



# Bulletin

## East Memphis Rotary Club

Matt Haaga, President

November 4, 2020  
Photographer: Bill Pickens  
2020-2021  
Our 32nd Year

[www.rotaryclubofmemphiseast.org](http://www.rotaryclubofmemphiseast.org)

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### Upcoming Programs and Meeting Dates

November 18, 2020  
Sam Shaw  
Principal  
Berclair Elementary

Thursday, December 10, 2020  
Alex Rasmussen  
Signature Advertising  
Neon Canvas

December 16, 2020  
David Waddell  
Waddell & Associates



**Wolf River Popcorn  
Speaker Gift Sponsor**

### Guests

We were pleased to welcome two guests this week.



Mark Jenkins guest of Jack Dewald



Charles Plunkett guest of John Seabold

### Wednesday, November 18, 2020 Sam Shaw, Berclair Elementary



Dr. Shaw is flattered to be asked to speak at the Rotary Club and wish to thank all members for this opportunity. As a matter of interest, Dr. Shaw was born in Somerville, TN, yet he has spent almost his entire life in Memphis and now resides in Germantown.

He currently serves with a passion as an elder and Sunday school teacher at Second Presbyterian Church. He has been married to his love, Leslie, for 34 years and they have 3 grown children along with 2 rescue dogs and 2 rescue cats. Dr. Shaw is serving his 17<sup>th</sup> school year as principal of Berclair Elementary School, Shelby County Schools. He is also in his 43<sup>rd</sup> year of service as a public school educator.

### November 4, 2020 Program Landon Williams



Landon Williams, commercial advisor, discussed expanded trends affecting commercial real estate during COVID. He said Memphis was perfectly aligned with the rental markets as investors don't like rent control so they come south. Companies are looking at office space since many employees are working at home and question do we go for less space or larger space. Less space as employees are doing their job from home or larger space as you want to bring employees back who are now used to larger space and won't be comfortable in crowded work conditions. Working in the office allows for more accountability.

As for retail space, "we just don't know." After Black Friday and the Christmas holidays, we will have better understanding of the retail market as the holiday season is a make or break for small business. E-Commerce is doing extremely well during COVID and online businesses are learning a great deal about shopper's preferences as they are now able to track customer data. Interesting fact! Did you know that anything you purchase on Amazon can be returned by taking item to Kohl's where they will wrap and ship back to Amazon for free? Good to know. In fact, Landon provided good information that helps us understand real estate trends during this unusual time.



*Because of COVID for the first time since 1945, the National Spelling Bee has been cancel . . . cancel . . . cansel . . .*

*It's Been Called Off!*