



Bulletin

East Memphis Rotary Club

Nina Gourley, President

October 26, 2022

Photographer: Bill Pickens

2022-2023

Our 34th Year

www.rotaryclubofmemphiseast.org

Meeting 12:00 Noon

Shady Grove Event Center, 5530 Shady Grove, Memphis, TN 38120

Upcoming Meetings

November 2, 2022
Ted Townsend
Greater Memphis
Chamber of Commerce

November 9, 2022
Veterans Day Program

November 16, 2022
Gina Sweat
Memphis Fire Chief

November 23, 2022
No Meeting
Thanksgiving Week

November 30, 2022
Brian McCurry
Athletic Ministries

December 7, 2022
Christmas Luncheon at
White Station Elementary



December 15, 2022
Christmas Party
Home of
Debra & Doug Owings

December 21, 2022
No Meeting
Christmas Week

December 28, 2022
No Meeting
New Year's Week



Speaker Sponsor

Transferring to East Memphis Rotary



Welcome to Rotarian Jason Johnston who is transferring to East Memphis from West Memphis Rotary. Thank you Matt Haaga for introducing us to Jason.

November 2, 2022

Ted Townsend

Greater Memphis Chamber of Commerce



A native Memphian with the blue suede shoes to prove it, Ted Townsend leads regional business recruitment efforts as the chief economic development officer of the Greater Memphis Chamber. Since joining the Chamber in 2020, Townsend has led the Memphis region to numerous economic development wins representing billions of dollars in investment and thousands of new jobs for the region. Among those wins is the largest single investment in Tennessee history: Ford and SK Innovation's commitment in 2021 to building a \$5.6 billion electric vehicle and battery manufacturing campus known as Blue Oval City near Memphis that will directly employ nearly 6,000 people. At the same time, he has championed a data-driven approach to position the region to capitalize on these wins for future growth.

In his first year at the Chamber, Townsend also served as chief economic development officer for the University of Memphis as part of a partnership to promote the growth of the region. During his tenure at the UofM, Townsend led efforts to secure \$45.9 million for projects, including significant public investments from the state and local governments.

Ted was the co-founder and Chief Operating Officer of Memphis-based arGentis Pharmaceuticals Inc., a privately-held biopharmaceutical company involved in the licensing, development and commercialization of therapies for auto-immune and ophthalmic diseases. Under Ted's leadership, the company raised \$2 million in capital from angel and institutional investors, obtained Orphan Drug Designation in the U.S. and EU, and built an international patent portfolio.

A graduate of the University of Memphis, Townsend has a degree in organizational leadership. He is also a graduate of Leadership Tennessee and the Leadership Memphis Executive Program. He presently serves as the President of the Economic Club of Memphis and numerous other business and civic organizations. He's also public policy advisor to Seeding Success and is the past chairman of the board for Life Science Tennessee

October 26th, Susan Deason, Youth Villages

by Cal Overman



Our club was so impressed by the work Youth Villages is doing with one of the newest initiatives, Memphis Allies, to bring together our community groups and resources to turn the most dangerous places into safe neighborhoods. Susan and her team are doing a remarkable job. Did you know that Youth Villages has a presence in 23 states, 101 locations, and an 87% success rate? They are truly changing the lives of families and children one child and one family at a time! Thank you for joining us at East Memphis today, Susan. Her mom, Dorsey Wade, and Youth Villages Communication Director, Connie Mills, even joined us!



Left is Connie Mills and right is Mom, Dorsey Wade.