



the Reporter

Mountain Brook, Ala.

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www.mtnbrook.org

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TREE COMMISSION RECOGNIZED

The Tree Commission is very pleased to announce that Mountain Brook has been recognized as a Tree City USA for the 18th consecutive year by the National Arbor Day Foundation. This award requires a member city to have an active tree board or commission, an Arbor Day program, an official policy dealing with trees and vegetation, and a city forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita. In reality, the city well exceeds the minimum standards.

Mountain Brook also became a "Sterling Tree City" in January, after receiving a 10th consecutive Growth Award. To qualify, the City must show measurable progress in one or more categories related to community forestry. Some activities that have helped secure the award in past years include hiring a full-time city forester, improving the Arbor Day seedling giveaway and associated school programs, successful grant applications to conduct various forestry operations, and the initiation and subsequent expansion of the annual Christmas tree recycling event with the Birmingham Zoo--now in its 5th year.

This prestigious designation has been earned through dedication to the continued management of the community's tree resource and the commitments that dozens of volunteers, the Tree Commission, and a succession of council members have made over the last ten years. Here's to ten more!

CITY ELECTION IN AUGUST

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 28, 2012 when the City's residents will vote to fill the Mayor's office and two council seats. The following seats are up for election:

Position	Currently Held By
Mayor	Lawrence T. (Terry) Oden
2	Jack D. Carl
4	Virginia Carruthers Smith

Each of these incumbents is expected to run for re-election. Other candidates may qualify to run for these seats between July 3-17. Residents should expect to receive post cards in August informing them of their polling location.

OTHER PERTINENT DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- July 3**..... Mayor gives notice of the election (first Tuesday in July). Candidates may begin qualifying once notice is published. Qualification forms are available from the City Clerk.
- July 17**..... Last day to qualify to run for municipal office (due on or before 5 p.m.). Forms are available from the City Clerk.
- August 10**..... Last day for a resident to register as a qualified elector for the August 28, 2012 general municipal election.
- August 23**..... Last day for a voter to apply for a regular absentee ballot. Last day to file the 5-10 day pre-election campaign disclosure form with the Probate Judge. Last day to publish the list of qualified voters.
- August 27**..... Last day for a voter to apply for an emergency absentee ballot (for persons required by their employer to be out of town on election day). Voting machines are to be sealed. Absentee ballots, if mailed, must be postmarked by August 27. Hand delivered absentee ballots must be received by 5 p.m.
- August 28**..... Election day.

Note: The above calendar is provided as a service to potential candidates. It is the responsibility of all candidates to independently verify these dates and other dates on which required disclosures and reports are to be filed.

Please visit the City's web site at www.mtnbrook.org for additional dates and information.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

SHOP MOUNTAIN BROOK FIRST

Keep your sales tax dollars in Mountain Brook by using Mountain Brook, not Birmingham, as your delivery address when ordering online or from catalogs.

www.welcometomountainbrook.com

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Mayor Lawrence T. Oden

CITY COUNCIL

Council President

Virginia Carruthers Smith

President Pro Tem

Jesse Vogtle, Jr.

Amy Carter

William S. "Billy" Pritchard, III

Jack Carl

City Manager

Sam S. Gaston

802-3800

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



MOUNTAIN BROOK PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

REMEMBER IT'S MOSQUITO SEASON.

The City's Mosquito Control Project starts in April with us putting out briquettes. We will begin fogging the right of ways in May.

Remove all standing water from around your property (tree holes, lily ponds). Clean out clogged gutters. Mosquitoes will use any source of standing water available to breed.

For more information on mosquito control visit the Jefferson County Department of Health's website, (www.jcdh.org) search word is "Vector Control" phone 205-933-9110.

TRASH PICKUP

Loose-leaf pickup service has ended for this season. All loose leaves and small trash items will have to be containerized for curbside collection.

Larger trash items should be on the curb for the knuckle-boom truck collection. Work done by a contractor is not eligible for pick-up by Waste Management.

SPECIAL ITEMS DISPOSAL

Paint cans – Remove the lids from all of the cans. If there is paint inside, put sand, dirt, or kitty litter in the cans with the paint for absorption. Place the cans curbside with the lids off for pick-up.

Appliances with Freon – have the Freon removed. A certified sticker has to be placed on the item before it will be picked-up.

Our compost operation is in full swing. We load open-bed vehicles Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and in the afternoons between the hours of 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Call our office (205-802-2390) if more information is needed.

RECENT CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

The City Council has adopted the following ordinances since December, 2011:

- Ordinance 1864: Repeal Chapter 129, Article XVII, Flood Plain Overlay district, of the Mountain Brook City Code
- Ordinance 1865: Install two stop signs on Pine Ridge Road at its intersection with Pine Ridge Trail and one stop sign on Pine Ridge Trail at its intersection with Pine Ridge Road and to provide for punishment thereof.
- Ordinance 1866: Re-establish voting districts and assigning polling locations within the corporate limits of the city of Mountain Brook with respect to the 2012 municipal general, special, and run-off elections.
- Ordinance 1867: Annexed a ten-acre vacant parcel of land located on Spring Rock Road.

The City Council has authorized or approved the following projects since December, 2011:

- Authorized execution of the eBridge Business Solutions, LLC Supplier Terms and Conditions with respect to the City's intent to solicit [reverse] bids for the purchase of six (6) public safety Tahoes.
- Authorized the execution of an agreement with Stone & Sons Electrical Contractors for their installation of pedestrian crossing signals on Mountain Brook Parkway in the amount of \$15,137.
- Authorized the execution/renewal of an agreement with American Behavioral to provide employee assistance consulting services.
- Awarded audio/video lowest base bid in the amount of \$73,315 to ESB Group for the municipal complex project.
- Authorized execution of an agreement with Sain Associates for construction engineering and inspection services with respect to ALDOT project CMAQ-9802(921) Mountain Brook Village Walkway System, Phase 6.
- Authorized the execution of a an agreement with Sain Associates to review the Lane Parke developers' traffic study with respect to their rezoning and development plan application at an estimated cost of \$3,500.
- Authorized the execution of an agreement with Ingenuity to redesign and host the City's web site for a total of \$10,000.

- Authorized execution of a contract with Glen Contracting & Paving Co., Inc. with respect to the paving of an alleyway at 105 Montevallo Lane.
- Authorized execution of a contract with Rast Construction, Inc. with respect to the paving of a portion of Lane Park Road.
- Authorized execution of an agreement with the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority (MAX) for their provision of public transportation services in the City during fiscal 2012.
- Authorized Iberia Bank to implement their requested traffic signal modifications on Euclid Avenue in front of their new bank branch.
- Authorized the City Manager, or his designee, to engage Industrial Health Council to conduct medical tests and laboratory services for City employees.
- Recommended to the ABC Board issuance of a 140-Special Events Retail license to Event Concessions, Inc. (dba\Funky Fish Fry) with respect to an outdoor fundraising event at Otey's Tavern to be conducted on April 28, 2012.
- Authorized establishment of operating bank deposit/checking accounts at Iberia Bank. Authorized establishment of the following bank deposit/checking accounts at Regions Bank: E911, 2SGT, 4SGT, 5SGT, and 7SGT (all Special Revenue Fund accounts of the City of Mountain Brook).
- Authorized execution of a professional service agreement in the amount of \$5,000 with Skipper Consulting, Inc. for their traffic study of Overbrook Road at Beechwood Road.
- Authorized execution of an access agreement by the property owner of 26 Montevallo Lane.
- Authorized the execution of an agreement with Arthur W. Allaway, PhD and Suzanna Allaway, MA for a retail and marketing analysis with respect to the proposed Lane Parke Planned Unit Development District in Mountain Brook Village.
- Approved a contract in the amount of \$4,750 with Skipper Consulting for a traffic study in the Overton Road/Briar Oak Drive area.
- Approved the request for a street light at 3948 Briar Oaks Drive.



FIRST QUARTER CRIME STATISTICS

	4th Quarter 2011	1st Quarter 2012
ROBBERY	0	0
BURGLARY/RESIDENCE	17	7
BURGLARY/BUSINESS	4	2
THEFT	64	33
AUTO THEFT	3	0
ASSAULTS (OTHER)	3	3
IDENTITY THEFT	13	8
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	22	14
DRUGS	13	10
FAMILY VIOLENCE	10	8
ACCIDENTS	285	224
A WITH INJURIES	22	12
A WITH FATALITIES	2	0
CALLS FOR SERVICE	5,065	5,056
HOUSE WATCHES	747	787
PROPERTY STOLEN	\$194,760	\$313,647
PROPERTY RECOVERED	\$9,491	\$138,816

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.



2011 FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Fire Apparatus Operator David Drew (left), Dispatch Supervisor Cathy Boyd, and Police Officer Jason Rhodes were each honored at the January 23rd City Council meeting for being selected as employees of the year by their respective departments. Apparatus Operator Drew and Officer Rhodes were honored for their quick and selfless action as each stopped at a major motor vehicle accident on Hwy 280 and removed two trapped people from vehicles that were involved in a fire. This was done while they were en-route to work before their shift began. Supervisor Boyd was honored as a civilian member of the Police Department for her leadership, dedication and professionalism in the dispatch center.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

APPOINTMENTS

The City Council has recently made the following appointments:

- Emily Branum** – Tree Commission
- Bill Wyatt** – Parks & Recreation Board

The City Council has recently made the following reappointments:

- Alice Womack** – Finance Committee
- Ken Key** – Tree Commission
- Bill Warren** – Tree Commission
- David Price** – Tree Commission
- Turner Williams** – Municipal Court Judge
- Pete Johnson** – Municipal Court Judge
- Richard Goldstein** – MAX Transit Advisory Committee

BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY

Permit Type:	4TH Quarter-2011		1st Quarter-2012	
	No. Permits	Permit Value	No. Permits	Permit Value
New Construction	12	\$ 5,739, 876	4	\$ 2,519,537
Alterations/Additions	60	\$ 6,381,670	90	\$ 5,812,452
Repairs/Other	169	\$ 2,436,071	157	\$ 12,706,035
Totals:	241	\$14,557,617	251	\$ 21,038,024



A PARK ON THE CAHABA

The City of Mountain Brook has acquired a parcel of beautiful open space on the Cahaba River at the intersection of Overton Road and River Run Road. The four and one half acre wooded lot has great views of the river, easy access to the water's edge, and a generous tree buffer to the traffic on Overton Road. The land was previously owned by Brookwood Baptist Church, but has been used by many locals as a canoe launch, picnic area, fishing spot, and swimming hole.

Nimrod Long and Associates was retained by the City to prepare a conceptual master plan for the property and its future as a park. After the first site visit, Nimrod Long, the firm's President, realized the natural beauty of the land would only require a light touch in order to preserve and accentuate the best features. Large hardwood trees, flowering trees and shrubs and a thin understory layer allow unobstructed views through the site, similar to a park setting. The gentle slope down to the river from Overton Road is an easy walk and levels off in terraces that are perfect for staging the park amenities.

The conceptual plan was developed with input from the Park Board over several months and then presented to the public at a town hall meeting in February. At these meetings, Mr. Long acknowledged that the Cahaba River is the park's main attraction and the challenge is to provide multiple ways to enjoy the river while minimizing impact on the land. The design accomplishes this task by minimizing paving areas and leaving large areas of existing vegetation intact. Invasive exotic plant species will be removed and replaced with trees, shrubs, and grasses that are native to Alabama.

The plan (see image) includes an outdoor classroom area, walking trails, picnic pavilion, fishing ledge, bioswale, and small parking lot. The outdoor classroom is located at the north end of the site near a rocky shoal and will accommodate small groups on boulder seating near the river's edge. A paved six foot wide trail forms a loop through the site and connects the parking area to the river's edge and all the planned amenities. Gravel trails spur off the main loop and lead down to the river to access the fishing ledge and outdoor classroom. A bioswale will collect water from the parking lot and passively treat the water, removing pollutants before it returns to the Cahaba.

One important function of the park is as the trailhead for a future greenway that would follow the Cahaba River for two miles up to the Carraway-Davie House and access a large tract of land owned by the Freshwater Land Trust. This greenway would have spectacular views of the river and would quickly become one of the region's most popular natural areas. A blueway (for canoes and kayaks) would parallel the greenway along this same stretch of river, with access points on Old Overton Road and the park site. The blueway and greenway are included in the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System, the master plan for a trail system throughout Jefferson County.

Although there is not a timeline for construction, the City is considering ways to raise funds to build the park within the next few years. If you have comments or suggestions for the park, please contact the City Manager at gastons@mtnbrook.org or 802-3800.



STREET PAVING LIST 2012

Below is the projected list of streets that the city of Mountain Brook plans to repave this summer. Bids will be received soon by the city on this project.

- Alley behind CVS (Crestline Village)
- Old Brook Trail (From the bridge to Dolly Ridge)
- Wynward Road (All)
- Old Brook Run (All)
- Sedley Drive (All)
- Montevallo Road (Church to Green Briar)
- Hermitage Road (All)
- Beechwood Road (All)
- Stone River Road (Old Leeds Rd. to Wilderness Rd.)

Any questions or concerns about this project should be directed to Jackie McClendon @ (205) 802-3875 or Ronnie Vaughn @ 802-3865.



IMPROVING 9-1-1 RESPONSE TIME FROM CELL PHONES

Time is critical when responding to emergencies. Time works against you when you must react in an emergency and time works against emergency responders in the event of a fire or medical emergency.

Anything that adds time to responding units in an emergency reduces the opportunity for good outcomes. Your Fire Department is continually searching for ways to keep response times to a minimum.

We have noted over the last several years that delays in 911 notification are due primarily to the increased use of cell phones in reporting emergencies to the 911 system. Dialing 911 from a cell phone does not assure that the correct responding jurisdiction receives the call. Cell phones connect to the closest cell tower for the particular phone service company and if that cell tower is in another jurisdiction, then the call has gone to the wrong system and the emergency response will probably be delayed or possibly dropped.

There are a couple of processes to use which can help reduce or eliminate these problems. One is to pre-program or set up a speed dial for the City of Mountain Brook Dispatch Center using our seven digit emergency number (870-5580). This will get you directly to the appropriate emergency services center if you are in the City of Mountain Brook. Another helpful process is to immediately tell the 911 dispatch center that answers the call that you are in the city of Mountain Brook. They will then transfer your call to our dispatch center if they are another jurisdiction.

If you are dialing 911 from an in-house, hard-wired phone, then it will go directly to the appropriate 911 center; however, if you are dialing from a cell phone, please consider the above options. It will help us help you more expediently. Please remember in our business time is life, and time is property.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

CITY COUNCIL*	2nd & 4th Mon.	7:00 p.m.	City Hall (Call 802-3800 for time of Pre-Meeting and location.)
BOARD OF EDUCATION	2nd Mon.	3:30 p.m.	Call Board of Ed Office
LIBRARY BOARD	3rd Tues.	4:45 p.m.	Library
PARK & RECREATION BOARD	2nd Tues.	5:00 p.m.	City Hall
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT	2nd Mon.	5:00 p.m.	City Hall
PLANNING COMMISSION	1st Mon.	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE	3rd Wed.	8:00 a.m.	City Hall
TREE COMMISSION	3rd Tues. (odd months)	5:15 p.m.	City Hall
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	3rd Thurs.	7:30 a.m.	Board of Education Office (32 Vine Street)

*REMINDER: CITY HALL HAS MOVED TO 3928 MONTCLAIR ROAD WHICH IS TWO BUILDINGS EAST OF THE CRESTLINE POST OFFICE



CODE CHANGES TO MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER

A local building contractor has posed the question: “The City of Mountain Brook has adopted some new codes that require buildings to have their smoke detectors upgraded during remodeling. What is this requirement?”

The City of Mountain Brook currently enforces the 2009 International Residential Code published by the International Code Council. There has been very little change from the 2003 to the 2009 code requirements for smoke alarms. New homes, or homes when work requiring a permit occurs, smoke alarms are required in each sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area – in the hallway outside the bedrooms, and on each additional story of the home including basements and livable attic space. The Code also requires that where more than one smoke alarm is

needed, the alarms must be interconnected so that the actuation of one alarm will activate all of the alarms in the home.

The major change found in the 2009 International Residential Code is the requirement for carbon monoxide alarms. Carbon monoxide alarms are now required outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms – in the hallway outside the bedrooms – when the home has fuel-fired appliances installed or where the home has an attached garage. These requirements apply in a new home or when work requiring a permit occurs in an existing home.

Early detection and residential fire sprinklers are the keys to surviving a fire in your home. If you have any questions, please contact the Mountain Brook Fire Department at 205-802-3838.

NEW BUSINESSES

Action Sports Art, LLC

1906 Cahaba Road
790-4774

AMN Consulting, LLC/Investment

3621 Westbury Road
901-8899

Amy K. Myers, LLC (legal office)

4 Office Park Circle
Suite 214
871-8084

Boomer Way.Com, LLC

3604 Crestside
967-6808

CAH Realty of Alabama

115 Office Park Drive
Suite 200
414-8100

Capstone Development Partners

402 Office Park Drive
Suite G-50
949-5069

Capstone Real Estate Investment

402 Office Park Drive
Suite 199
949-2060

Caroline Cater Reynolds

147 Memory Court
870-8028

Caroline Gridiere Design, LLC

2932 Fairway Drive
567-1474

CDC-Carbondale, LLC,

402 Office Park Drive
Suite 199
949-2060

Common Bond Title, LLC

300 Office Park Circle
Suite 230
421-1010

Cookfit, LLC

21 Pincrest Road
492-6098

First Covenant Mortgage

4 Office Park Circle
Suite 111
870-8118

GMC New York Designs, Inc.

3024 Park Brook Road
335-5918

Historic Properties, LLC

2141 Cahaba Road
250-7182

Iberia Bank

2824 Cahaba Road
803-5915

Ingram & Associates, Inc. (Property Management)

513 Olde English Lane
871-5360

K & R Enterprises, LLC

2714 Cahaba Road
871-1141

Knox Richardson dba Richardson Technology

3305 East Briarcliff Road
807-4855

Lawrence, Arendall, Humphries

2850 Cahaba Road
870-8580

Little Laundry, LLC (trunk shows)

3732 Mountain Avenue
240-9313

Mosquito Authority of Alabama

6 Office Park Circle
Suite 100
877-3214

Quinn, Connor, Weaver, Davies & Rollico, LLP

2700 Highway 280, Suite 380E,
870-9989

Roberts & Associates, P.C.

3 Office Park Circle
Suite 112
870-0861

Rosebay Development Partners

2949 Montevallo Road
320-7512

Southside Endocrinology, LLC

3928 Montclair Road
Suite 130
933-2667

Speaker Group, LLC

2912 Ryecroft Road
637-7654

Susan Sieber dba Lucky Dot Design

3613 Park Lane
470-4281

Taylor Plosser Davis, Architect

3541 Victoria Road
999-3511

The Pink Tulip

2800 Cahaba Village Plaza
Suite 175
870-7258

Zarzuar Law, LLC

600 Olde English Lane
Suite 124
983-7885

Emmet O'Neal Library News

DREAM UP SOMETHING SPECIAL THIS SUMMER WITH THE **CHILDREN'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM** AT THE EMMET O'NEAL LIBRARY.

SUMMER READING KICKOFF CARNIVAL

Your flight of fancy begins on Sunday, May 20, at our Summer Reading Kickoff Carnival, sponsored by the Junior Women's Committee of 100. Big dreamers and small, dreamers on foot, on bikes, and in strollers, are invited to start the afternoon at 2:30 with our annual Thomas Hughes Brinkley Memorial Fun Run. The outdoor carnival follows from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and features game and craft booths, concessions, and a train ride. During the carnival, Emmet O'Neal librarians will be on hand to register readers of all ages for the Summer Reading program. As a part of the **Take25 Child Safety campaign**, we will also have a booth where carnival goers can get a child ID kit, including a picture by LifeTouch and fingerprints by the Mountain Brook Police. Tickets and registration for kickoff events are available starting May 3. All other Summer Reading programs and activities begin Tuesday, May 29. For details, call 879-0497 or visit www.eolib.org.



The dedicated members of Junior Women's Committee of 100, who plan and staff the carnival, are vital to the daily operations of the Emmet O'Neal Children's Department. Our programs and services are made possible not only by the carnival, which provides essential funding, but also by the over 200 volunteer hours which the JWC members spend helping in the Children's Department over the course of the year. Special thanks to Carnival Chairs Anna Emblom and Kacy Carroll, Carnival Co-Chair Fluff Roberts, Fun Run Chair Kristie Stewart, Fun Run Co-Chair Elizabeth Hancock, JWC President Charlotte Langley, and Vice-President Diana Browning.

THE GRAND FINALE!!

We've dreamed up quite an exciting Summer Reading Finale this year, so make sure to mark your calendar for Tuesday, July 24. Summer Reading participants are invited for pizza and the unpredictable and always exciting **Ro-g-er Day** – it's a dream come true! Summer Reading is a fun and easy way to earn rewards for all the reading you'll be doing this summer. With storytimes, special programs and performances, and weekly giveaways, you can easily spend all your waking hours at the library this summer!



SUMMER STORYTIMES, PUPPET SHOWS, WEEKLY PRIZES AND MORE

This summer, our regular age-specific storytimes will continue through June and July, offering songs, fingerplays, and stories for newborns up to 36 months. You can register online through www.eolib.org. In addition to lapsit storytimes, Mr. Mac will continue to offer a family storytime every week with no registration required – just roll out of bed and make your way to the library on Saturday mornings.

Storytimes are not all we have for you this summer. Every Tuesday, we offer all-ages programs – **puppet shows, theater, and more** – at 10:30

a.m. and 3:30 p.m.. Older elementary students will also find programming just for them. Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m., rising 3rd – 6th graders can drop in for popcorn and a movie. The same age can stick around for some afternoon excitement at 3:30 p.m.. Rising 4th – 6th graders who are always dreaming of pizza and a good book can register online for **Bookmania**. Dates, performers, and book selections, as well as the rest of the programming details, will be available on the summer calendar in the library and at the library website after May 1.

No matter what your dreams are, we have special things for you to take home from the library – because what fun is Summer Reading without prizes? **Be sure to visit the children's desk every week to win prizes with our weekly games**; you can also earn the opportunity to visit the book room and pick out a book to keep. And if you're an extreme dreamer (or reader), you are invited to take part in our new **Extreme Summer Reading program**. Stop by the Children's Desk for more details.

NEWS FROM THE EOL ADULT DEPARTMENT



Emmet O'Neal's Smart Investing @ Your Library seminar series is drawing to a close after a successful year. Don't miss the last program led by Dr. Rauterkus on May 3rd about a very important topic – Fraud Prevention & Record-keeping. Then, on May 10th, nationally renowned storyteller Dolores Hydock brings us the finale, On A Spree: More Stories About Money. In this free program, we'll learn what happens when a young man ignores every bit of money advice his father ever gave him. And through stories we'll investigate the question - just how much happiness can money actually buy? Find out in these stories about throwing financial caution to the wind.

If you are like many others in the community you don't want to see the end of this series about personal finance and investing. Never fear! The program continues as a series called The Monday Morning Investment Club. We will meet every other month to discuss topics of interest to group members. Programs will be led by speakers from the community. Please join us for our May meeting on the 21st at 10am. For more information about The Monday Morning Investment Club, contact Katie Moellering at kmoellering@bham.lib.al.us or 445-1118.

DEAR READER NEWSLETTER

As summer kicks into gear you might be looking for a few good reads. Check out the Library's online newsletter, Dear Reader, where you can find great reads in a variety of genres from book group picks to mysteries to teen titles, there's something for everyone. To find Dear Reader, visit the Library's website at eolib.org and navigate to the Adult page, click on Read This! and browse topics to find something great to read. Or, you can sign up to have newsletters on your favorite genres delivered straight to your inbox. Of course, you could also visit one of your favorite librarians at Emmet O'Neal Library for a suggestion. One of our favorites from recent months is the Booker Prize nominee The Sisters Brothers, a Western that is both bleak and hilarious. Think a Coen Brothers movie meets Cormac McCarthy. Sound implausible? You've got to read it!

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Summer isn't just about reading. We have some fun programs planned for you too! From favorites like A Movie & Potluck to Bad Art Night to a blind pizza tasting and a birthday party for Ernest Hemingway, we're going to have a lot of fun! Adults can register for summer reading at our big kickoff on May 20th, or any time throughout the summer, for a chance to win an iPad. Every adult who registers gets to pick a free book from our Prize Cart.

TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE

Like us on Facebook for the latest news about everything from great reads to exciting events! Use the QR Code here to go directly to the library's Facebook page. We're all there, from Children's to Teens to Adults.

The Library is working hard on a new technology initiative. We know we have a lot of great databases and services for our users, but we want to make sure you know what we have. With that goal in mind, we've added new databases, services and technology related classes. If you are a savvy internet user you might already know about our downloadable audio and ebooks available through Overdrive. We've also added a new database called Books 24x7 which offers popular non-fiction titles in a wide variety of topics from personal computing and wireless devices (think how to use your iPhone!) to books on personal finance and consumer health. If you're a music fan, we offer Freegal, a music download service which provides three downloads per week for Mountain Brook residents. Another great service is Rocket Languages which enables you to learn languages as diverse as Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and French. You may be familiar with Rocket Languages, their entry level programs are free to anyone, but the Library subscribes to a more in-depth program.

With so many resources at hand, the Library will be providing classes for our patrons to learn about what we offer. The 3rd Tuesday of every month is Tech Tuesday @ Emmet O'Neal Library when you can join us to learn more about these databases as well as how to download books and audiobooks. Additionally, we will be adding classes on how to use the Library's databases and online services as well as classes on Word, Excel, and social media (such as Facebook and Twitter). Our Teen Advisory Board is even working on inter-generational computer classes where teens teach seniors! We are excited about the diversity of materials and services we are fortunate to offer, and want you to know how to use them. Please join us!

TEEN PROGRAMS @ EOL

Remind your favorite student that we will be holding exam breaks May 21st-24th. Exam Breaks give our students the opportunity to come to the library and study for their finals with their classmates. The library provides snacks and drinks and plenty of room for the students to spread out and get their maximum studying done. And even though the library closes at 6 pm on Wednesday nights, we will keep the library meeting room open until 9 pm on Wednesday May 23rd, so students can continue with their studies.

Each year the EOL Teen Advisory Board chooses a summer reading theme. This year in honor of the end of the Mayan calendar the teens have chosen the summer reading theme, Apocalypse Wow! We are going to write, direct and shoot our own zombie apocalypse film. We will create works of art with paint and canvas and with needle and page. We will have a scavenger hunt, a water balloon war and an apocalyptic movie marathon. Plus there will be fabulous prizes all summer long, so send your teens to the library for their greatest summer ever!

