1992 – Harbison Walker  
1993 – Southern Ductile Casting Co.  
1994 – Big B, Inc.  
1995 – Trinity Industries  
1996 – UNR - ROHN  
1997 – Walmart Super Store  
1998 – Jemison Steel  
1999 – Masonry Arts  
2000 – Buffalo Rock  
2001 – Southern Ductile Casting Co  
2002 – Town & Country Ford  
2003 – First Financial Bank  
2004 – Long-Lewis Ford  
2005 – Noland Health Services  
2006 – Alabama Adventure  
2007 – Golden Living Center Meadowood  
2008 – Premiere Chevrolet, Inc.  
2009 – First Financial Bank

## **NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

1999 – Bessemer State Tech College  
2000 – Bessemer Area YMCA  
2001 – Salvation Army  
2002 – Bessemer Historical Homeowners Association  
2003 – Flint Hill Baptist Church  
2004 – Bessemer Development Board  
2005 – Dunbar-Abrams Foundation, Inc.  
2006 – Foundry Rescue Mission & Recovery Center  
2007 – Legacy YMCA  
2008 – Lawson State Community College  
2009 – Flint Hill Christian School

### **SAFETY AWARD**

1992 – Alabama Power Company  
1993 – Harbison Walker Refractories  
1995 – U. S. Pipe  
1996 – Vulcan Painters  
1997 – Certex  
1998 – Bessemer Utilities  
2000 – S & G Waldrop Electric  
2001 – Southern Ductile Casting Co.  
2002 – ROHN, Inc.  
2003 – Buffalo Rock Company  
2005 – Cintas Corporation  
2006 – Coston General Contractors  
2007 – Shirley & Sons, Inc.  
2008 – Alabama Power Company  
2009 – U. S. Pipe & Foundry

*\*Awards not presented in 2010 / 2011*

**\*Awards consolidated in 2012**

## **BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**

2012 – Medical West  
2013 – Splash Adventure  
2014 – Dollar General  
2015 – Town & Country Ford  
2016 – Oak Trace & Terrace Oaks Care and Rehabilitation Centers  
2017 – Milo's Tea Company  
2018 – BLOX LLC  
2019 – William Parsons CPA  
2022 – Chambers Funeral Home

## **DOCTOR OF THE YEAR**

2014 – Dr. Sally Ebaugh, Medical West  
2015 – Dr. Kevin Staudinger, Brookwood Medical Center  
2015 – Dr. Danika Y Hickman, Medical West  
2016 – Dr. David Denney, Medical West  
2017 – Dr. H. Thomas Smith, Medical West  
2018 – Dr. John Issis  
2019 – Dr. Richard S. Stephen  
2022 – Dr. Michael Burch

*\*The Doctor of the Year award began in 2014*

## **FIRST RESPONDERS AWARDS**

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

2002 – Richard Ferguson

2003 – Perry Hurst  
2004 – Monroe Adams  
2005 – Jimmy Sims  
2006 – Myford Little  
2007 – Sgt. Gary D. Carmichael  
2007 – Christian Clemons / Ernest Ryan  
2009 – Arthur Bracy  
2010 – Sgt. Roy Harris  
2011 – Brent Miller  
2012 – Daniel Glassco  
2013 – Jeffrey Ioimo  
2014 – Roger Eubanks  
2015 – Det. Shadrack Williams  
2016 – Det. Jennifer Hamburger  
2017 – Sergeant Victor Lamar Cullen  
2017 – Officer Dustin Lee Alford  
2018 – Det. Justin Bruce Burmeister  
2021 – Officer Jonathan Lee Brady

## **FIRE FIGHTER OF THE YEAR**

2002 – Gary Carter  
2003 – Tommy Cannon / Brian Sloan  
2004 – Sam Ousley  
2005 – Jeff Lowe  
2006 – Stephen Parker  
2007 – Lt. Tommy Cannon / Shondrick Davis  
2008 – Lt. Michael E. Brannon  
2009 – Markus Dunn  
2010 – Todd Eddy  
2011 – Daniel Sanford / Russell Bell / Josh Phillips  
2012 – Robert Hallmark  
2013 – Harold Wright  
2014 – Evan Abbott  
2015 – Capt. Gary Nix / Mason Parker  
2016 – Capt. Carlton Jackson  
2017 – AO Stephen Parker  
2018 – Lt Stephen Parker  
2021 – Capt. Stephen Parker

## **DEPUTY SHERIFF OF THE YEAR**

2006 – Jacob Reach  
2007 – Dep. Alan Rhea  
2008 – Dep. Nathan Nichols  
2009 – Jacob Bradley  
2010 – Brad Dickey  
2011 – Dep. Jeremy Barbin  
2012 – Sgt. Wayne Curry  
2013 – Brad Perry  
2014 – Dep. LaDonna Houston  
2015 – Sgt. Mike Saxton / Dep. Ladonna Houston / Dep. Wanda Oliver  
2016 – Sgt. Randy Pate  
2017 – Corporal Kenneth Bailey  
2018 – Sgt. Ryan Strickland  
2021 – Dep. Detective Jason DeRamus

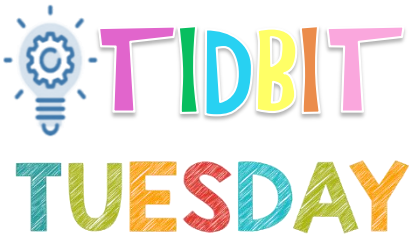
## **AMBULANCE EMS OF THE YEAR**

2019 – Edward McDonald  
2022 – TaQuira Carter

*\*Awards not presented in 2020 / 2021*

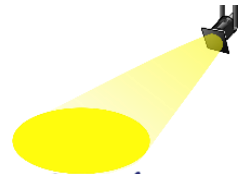


# MEMBER BENEFITS



Sign up today to have a free video made to highlight your products & services on Facebook!

We will accept a video you make or come make one for you.  
(no more than 2 minutes long)



## Chamber Member SPOTLIGHT

Can you afford not to spotlight your business free of charge?

Contact us today!

## DID YOU KNOW?

- We will post a FREE video of your business on our Facebook page through the Tidbit Tuesday ad above.
- Have you recently renovated your facility and want to show it off? We will invite the membership to come out.



Groundbreakings / Ribbon Cuttings are free to chamber members only!

Have you had one to celebrate your opening or a complete renovation?



Do you have a company representative that is passionate about your company and the Bessemer area? They may be the perfect candidate for our ambassador program.



Contact us for details and nominate them to serve today!