



# the Reporter

Mountain Brook, Ala.

www.mtnbrook.org

Volume XIX, Issue 4

the Reporter  
Mountain Brook, Alabama

## WELCOME NEW CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS!

### Welcome Alice Womack to the Council

Alice Womack grew up in Gainesville, Georgia but relocated to Alabama for college at Auburn University. She and her husband, Lowell, moved to Mountain Brook in 2000. They have two children both in the Mountain Brook School system. Mrs. Womack has been employed by First Commercial Bank since 1991 where she serves as Vice President of Private Wealth Management. She served as president of the Mountain Brook Chamber of Commerce from 2005-2007 and is currently serving on the board. She is also serving as President of the Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation. Not only is

she currently in her second term on Mountain Brook City's Finance Committee but Mrs. Womack has also been on the board of the Junior League of Birmingham and the Service Guild of Birmingham.

Mrs. Womack is excited about the direction Mountain Brook is headed by continuing to make improvements to our Villages and residential areas. Her ultimate goal is to continue to provide quality services and seek opportunities to add to our community.

"We are fortunate to have an existing Council and City Staff that have done a tremendous job in continuing to make



Mountain Brook a better place to live and work. I am honored to be able to be a part of that for the next four years."

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### Welcome New Councilmember, Lloyd C. Shelton:



Mr. Shelton grew up in Mountain Brook and graduated from Mountain Brook High School in 1980. From there he attended the University of Alabama and graduated with a B.S. in Accounting. In November 1994 he purchased

a firm and renamed it Lovoy, Summerville, & Shelton, LLC. As Councilmember Mr. Shelton's main effort is to "continue the tradition of strong leadership while working with others for the greater good of the community."

He gives credit to his two loving parents for instilling the duty of giving back to others. Mr. Shelton is the Past President of the Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation, and current chair of the Mountain Brook Finance Committee. He is a member of the Mountain Brook Chamber of Commerce, the Birmingham YMCA, The University of Alabama College of Continuing Studies Visitors, Sigma Nu Fraternity, and the Sunrise Rotary Club.

Mr. Shelton is married to his wife of 27 years, Sarah Jackson Shelton and has two sons, David (25) and Dan (20).

**KEEP YOUR  
SALES TAX  
DOLLARS IN  
MOUNTAIN BROOK  
BY USING  
MOUNTAIN BROOK,  
NOT  
BIRMINGHAM,  
AS YOUR DELIVERY  
ADDRESS  
WHEN ORDERING  
ONLINE  
OR FROM  
CATALOGS.**

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL  
COMMUNITY**

**SHOP MOUNTAIN BROOK FIRST**

[www.welcometomountainbrook.com](http://www.welcometomountainbrook.com)

Mayor: Lawrence T. Oden

**CITY COUNCIL**

**Council President:**

Virginia Carruthers Smith

Jack Carl

Lloyd Shelton

William S. "Billy" Pritchard, III

Alice Womack

**City Manager:**

Sam S. Gaston, 802-3800

For advertising or Chamber of Commerce information, call 871-3779

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## THANK YOU AND FAREWELL!

### Thank You Mr. Jesse Vogle for Your Service!



Serving you, the residents of Mountain Brook, has been one of the great pleasures of my life. I very much respect and appreciate the continued hard work by Mayor Terry Oden, Council President Virginia Smith, Council President Pro-Tem Amy Carter, and Councilors Billy Pritchard and Jack Carl. I want to shout out a job well done to Sam Gaston (City Manager), Steve Boone (Assistant City Manager and Finance Director), Robert Ezekiel (Fire), Ted Cook (Police), Ronnie Vaughn (Public Works), Shanda Williams ( Park and Recreation), Jerry Weems ( Building Inspections), Dana Hazen (City Planner), Suzan Doidge (Chamber), Doris Kenny (Executive Secretary), Sue

DeBrecht (Library Director) and all the Mountain Brook City employees that make our City a very special place to live.

During my eight years on the City Council, I have been part of several major projects. The big projects that come to mind include: (2007) adopting a new Master Land Use Plan for the City's four (4) villages; (2008) fighting with Moody's Financial Services to maintain City's Aa1 rating, jeopardized in part by the Jefferson County financial demise; (2008) removing of the garbage fee which currently is 100% subsidized by the City, a rare amenity; (2009) City's walkway system in full swing with construction of many miles of sidewalks to improve safe routes to schools and connection of our villages and neighborhoods; (2010) Commencing the new municipal complex; (2011) Approving the Lane Parke Planned Unit Development after 14 public hearings; (2011) Purchasing 4.7 acres for Cahaba River Park at intersection of Overton/Oakdale Roads near River Run; (2012) Initiating City WiFi installation in public parks, school yards and villages; (2014) Construction of Lane Parke apartments; and, Kessler Grand Bohemian 100- room boutique hotel breaks ground across from Botanical Gardens parking lot.

### Farewell from Mrs. Amy Carter

Serving as a Mountain Brook Council member has been such an incredible privilege and experience for me. I have so thoroughly enjoyed working with the leaders in our community -- elected officials, city employees, volunteers and contractors. There are so many people who truly love Mountain Brook and want nothing but the best for our residents and our community. I will miss being a part of the decision-making process where each person is entitled, encouraged, and expected to speak his mind and others respectfully listen, whether or not they agree. When everyone has the same goal ( in this case quality of life for our residents) it is much easier to come to a resolution.

My advice for the incoming council members: Ask a lot of questions. Do your research. Speak up even when you are in the minority. You will be surprised by the respectful responses



- even if they are disagreeing with you-- and you may even change some minds. Enjoy it. It is an honor and a privilege to serve such a great community.

### Amendments to the City's Noise Ordinance

In June, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 1906 which imposes certain restrictions on the operation of mechanical lawn equipment used for commercial purposes in residential districts of the City. The operation of such equipment is not permitted between the hours of 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. weekdays (8 a.m. on weekends).

The ordinance includes the operation of leaf blowers, lawnmowers, tractors, stump grinders, chippers, weed trimmers, clippers, etc. When hiring landscape and other outdoor contractors, make sure they are licensed and that they are aware of the restricted hours of operation.



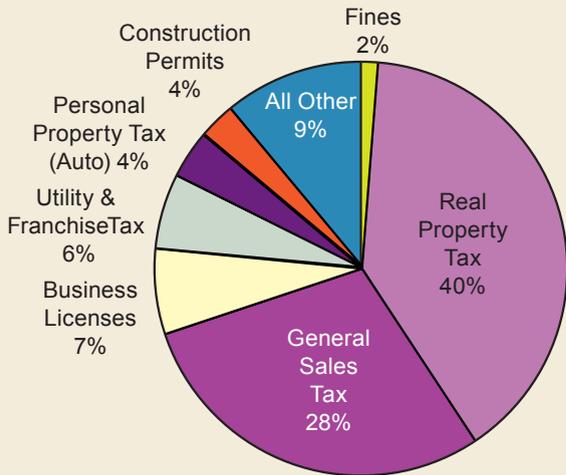


## 2015 Budget Adopted

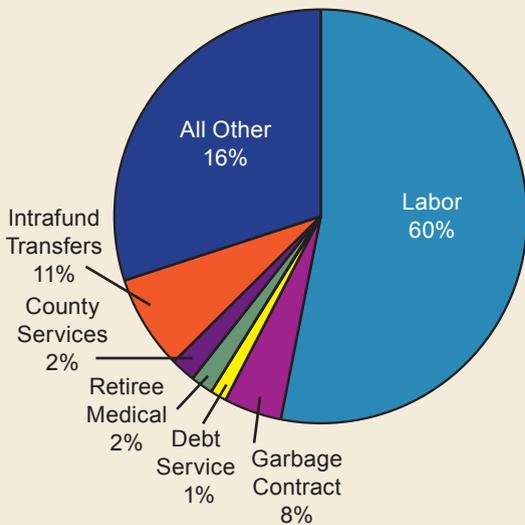
The City Council adopted the 2015 budget at its September 22, 2014 meeting with a General Fund surplus of \$651,000. The General Fund revenue budget totals \$34 million representing a 3.5% increase from last year's budget. Some of the larger General Fund revenues include:

The chart below depicts the relative importance of the various sources of revenue in the General Fund:

**2015 GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET-\$34 MM**



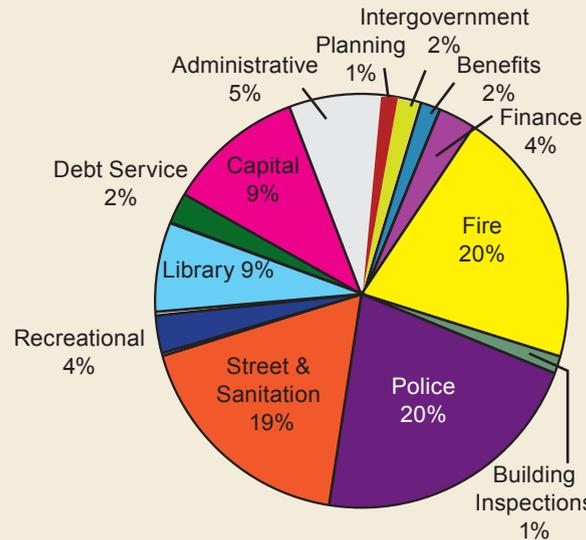
**2015 GENERAL FUND EXPENSE BUDGET**



Source of Revenue	2014	2015	Percentage Change
Real estate tax	\$13,507,435	\$13,765,000	1.9
Sales tax	9,450,000	9,834,000	4.1
License & franchise fees	2,661,250	3,028,000	13.8
Utility taxes	1,541,420	1,481,200	(3.9)
Automobile property tax	1,182,220	1,217,900	5.9
Construction permits	928,240	1,189,000	28.1
Fines	527,040	561,000	6.4
All other	3,111,649	2,942,940	(3.8)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$32,909,254</b>	<b>\$34,019,040</b>	<b>3.5%</b>

2015 General Fund expenses total \$33.5 million which represents a 3.1% increase from last year's budget. The charts below illustrate the functional and departmental make-up of the City's General Fund expenses:

**2015 BUDGETED EXPENSES BY DEPARTMENT**



## Quarterly Crime Statistics

	2nd Quarter 2014	3rd Quarter 2014
Robbery	1	0
Robbery (aggravated shoplifting)	0	0
Burglary/Residence	9	8
Burglary/Business	0	0
Theft	39	24
Theft from Vehicle (UBEV)	10	13
Auto Theft	1	0
Assaults (Other)	3	5
Identity Theft	19	4
Criminal Mischief	12	5
Drugs	23	26
Family Violence	12	5
Accidents	235	227
A With Injuries	19	10
A With Fatalities	0	1
Calls For Service	7,346	8,410
House Watches	717	768
Property Stolen	\$224,411	\$44,928
Property Recovered	\$21,268	\$2,254

**WANT TO HELP US GET THESE NUMBERS LOWER?**

1. Lock your vehicle
2. Take your keys
3. Don't leave valuables in plain view in your vehicle
4. Keep lawn and sports equipment around your home secured when not in use.
5. Keep doors locked and use your security system when you're not at home.

See it! Hear it! Report it! Let us know when you see suspicious activity in your neighborhood.

## Recent City Council Actions

### The City Council has adopted or amended the following ordinances since July, 2014:

- Ordinance 1908 – amended Lane Parke Development previously approved by Ordinance 1871.
- Ordinance 1909 – amended Chapter 109 of the City Code relating to the repair, renovation, alteration, reconstruction of or room additions to existing buildings and structures that are within the scope of the IRC.
- Ordinance 1910 – amended Section 50-46(b) of the City Code relating to the speed limit on U.S. Highway 280.
- Ordinance 1911 – allows improvements in the public right-of-way of 20th Avenue in English Village, including the addition of five (5) on-street parking spaces along the south boundary of property located at 1930 Cahaba Road.
- Ordinance 1912 – allows improvement in the public right-of-way of Park Lane in English Village, including the elimination of one (1) on-street parking space, along the south boundary of property located at 2117 Cahaba Road.
- Ordinance 1913 – established time restrictions for the on-street public parking located at 2117 Cahaba Road.
- The City Council has authorized/approved

- the following projects since July, 2014:
- Accepted the professional services proposal submitted by Fontenot Benefits & Actuarial Consulting for their actuarial valuation of the City's retiree medical benefit plan as required (every two years) by GASB.
- Authorized the payment from the General Fund of \$300,000 into the City of Mountain Brook Section 115 Fund (retiree medical insurance).
- Authorized a one-time appropriation in the amount of \$528,386.00 to the Mountain Brook Board of Education for the roof replacement at Brookwood Forest Elementary School.
- Awarded the bid for the purchase of two (2) top dressers to Golf Ventures, having submitted the best bid in the amount of \$18,136.
- Authorized the acceptance of a proposal for professional services to be performed by Walter Schoel Engineering Company, Inc. with respect to a drainage study in the vicinity of Beech Street.
- Authorized the lump sum payment to persons who retired from the City of Mountain Brook on or before January 1, 1995 (CIGNA).
- Agreed to provide all funds necessary to the Employees Retirement Systems (ERS) of Alabama to cover the cost of the one-time lump sum payment as provided for by said

- Act for those eligible employees retired from the City of Mountain Brook.
- Awarded the bid for the purchase of four (4) thermal imaging cameras to NAFECO, having submitted the sole bid, in the [negotiated] amount of \$39,000.
- Authorized the execution of agreement for services between the City and Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham with respect to an APPLE grant administration agreement.
- Recommended to the State of Alabama, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, the issuance of a Restaurant Retail Liquor License to Golden Harvest Culinary Mountain Brook, LLC (La Catrina Mexican Cantina) located at 2031 Cahaba Road.
- Authorized the execution of an agreement between the City and the Alabama Department of Transportation with respect to the cooperative maintenance of U.S. Highway 280 public right-of-way between mileposts 2.628 and 2.866 for additional parking for Cahaba Village.
- Effective October 7, 2014, the salaries of all employees (classified and unclassified) of the City of Mountain Brook, Alabama, including employees of The Emmet O'Neal Library Board and Parks and Recreation Board, shall be increased by one and one-half of one percent (1-1/2%) over the current salary schedule.

## Leaf Season Schedule

Fall is here. You can feel autumn in the air. With the change in seasons, we are once again blessed with the beautiful colors of the changing leaves. The enjoyment of the fall colors always seems to fade too quickly as the leaves begin to fall and the task of removing the leaves returns once again. This year leaf collection will begin on Monday, November 3rd. Waste Management will collect loose leaves

from the curb (not in the gutter) November 3rd through the first week in March. Loose leaves are taken to the City's Public Works facilities to be turned into compost. Bagged leaves cannot be used for compost. Every residence will receive four (4) leaf pick-ups during leaf season.

Waste Management has mailed information to every residence in the City on leaf pick-up with the

planned weeks of service for that area. If you have not received this information from Waste Management, please call them at 841-2740.

When you rake or blow your leaves, please do not deposit them in the City's gutters or storm drain inlets as this is in violation of City ordinances. Loose leaf pick-up piles cannot contain any sticks, branches, rocks or other debris as they will damage the vacuum equipment.

## Board Appointments/Vacancies

### APPOINTMENTS

The City Council has recently made the following appointment:

- Patrick Carlton - Emmet O'Neal Library Board

The City Council has recently made the following reappointments:

- Richard F. Simonton – Board of Zoning Adjustment
- Robert "Rob" E. Walker IV – Supernumerary to Village Design Review Committee

### BOARD VACANCIES

The City of Mountain Brook has the following board/committee vacancies to fill immediately or near future:

- Parks and Recreation Board – 5 year term
- Finance Committee – 4 year term

**If you are interested in these positions, please send a letter of inquiry and your resume to:**  
**Sam S. Gaston, City Manager, City of Mountain Brook,**  
**PO Box 130009 Mountain Brook, AL 35213**  
**gastons@mtnbrook.org**





## New Businesses

### ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

- CREI Auburn II, LLC, 402 Office Park Drive, Suite 150, 205-949-2060

### WHOLESALE/RETAIL

- Marcie & Betty Enterprises, LLC, (dba\Lakation), 3560 Spring Valley Road, 205-243-9556
- Impeccable Pig-Birmingham Inc., (dba\The Impeccable Pig), 2812 Cahaba Road, 214-346-0536
- B & C Smart Packaging, LLC, 3330 Crosshill Road, 205-427-5418
- Pars Gallery of Fine Rugs, 2834 Culver Road, 256-539-3125
- Save the Wheels, LLC, 3925 Shannon Lane, 205-910-4794
- Dorm Décor LLC, (dba\Dorm Décor), 2760 Abingdon Road, 205-222-7720

### INSURANCE

- Chad Anderson State Farm, LLC, 2921 Cahaba Road, 205-942-0496

### PERSONAL SERVICES

- Associated Professional Consultants, LLC, 4915 Spring Rock Road, 205-317-3525

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Abbott Sales Consulting, 138 Cherry Street, 205-774-1480
- Gleissner Consulting & Development LLC, 2735 Cherokee Road, 205-601-8500
- Dodson Law Group LLP, 2700 Highway 280, Suite 410, 205-834-9170
- Edmonson & Youngblood, 3260 Overbrook Road, 205-802-1951
- Aspen Family Center of Alabama, 336 Richmar Drive, 937-726-8629
- Meyer, Anderson & Delca, LLC, 2 Office Park Circle, Ste 220, 205-202-0070
- Mackin Thompson Interiors, LLC, 155 Fairmont Drive, 205-790-1419
- Charles Wedgworth Consulting LLC, 3115 Pine Ridge Road, 205-960-3825
- Novocure Inc., 6 Office Park Circle, Suite 206, 855-281-930
- Autumn Yatabe, (dba\Autumn Green Design), 2320 English Village Lane, 770-653-3601
- Pillar 3, LLC, 402 Office Park Drive, Suite 110, 205-585-5553
- Four Sides Corporation, (dba\Doorstep Delivery Birmingham), 10 Office Park Circle, Suite 118, 205-903-3663

### REAL ESTATE

- Eminent Investors Group Inc., P.O. Box 383242, 205-413-0153
- Crestline Real Estate Partners, LLC, 80 Church Street, 205-874-1209

## Schedule of Meetings

<b>CITY COUNCIL*</b>	2nd & 4th Mon.	7:00 p.m.	City Hall Call 802-3800 for time of Pre-Meeting)
<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION</b>	2nd Mon.	3:30 p.m.	Call Board of Ed Office 871-4608
<b>LIBRARY BOARD</b>	3rd Tues.	4:45 p.m.	Library
<b>PARK &amp; RECREATION BOARD</b>	2nd Tues.	5:00 p.m.	City Hall
<b>BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT</b>	2nd Mon.	5:00 p.m.	City Hall
<b>PLANNING COMMISSION</b>	1st Mon.	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
<b>DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE</b>	3rd Wed.	8:00 a.m.	City Hall
<b>TREE COMMISSION</b>	3rd Tues. (odd months)	5:15 p.m.	City Hall
<b>CHAMBER OF COMMERCE</b>	3rd Thurs.	7:30 a.m.	City Hall

## Building Permit Activity

2nd Quarter - 2014		
Permit Type:	No. Permits	Permit Value
New Construction	7	\$4,186,300
Alterations/Additions	28	\$2,560,704
Repairs/Other	69	\$1,509,326
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>\$8,256,330</b>

3rd Quarter - 2014		
Permit Type:	No. Permits	Permit Value
New Construction	6	\$ 5,713,400
Alterations/Additions	109	\$10,211,293
Repairs/Other	202	\$4,933,015
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>\$20,857,708</b>



# CAM'S CORNER

Cam's Corner at Overton Park is now complete and open for all curious kids. The dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, September 20, 2014. A multitude of Cam Cole's friends and family were present for this special occasion. Carey Hollingsworth, President of the Park Board, and Cameron Cole, Cam's father, spoke at the ceremony. After Reverend Joe Gibbes led everyone in prayer, several red and yellow balloons were released as a gesture to include Cam in the celebration.

The Cam's Corner project was headed up by Sam and Emily Heide and approved by the Park Board and

City officials. Because of the generous donations from Cam's family and friends, this idea became a reality. The fire truck play set is the main attraction to Cam's Corner. Cam loved fire trucks and with Mountain Brooks Fire Department next door, it just seemed fitting. The play set was designed to resemble the City's fire trucks, complete with their logo on all three sides of the cab.

To make room for the new playground equipment, a few of the other pieces had to be removed. This included the see-saw and the concrete turtle. Because

of the history of the concrete turtle, the city is trying to find it a new home. One option is at the new Cahaba River Park. More updates on its relocation will be given as they develop.

Everyone is welcome to visit and enjoy Cam's Corner. The pavilion can be rented for birthday parties by contacting the Park and Recreation department at 802-3877. You may also visit the city's website at [www.mtnbrook.org](http://www.mtnbrook.org) for more information.

# MOUNTAIN BROOK CHAMPION TREES!

The Mountain Brook Tree Commission recently received the first nominations for the Champion Tree program. This program seeks to highlight particularly large or otherwise significant specimen trees in Mountain Brook. It is loosely based on statewide programs of the same name across the country, typically administered by a Forestry Commission or the equivalent. Whereas the traditional program recognizes a single tree by species and according to its circumference and height, our approach is broader. It allows for multiple specimens of the same species, which hold significance for reasons including, but not limited to: size, age, uniqueness, or historical/general interest. Here are the newest “champions” of our city forest...



Owner: Dot K. Mash  
Species: Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*)

Arguably, the quintessential “southern” tree; the live oak is synonymous and inseparable from thoughts of picnics, tree swings, and salty breezes of our southern coastline. The live oak’s natural range encompasses a sizeable chunk of Texas, and a thinner strip of coastal areas all the way around to the Carolinas, to include all of Florida. So-called Texas live oak and sand live oak are variations of the typical *Q. virginiana*. In Alabama, the extent of its range is commonly known as the “fall line”, or the transition from the sandy soils of southern coastal portion of the state, to the piedmont region which signifies the clay soils at the foothills of the Appalachians. However, variations in soil type and other microclimatic conditions have created a suitable environment for this otherwise out-of-place species to not only survive, but thrive. While this live oak may pale in comparison to its more stately cousins further south, with a full and healthy canopy spreading nearly 70 ft, it is certainly worthy—and noteworthy—enough to be recognized as a Champion in Mountain Brook.



# MOUNTAIN BROOK CHAMPION TREES!



Owner: Brenda Hackney  
Species: White Oak (*Quercus alba*)

The white oak is considered the most valuable among the white oak group, whose range encompasses the majority of the eastern half of the United States. Individual trees 150 ft tall, 96 inches in diameter, and 600 years old have been recorded. White oak generally has the reputation of being a slow-growing tree. Based on Forest Service research data, this tree averages between one and a half to two inches of diameter growth every ten years. Based on the size of this tree, it could be nearly 200 years old.

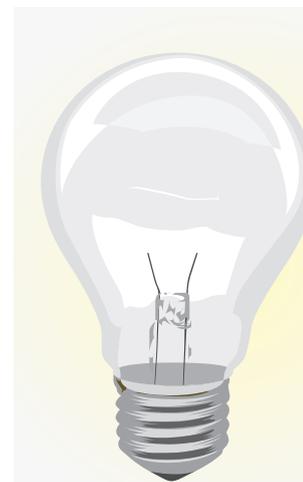
## Take Pride in our City

Do your part to keep our City clean and attractive. Litter is not only unattractive but costly to clean up. Trash and litter should be properly deposited in a waste container or recycling bin. Large trash items should be left at the curb (not in the street) for pick up by Waste Management.

Additionally, pets should be curbed at all times and never soil our sidewalks, playing fields or your neighbor's yard. Pet owners should immediately and properly clean up any accidents that may occur.

*"Don't just do what's your responsibility, do what needs to be done."*

*~Pivot*



## Street Light Out?

Alabama Power Company maintains nearly 400 street lights on the streets and alleys of our city. However, they do not regularly check for street lights that are not working. If you see a street light that is out, please report it to the City Manager's office at 802-3800 or [gastons@mtnbrook.org](mailto:gastons@mtnbrook.org) so the City can coordinate its repair with Alabama Power Company.

# Emmet O'Neal Library News

## It's Happening at Emmet O'Neal

### Programming:

Visit us at [www.eolib.org](http://www.eolib.org) to view more program details and to register.

#### NOVEMBER

- Tuesday, Nov. 4, 6:00pm – Evenings @ EOL: PJ Storytime
- Thursday, Nov. 6, 3:30pm – SNaP: Game On
- Wednesday, Nov. 12, 3:30pm – After-School Special: Eric Litwin (author of Pete the Cat)
- Thursday, Nov. 13, 3:30pm – SNaP: Thankful Craft
- Tuesday, Nov. 19, 6:00pm – Evenings @ EOL: Family Night features B'ham Children's Theatre's Rumpelstiltskin
- Thursday, Nov. 20, 3:30pm – SNaP: Movie & Popcorn
- Thursday, Nov. 20, 6:00pm – Bookmania: Blood of Olympus by Rick Riordan (must register)

No programs the week of Thanksgiving

#### DECEMBER

- Tuesday, Dec. 2, 6:00pm – Evenings @ EOL: PJ Storytime
- Thursday, Dec. 4, 3:30pm – SNaP: Game On
- Tuesday, Dec. 9, 5:30pm – Evenings @ EOL: Family Night features Lee Bryan's North Pole Follies and a visit from Mrs. Claus
- Wednesday, Dec. 10, 3:30pm – After-School Special: Lee Bryan's Trouble in Toyland
- Thursday, Dec. 11, 3:30pm – SNaP: Movie and Popcorn

Continued on page 10

LEE BRYAN "that puppet guy" PRESENTS...

EA LA LA LA  
*North Pole*  
FOLLIES

*Wacky winter fun with tumbling teddy bears, dancing deer, a wisecracking fruitcake and a "not-so-abominable" snowman!*

*Yule love it!*

**LEE BRYAN**  
THAT PUPPET GUY  
[www.puppetguy.com](http://www.puppetguy.com)

PHOTO BY JOHANNA KIMBERL

# Emmet O'Neal Library News



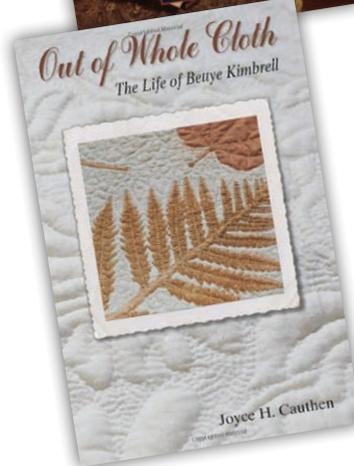
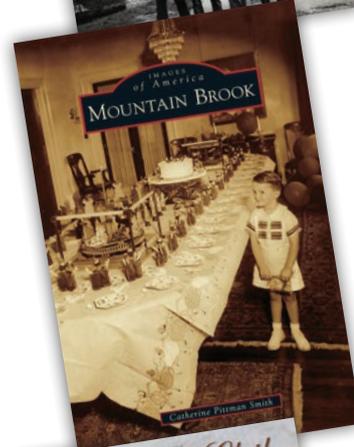
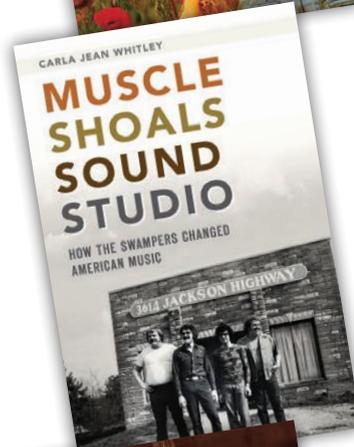
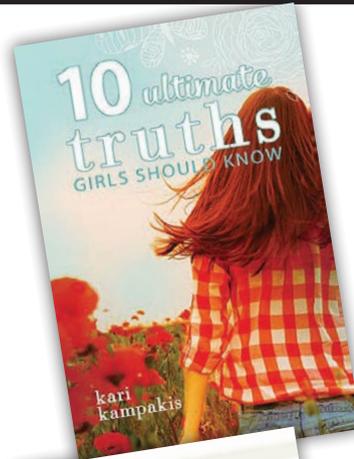
Arthur Atsma brings his magic show for Family Night on January 13

- Tuesday, Dec. 16, 6:00pm – Evenings @ EOL: Movie and Popcorn
- Wednesday, Dec. 17, 3:30pm – Fancy Nancy Holiday Hairdo Hullabaloo
- Thursday, Dec. 18, 3:30pm – SNaP: Marshmallow Wreath craft
- Thursday, Dec. 18, 6:00pm – Bookmania: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul by Jeff Kinney (must register)

No programs the weeks of Christmas and New Year's

## JANUARY

- Tuesday, Jan. 6, 6:00pm – Evenings @ EOL: PJ Storytime
- Thursday, Jan. 8, 3:30pm – SNaP: Game On
- Tuesday, Jan. 13, 5:30pm – Evenings @ EOL: Family Night features AtsMagic
- Thursday, Jan. 15, 3:30pm – SNaP: Painted By You
- Tuesday, Jan. 20, 6:00pm – Evenings @ EOL: Movie and Popcorn
- Wednesday, Jan. 21, 3:30pm – After-School Special: Pirates and Mermaids
- Thursday, Jan. 22, 3:30pm – SNaP: Movie and Popcorn
- Thursday, Jan. 22, 6:00pm – Bookmania: The Greenglass House by Kate Milford (must register)
- Tuesday, Jan. 27, 6:00pm – Evenings @ EOL: Boards and Blocks
- Thursday, Jan. 29, 3:30pm – SNaP: Makerspace Program



## An Afternoon with the Author @ EOL

We have some interesting local authors lined up to visit the library. On Sunday afternoon, November 9th Kari Kampakis will join us to talk about her new book *10 Ultimate Truths Girls Should Know*. Readers may already be familiar with Kari's work. She writes a regular column, *Life Actually*, for *Village Living and 280 Living*. Kari also enjoys a healthy readership on her blog and quite a following on Facebook! Kari's presentation and book signing will begin at 3:00 p.m. Copies of her book will be available for purchase from Church Street Coffee and Books.

On Wednesday, November 12th at 12:30 p.m. Carla Jean Whitley will stop by our Brown Bag Lunch program to discuss her new book *Muscle Shoals Sound Studio: How The Swampers Changed American Music*. Carla is a writer, reporter and the managing editor for Birmingham Magazine.

A local author returns to the Brown Bag Lunch program on Wednesday, Dec. 4th. Catherine Pittman Smith, a local artist and writer, will speak on her new book *Mountain Brook* published last month by Arcadia Press. Ms. Smith's book captures the early days of the city's founding and includes pictures and stories from its earliest residents.

If you are interested in local crafts, quilting in particular, you will want to join us for our author visit on Sunday afternoon, January 25th. Joyce Cauthen, former Director of the Alabama Folklife Association and Bettye Kimbrell, an Alabama-born quilter will be here for a talk and workshop. Joyce will discuss the book she wrote about Ms. Kimbrell entitled *Out of Whole Cloth: The Life of Bettye Kimbrell*. Copies of her book will be available to purchase and have signed. After the talk, Ms. Kimbrell will lead a workshop on quilting and her well-known Cherokee leaf pounding process.

# Emmet O'Neal Library News

## Holiday Activities @ EOL

### Saturday, November 29th - Crafternoon!

Need a great gift for a special someone this holiday season? Join our jewelry making class from 2:30-4:00 p.m. and make a truly special gift! No experience or supplies required. To register, call Katie Moellering at 445-1118 or email her at [kmoellering@bham.lib.al.us](mailto:kmoellering@bham.lib.al.us).

### Wednesday, December 10th

Our December Brown Bag Lunch series speaker, Dick Segretto, will speak on the staying power of the holiday classic *It's A Wonderful Life*.

STANDING ROOM ONLY

### Spiced: Fall Cocktails Mixology Class

Friday, November 21  
7:00pm

Ages 21 & up only. Space is limited. Registration required. To register, email [amandaw@bham.lib.al.us](mailto:amandaw@bham.lib.al.us) or call 445-1121. Our popular Mixology class meets again in November with a seasonal session. The incomparable mixologist Whiskey Thief will return to demonstrate several flavorful cocktail combinations to enjoy in your home this Fall.

## Children's Department

### Playaway Read-Along Packs

You can use our new read-along packs to keep your young ones engaged on long car trips or to help readers improve their reading fluency. Each pack includes a book in print and the same title on an improved Playaway mp3 audiobook. Levels range from picture books to easy readers to chapter books, with some packs containing multiple books on a single theme. Listening readers can decide how fast they want to go, if they want to hear/read a section over again, or if they'd like to skip ahead.

You can check out Read-Along Packs for three weeks at a time; and if you're still enjoying them at the end of three weeks, you can renew them. Stop by and browse for a while!

### PebbleGO or Feature a Program?

Now you can visit our website to access PebbleGO, a research website for emergent readers that makes finding facts a cinch. Users have two options for navigation: clicking on category names or typing a subject in a search bar. These two options allow simple research even for younger elementary students who don't type yet. Within each topic, facts are laid out in easy-to-find tabs and bulleted sentences, which means kids who are not ready to skim whole paragraphs for information can still find what they need to know. PebbleGO also includes activity sheets to help kids organize and synthesize the facts they've read, audio versions of all information, videos on each topic, and articles and citations. And it's all free for you to use through [www.eolib.org](http://www.eolib.org)! Just click on Tumblebooks and More, then click on the PebbleGO logo.



# Emmet O'Neal Library News

## Garden Lecture with June Mays

It's that time of year again! Each January gardening expert June Mays joins us to help us prepare for the spring planting season. We will learn about practical and fun techniques and decorations for our gardens. Programs are each Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and last one hour.

- **January 3- Edible Landscaping**

Make your front yard productive! We will learn how to mix edibles into your existing landscape without looking like a farm. Ms. Mays will display images of vegetables and fruits that are as pretty as any shrubs, perennials, and annuals.

- **January 10 – Art in the Garden**

In today's program June will reveal ideas and images of great garden ornaments and art to inspire you. We will also find out where to find interesting objects for your landscape and how to position them for maximum effect.

- **January 17 – Historic Gardens**

Have you ever wondered what landscapes our ancestors saw in Europe before they left for the Americas? What did they see when they got here? How did they respond? See beautiful images of historic gardens and landscapes in Europe as well as glimpses of gardens built in this country.



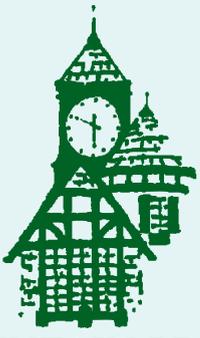
## SPOTLIGHT

### Friends Spotlight

Don't forget the annual Friends of the Library Book Sale this February! Our Friends group is happy to take your donations throughout the year. It's easy! Drop by the library during our open hours and ring the back door bell. Our staff will answer the door, take your donations, and give you a receipt. Our Friends use your donations in their annual book sale and we use their donations to fund many of our programs throughout the year!

### Teen Spotlight

A feast of amazing library experiences abound for our community's teenagers this November. For starters, they can bring in their Mountain Brook school ID and get connected with their very own library card. With a library card, your teen will have access to free downloadable music, e-books, audiobooks, magazines, databases, and so much more. Then, on Saturday, November 15th from 12-5 we will be celebrating International Games Day in the meeting room of the library. We'll have video games, board games, card games, roleplaying games and live-action games for fun and competition. It is a guaranteed good time. And don't forget we have exam breaks coming up in December. We'll provide rooms and snacks for your students to achieve academic success during exam time. We'll see you at the library!



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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

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**THE VILLAGES OF**

**MOUNTAIN BROOK**

**Holiday Open  
House Events**



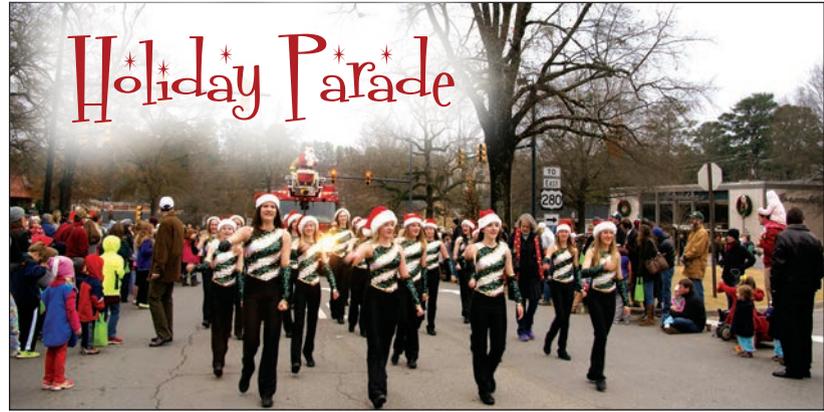
**November 20  
Crestline Village Open House**

**December 3  
English Village Open House**

**December 4  
Mountain Brook Village  
Open House**

**December 7 - 3:00  
Holiday Parade**

**December 9  
Cahaba Village  
Open House**



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# DATE CHANGE

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8:00 AM



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# CONDOS

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City Federal	\$599,000	266.1154
John Hand Bldg	\$349,000	266.1154

### HIGHLAND

2600 Highland	\$450,000	266.5535
2600 Highland	\$299,900	266.5535

### HOMEWOOD

SoHo	\$650,000	281.6548
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### INVERNESS (REDUCED)

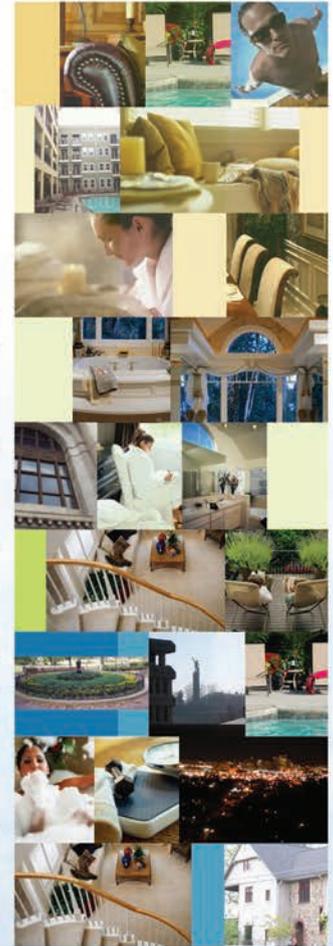
Brook Highland	\$234,900	281.6548
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### MOUNTAIN BROOK

Manning (New)	Reservations	966.6095
Brook Manor	\$929,000	966.6095
Brook Manor	\$799,000	966.6095

### FOR RENT

Park Tower	\$1,000/mo	966.6095
Capri	\$2,200/mo	266.1154
Loft District	\$1,200/mo	266.1154
Loft District	\$1,300/mo	266.1154
Loft District	\$1,400/mo	266.1154



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November 13, 2014

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

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**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Chamber Annual Luncheon**  
**January 15, 2015**  
**The Club**  
**featuring**  
**Luther Strange**

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Photo credit to Leo Ticheli Productions

## Coach Terry Cooper Retires from Mountain Brook Schools

Coach Terry Cooper is retiring on October 31st, in his 39th year with the Mountain Brook School System. He has served as the Athletic Director since 1992. During Coach Cooper's tenure, the Mountain Brook High School Spartans have won 91 state championships along with over 30 runner-up finishes. No public high school in Alabama has won more athletic championships.

A native of Gadsden, Coach Cooper is a graduate of Emma Sansom High School where he played basketball and baseball and was a 2008 inductee into the school's Wall of Fame. He is a 1976 graduate of Birmingham-Southern College where he lettered in basketball and later served as an assistant basketball coach from 1987-89. He was inducted into the Birmingham-Southern Sports Hall of Fame in 2004.



While at Mountain Brook, Coach Cooper has served as a junior high and high school social studies teacher. At MBJH, he served as basketball, baseball, and assistant football coach. At MBHS, he served as head boys basketball coach, assistant and head baseball coach, assistant football coach, head boys golf coach, and head boys/girls swimming and diving coach. His 1997 boys golf team and the 2002 girls swimming and diving team won state championships.

Coach Cooper is an active member of the Alabama High School Athletic Directors and Coaches Association. He served as the president of the organization in 2004-05. He is currently

serving on the Alabama High School Athletic Association District 5 Board and Legislative Council and is a member of the AHSAA Central Board of Controls. Coach Cooper was selected as the Alabama High School Athletic Director of the Year in 2000-01 and was the recipient of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association's State Award of Merit in 2006. He was inducted into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2007. Coach Cooper is a member of the Birmingham-Southern Sports Hall of Fame and the Etowah County Sports Hall of Fame.

As Mountain Brook Schools prepares for

Coach Cooper's retirement, Superintendent Dicky Barlow said, "Terry Cooper has been the consummate educator, coach, and athletic director. As a professional he is greatly admired and respected. Mountain Brook Schools and the city of Mountain Brook have benefited from Terry's service. Terry is one of the most selfless people I have known. He has never focused on being personally recognized for his accomplishments and always shifts credit for our athletic programs' successes to others: our coaches, our students, and the support of the community. I am happy to count Terry not only among my colleagues, but as a personal friend."

## Coach Cooper on His Career at Mountain Brook Schools

In the summer of 1976, after graduating from Birmingham Southern, I was making the rounds in the Birmingham area, applying for jobs as a teacher and coach.

Being from Gadsden, I really didn't know Birmingham that well, even though I had been at Birmingham Southern for two years. My wife and I had gotten married after my sophomore year, so when we came to Birmingham, I lived with my wife and went to class and played ball.

Honestly, when I came to Mountain Brook to apply for work, I didn't know any more about Mountain Brook than I did about Gardendale or Hueytown or Trussville or Vestavia. They were all the same to me. I wasn't familiar with Mountain Brook at all. I found the old school board building on Church Street. I went in and the superintendent's assistant told me there were no openings, but she had me fill out the application anyway. I left the application and went on.

When I got back to my apartment on campus that afternoon the phone was ringing as I opened the door to go in. The assistant was calling me back to say she had spoken to the Superintendent and that they might have something at the Junior High. She asked if I could come back the next day. They had an opening for a 9th

grade History teacher and wanted me to coach 9th grade basketball. I got the job and I've been here ever since. I think it helped being from Birmingham Southern.

One of the things I'm most proud of is now it's 38 years later and I'm still with this system. It's all been right here. That's unusual. The norm in high school sports is a lot of moving around. I know Buddy Anderson has been at Vestavia longer than I've been here, but I guess that's about it. I'm proud of that.

It's been my privilege. I've been the one blessed to be a part of this for so long. We've have had such great people here working in the schools and in athletics.

We can always point at what we've done and accomplished but we are all always standing on someone else's shoulders. I came here as a new teacher and I had mentors before we talked about mentors. All the teachers and coaches were my mentors. The people in this community, the students, my wife and children & family, I've enjoyed nothing but support.

This is a job where you have your family at home and a family at work. Our school system has been very good to me throughout the years and I'm just happy to have been a part of it.

### Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Mountain Brook School system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or age in any of its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Dr. Dale Wisely, Director of Student Services (Title VI), Mrs. Sylvia Harper, Personnel Director (Title IX), Dr. Missy Brooks, Director of Instruction (Title II), Mrs. Shannon Mundy—Special Education Director (Section 504). Contact Information: 32 Vine Street Mountain Brook, AL 35213. Phone 205-871-4608.

### Special Education Services

Special education services for children with disabilities are provided in accordance with the Individual with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and Alabama Act 106. Child Find is an attempt to locate and provide appropriate educational and related services to all children with disabilities between the ages of 3-21. If you are the parent of a child with disabilities who is not receiving services, or if you would like more information, please contact Shannon Mundy at the Mountain Brook Board of Education, Special Education Department, 414-3836.

### Child Find Notice for Children with Disabilities

School-related services for students with disabilities are provided in accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Vocational Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Child Find is an attempt to locate and provide appropriate educational and related services to all students with disabilities eligible according to federal regulations and local school procedures. If you are the parent of a child with disabilities who is possibly in need of educational accommodations and not receiving services, please contact Shannon Mundy at the Mountain Brook Board of Education, 414-3836.

### Career Tech Course Offerings

Mountain Brook High School offers six courses in the areas of business administration and finance: Business Technology I and II, Accounting, Business Law, Management Principles, and Business Finance. Mountain Brook Junior High offers Project Lead the Way as a semester elective for seventh and eighth grade students and Foundation of Engineering to ninth grade students. No student will be denied admission to these courses or discriminated against based on race, sex, color, religion, national origin, disability or age.



# Mountain Brook Junior High Named 2014 Blue Ribbon School

**M**ountain Brook Junior High has been named a National Blue Ribbon School for 2014 by the United States Department of Education.

The National Blue Ribbon School Program announced that 287 public schools and 50 private schools across the country – 5 in Alabama – have been awarded the prestigious National Blue Ribbon School designation. These schools serve as models for other schools throughout the nation.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students perform at exceptional levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of academic achievement. The Blue Ribbon Schools will be honored at a ceremony on November 10-11 in Washington, D.C., where each school will receive a plaque and flag signifying their status.

The award is given based on exemplary high performance or most exemplary improved achievement, the department said. Public and private schools at all grade levels are eligible to be selected. Mountain Brook Junior High was selected for exemplary high performance. Exemplary High Performing Schools are among their state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests. Student subgroup performance and high school graduation rates are also at the highest levels.

There are 337 National Blue Ribbon Schools this year from 47 states, the US Virgin Islands, and Department of Defense Schools. Of those, 287 are public, 25 are K-12, 239 are elementary, 48 are high school, and 25 are middle

## Excerpt from MBJH Blue Ribbon Application

*Due to the high level of educational attainment among the parents in the community, virtually every student in the school system has aspirations of attending a college or university upon completion of his or her K-12 experience. These aspirations are usually fulfilled since, on an annual basis, 97%-99% of the graduating Mountain Brook Schools seniors go on to further their education. Through the multiple clubs and organization sponsored by the school, students provide numerous hours of volunteer service as a means of giving back to the community and to build a foundation of life-long philanthropy. The faculty and staff have pledged to inspire academic and personal excellence and responsibility, foster growth and self-confidence, appreciate individuality, broaden perspectives, and promote service and honor. These ideals are promoted through innovative instructional practices, extra-curricular experiences, and positive relationships among students, staff, parents, and the community. The school offers 12 advanced level courses to prepare students for AP courses at the high school and offers AP Human Geography to ninth grade students. The daily schedule at Mountain Brook Junior High provides time in the academic day for students to have access to teachers for additional support, to participate in a larger variety of elective opportunities, and the opportunity to go deeper with learned concepts in the classroom.*



school.

“The best part of receiving this recognition is that it is a collective effort,” said MBJH principal Donald Clayton. “Students, teachers, staff, administration, and parents from this year and previous years have made MBJH the great place that our state and national representatives recognized with this honor. Receiving awards is always a pleasure, but it is much more significant when the honor represents an entire community’s effort. We want to recognize and share this award with everyone who is so active in the MBJH school community.”

“Mountain Brook Junior High has been recognized as a Blue Ribbon school because of academic excellence, and that is easy enough to measure,” said Jane Menendez, chairperson of the Board of Education. “But, as is true of all our schools, the Junior High is excellent in many other ways. We have hard-working students, supportive families, and highly skilled teachers and staff. We focus on helping our students grow and develop as people and to become lifetime learners.

### FACTS ABOUT MBJH

Enrollment: 1115  
Leadership and staff:  
Donald Clayton, Principal  
Derek Dearman, Assistant Principal  
Emily Freeland, Assistant Principal  
118 employees  
89 certified staff employees

### CLUBS

Aerospace • Architecture Book • Chess • Coding  
Cooking • Crafts  
Culture Relay Club  
Disc Golf • Emerging Leaders  
Fashion Design  
First Priority  
Graphic Design  
H.E.Y. Birmingham  
Hospital Support  
JUNA • Knitting  
LEGO • Magic Moments  
Magic Moments  
Math Team • Military Friends  
National Junior Beta Club  
New Games • Outdoors  
Peer Helpers

Pinnacle Yearbook  
Robotics • S.O.S.

Scholar's Bowl  
School Garden  
Spartan Council  
Spartan Fine Arts Club  
Student Clubs/Activities:  
TED Talks • The Green Team  
Through the Looking Glass  
Web Leaders • Yearbook

### ATHLETICS

ALL SPORTS TROPHY  
7 consecutive years  
7th, 8th, & 9th Football  
7th, 8th, & 9th Volleyball  
Cross-Country  
7th, 8th, & 9th Cheerleading  
7th Dance Team  
8th & 9th Dance Team  
7th, 8th, & 9th Boys  
Basketball  
7th & 8th Girls Basketball  
7th & 8th Wrestling  
Indoor Track • Outdoor Track  
7th & 8th Softball  
7th & 8th Boys Tennis  
7th & 8th Girls Tennis  
7th & 8th Boys Golf



# Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation

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Finally, **THANK YOU** to our  
production team, Megan LaRussa  
Chenoweth and Southern Femme as  
well as our DJ, DJ COCO.

*We look forward to seeing  
everyone next year!*

Established in 1992 as a 501©3 charitable organization, the Foundation is committed to support the schools to ensure the continued excellence of the Mountain Brook Schools. Gifts to the foundation are tax deductible according to the law.