



# the Reporter

## Mountain Brook, Ala.

www.mtnbrook.org

Volume XXIV, Issue 1

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### Mayor's Message

#### Mouron Family Foundation Provides Scholarships for our First Responders

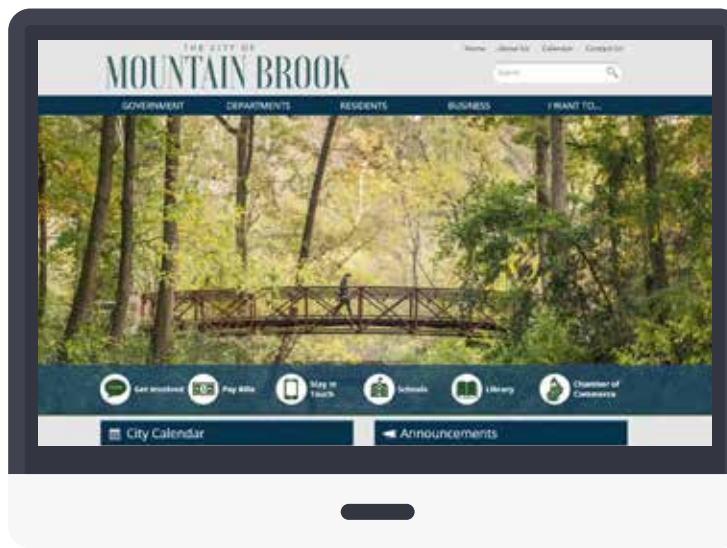
The residents of Mountain Brook collectively are among the most giving of any community across the country. Kathy and Mike Mouron represent the embodiment of 'giving back' through a relatively new initiative through their foundation. The Mouron Family Foundation provides Mountain Brook First Responders, their spouses and dependents, with college scholarships. Their son, Christopher, who heads up the project said, "This scholarship program is intended to acknowledge our sincere appreciation for the dedicated men and women who are the first responders for the City of Mountain Brook."

Nine scholarships have been granted so far. This is such a great idea, I personally made a donation! If you would like to participate, you can make a tax-deductible donation to the Foundation for this purpose, 100% of which will be used for such scholarships. This First Responders Scholarship Fund is not only a way our community can say 'thank you' to the men and women in our Police and Fire Departments, but it also serves to help the city recruit and retain the very best First Responders. For more information, email Christopher at cmouron@CREIEmail.com .

#### Hollywood Pedestrian Bridge update

This pedestrian bridge is going to happen! At least five governing bodies have come together to make this project a success: City of Birmingham, City of Homewood, City of Mountain Brook, ALDOT and Jefferson County Commission. It has been remarkable to watch how

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### Look Out For Our New Website!

The City will soon launch a new website in an effort to better serve our community. Along with an updated appearance, we have some technological advances in store to make navigation easier for visitors. A few highlights include:

- Searches are more powerful due to the underlying database.
- An "I want to..." section that provides quick links to common activities our visitors are seeking.
- A city calendar that can be shared among popular apps, such as Google and Outlook.
- A directory for City Employees, including direct phone numbers.
- No more mobile site/full site views. The new website will adapt to a visitor's device.
- Prominent placement of the Action Center - a way to digitally interact with city personnel, report problems, or send praise.

We hope to have the new website live around the first of February. As with any launch, we will grow and adapt as needed. Please send us your feedback so that we can better serve.

Mayor: Stewart H. Welch, III  
**CITY COUNCIL**  
**Council President:**  
Virginia Carruthers Smith  
.....  
Council Pro Tem, William S. "Billy" Pritchard III  
Alice Womack, Lloyd Shelton, Phil Black  
**City Manager:**  
Sam S. Gaston, 802-3800  
For advertising or Chamber of Commerce information, call 871-3779

### What's in This Issue?

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SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

**SHOP MOUNTAIN BROOK FIRST**

www.mtnbrookchamber.org

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

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well everyone worked together whether it be slicing through administrative hurdles or helping raise the funding, everyone was willing to meet, talk, and take action. It appears we have raised the needed funding and all municipalities have signed a mutual cooperation agreement. We are now meeting to discuss the beginning steps of the project implementation and finalizing our agreement with our partners. We should be able to bid the work in early 2019. Before you know it, you'll be able to traverse Highway 280 at Hollywood Blvd. without fear for your life! This project would never have gotten off the ground without the tireless efforts of Homewood City Council member, Jennifer Andress. Thank you, Jennifer!

### Residents say 'Thank You!'

I love sharing positive reports from our residents' interactions with our city employees. Here's part of a letter to Fire Chief Chris Mullins:

*I stopped by the Mountain Brook Fire Station #1 with an earplug stuck in my ear. While this may seem like a trivial matter, I was in pain. Your fine staff was courteous, professional and helpful to bring relief to what was a major crisis for me. I wanted to thank you and your fine staff for your help. Your firehouse is one of the cleanest I have visited. It is good to know professional first responders like your staff are available to help with situations like this. J.C.*

Kudos to Chief Mullins and all of his staff!

We also received a call from a resident that lives on the corner of Brookhaven and Virginia Road saying what a wonderful job our Public Works Department did on removing a tree that had fallen across the road. She said they responded to their call immediately and did a fantastic job of removing the tree and cleaning up the debris. She said that they were polite and helpful. **Team Ronnie Vaughn, Thank You!**

# EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR



Pictured left to right:  
Donna Nix (City Hall),  
Hunter Simmons (City Hall)-  
City of Mountain Brook  
Employee of the Year,  
Officer Cory Towns (Police  
Sworn employee),  
Jeanne Dunham (Police  
Non-sworn employee),  
Tommy Alexander (Parks  
& Recreation Department),  
Lynn Horton (Public Works  
Department),  
Kevin Wilson (Fire  
Department)

## City Employee of the Year



Congratulations to Hunter Simmons, the 2018 City of Mountain Brook Employee of the Year. Hunter has worked for the city for almost four (4) years. He is the GIS Manager and works with all departments for their GIS needs. Hunter is a valued asset to all departments. He has designed GIS maps for Planning, Police, Fire, Public Works and Parks & Recreation. He completed Census 2020 for the city and is the staff liaison to Village Design Review. In 2018, he served as the Vice-President of GISAA (GIS of Alabama) and will serve as President in 2019. Hunter is the main liaison to

the Lane Parke project. He worked for several months with the Jefferson County EMA to set up the city in the Everbridge system. The city is now able to send text alerts to all registered residents concerning road closings, parades and city events and honors.

In addition to his GIS responsibilities, Hunter has "taken the lead" in designing, developing and implementing the city's new website. This has taken numerous hours working with the different city departments and our vendor.

Hunter is a servantleader and goes above and beyond in his job. He is always willing to help residents, merchants, the Mayor and City Council and fellow employees. His enthusiasm and willingness to help makes him the "go to" person for any special projects.

## Board Appointments

### APPOINTMENTS

- Appointed Aimee Reese to the Park and Recreation Board through October 22, 2023.
- Mayoral appointment of Graham Smith to the Planning Commission to fulfill the unexpired term of Susan Swagler ending October 1, 2020.
- Appointed Thomas Amason to the Board of Landscape Design to fulfill the unexpired term of Jason Comer ending December 12, 2020.
- Appointed Vince Schilleci to the Editorial Board to fulfill the unexpired term of Graham Leigh Smith ending August 8, 2020.



## Judith Tankard Lecture

In keeping with the mission of the Mountain Brook Board of Landscape Design to support the City's efforts to maintain and sustain our community forest, The Board is pleased to announce an exciting lecture event.

Judith Tankard, landscape historian, author, and preservation consultant, will be speaking on "Garden Artists of the Arts and Crafts Movement," at the Birmingham Museum of Art (BMA), Thursday, April 25, 2019.

Ms. Tankard will discuss the important principles of garden design in the early 1900s and will explore the role these gardens played in the visual arts, including examples from the BMA's own collection.

Tankard received an M.A. in art history from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, and taught at the Landscape Institute of Harvard University for many years. She is the author or co-author of many illustrated books on landscape history. A popular lecturer in the

United States and Britain, Judith is a frequent speaker at symposia and conferences devoted to the preservation of historic landscapes, pioneer landscape designers, the Arts and Crafts Movement, and other topics relating to her research.

While she has received a Gold Medal by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for her role in the advancement of historic New England gardens, it is her involvement with the Southern Garden History Society and its 2019 Annual Meeting held for this first time this year in Birmingham, that provides us with the opportunity to learn firsthand from her expertise.

Please add Thursday, April 25, 2019, to your calendar and plan to attend, remembering that the choices we make today in our own gardens and our public spaces will long impact our community.

Tickets will be available through the BMA Events Office. Phone: 205.297.8062 Email: [events@artsbma.org](mailto:events@artsbma.org).

## 2019 Shades Creek Fest

The second annual Shades Creek Fest will take place Saturday, April 27, from 9 am to 1 pm in Jemison Park along the banks of scenic Shades Creek. The event is planned by the City of Mountain Brook in conjunction with the City of Homewood to celebrate Arbor Day and the arrival of Spring.

Open to the public at no charge, Shades Creek Fest features fly-fishing lessons, wildlife exhibits, conservation demonstrations, musical entertainment from a local Bluegrass band and a variety of food trucks. In addition, to celebrate Mountain Brook's continued designation as a "Tree City USA," the City's Board of Landscape Design and students from Leadership Mountain Brook will hand out Sassafras seedlings to each first grader at school presentations during the week leading up to the Shades Creek Fest.

Shades Creek Fest is made possible thanks to its sponsors: Caliber and The Welch Foundation; and in partnership with the Freshwater Land Trust, Friends of Shades Creek, and Cahaba River Society, Friends of Jemison Park, Alabama Wildlife Center and Nature Conservancy, and Cahaba Environmental Society.

## New Businesses

### RETAIL/WHOLESALE TRADE

- Dukes Clothing LLC, 53 Church Street, 205/248-2853
- SuSus Petals LLC, 3702 Mountain Park Circle, 205/903-3930
- Vietaly Enterprises, Inc. (dba\ Suite Dreams), 2409 Montevallo Road, 205/414-1922

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

- Aptus Capital LLC, 749 Euclid Circle, 205/612-5711

### REAL ESTATE

- Crest Residential LLC, 500 Office Park Drive, 205/566-2384
- Demedicis, Katrina (dba\ Kats Houses), 2304 English Village Lane, 205/401-5555

- Perry, Melonie Jo, 402 Office Park Suite 205, 205/842-9110
- Pincorner Development LLC, 4 Office Park Circle, 205/613-9835

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Elyton Capital, LLC, 402 Office Park Drive, Suite 110, 205/679-8654
- Fuel By Rachel Davis LLC, 2834 Thornhill Road, 513/254-1875
- Present Wellness Counseling LLC, 300 Office Park Drive, 205/642-8386

### PERSONAL SERVICES

- Ayers, Lisa, (dba\ Embody Practice Center), 3918 Montclair Road, 256/531-7259
- D W Cleaners LLC, (dba\ Mountain Brook Cleaners), 42 A Church Street, 205/871-2962

## Recent City Council Actions

### The City Council has adopted or amended the following ordinances since

#### September 24, 2018:

- Ordinance No. 2034- Appointed the City Manager (Sam S. Gaston)
- Ordinance No. 2035- Appointed the City Clerk (Steven Boone)
- Ordinance No. 2036- Appointed the City Treasurer (William F. "Billy" Angell)
- Ordinance No. 2037- Appointed the Assistant City Treasurer (John H. "Jack" Martin)
- Ordinance No. 2038- Annexed an undeveloped, 18.70 +/- acre parcel in the Cherokee Bend South area.

### The City Council has approved the following projects since

#### September 24, 2018:

- Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the E911 District authorizing and approving the transfer of funds in the amount of \$274,500 from the E911 District to the City's General Fund to reimburse the City for E911 dispatch labor and related supervision for the year October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018.
- Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the E911 District adopting the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019.
- Declared the pre-council room conference table surplus and authorized its sale at public internet auction.
- Authorized the execution of a service agreement between the city and Mountain Brook Chamber of Commerce.

- Authorized the execution of a service agreement between the city and Birmingham Zoo, Inc.
- Authorized the execution of a service agreement between the city and Prescott House.
- Authorized the execution of a service agreement between the city and Jefferson/Blount/St. Clair Mental Health Authority.
- Authorized the execution of a service agreement between the city and Birmingham Botanical Gardens.
- Ratified the execution of a field use/maintenance agreement between the city and Birmingham Levite Jewish Community Center.
- Authorized the Chief of Police or his designee to destroy the weapons, drugs, and other evidence and auction such other items as may be permissible.
- Authorized the execution of a professional services contract between the city and Golightly Landscape Architecture with respect to landscape design services in the vicinity of the Shades Creek pedestrian bridge.
- Authorized a contractor agreement between the city and C. S. Beatty Construction with respect to earthwork related to the Mountain Brook Elementary restroom to be installed at the community field.
- Approved the issuance of a revenue bond by the Educational Building Authority of the City of Mountain Brook – Highlands School for the benefit of the Highlands Day School Foundation.
- Authorized the Fire Chief to execute such documents determined necessary with respect to the city's participation in a multi-jurisdictional fire training grant application.
- Expressed gratitude to Henry Lapidus for his service on the Board of Zoning Adjustment.
- Authorized the execution of a memorandum of understanding between the city and Jefferson County Commission with respect to storm debris removal services.
- Authorized the execution of an agreement with the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA or MAX) for their provision of public transportation services in the city for fiscal year ending September 30, 2019.
- Appointed the City Attorney(s) (Bishop, Colvin, Johnson & Kent and Starnes, Davis & Florie, LLP).
- Appointed the members of the Mountain Brook City Council as the Board of Commissioners of the Mountain Brook Emergency Communication District and nomination of the Chairman (Virginia C. Smith) of the Emergency Communication District Board.
- Imposed a moratorium on subdividing parcels/developing non-conforming parcels.
- Expressed gratitude to Susan Swagler for her service on the Planning Commission.
- November 24, 2018 was proclaimed as Small Business Saturday in the City of Mountain Brook.
- November 2018 was proclaimed as National American Indian Heritage Month in the City of Mountain Brook.
- Ratified and approved the transfer of funds for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2018.

- Authorized an agreement with Advance Plumbing Company, Inc. with respect to the Mountain Brook Elementary School athletic field restroom project.
- Authorized the execution of an agreement with Alabama Sawyer, LLC for log recycling services.
- Authorized the execution of a preliminary engineering agreement with the State of Alabama (acting by and through Alabama Department of Transportation) with respect to bridge reconstruction and habilitation for Old Brook Trail over Little Shades Creek and Canterbury Road Bridge over Watkins Creek.
- Authorized a professional service agreement with Gresham Smith with respect to the Old Brook Trail and Canterbury Road bridge projects.
- Authorized the city's application for an ADECA Recreational Trails Program grant with respect to planned Jemison Trail improvements.
- Reaffirmed the city's commitment to promote safe workplace guidelines with respect to the city's workers' compensation program.
- Authorized the installation of and ongoing operation of a street light in the vicinity of 3869 Glencoe Drive.
- Declared certain library equipment surplus and authorized its sale at public internet auction.
- Extended for 60 days a moratorium declared November 5, 2018, upon the adoption of Resolution No. 2018-150 on the development of non-conforming parcels (expires February 3, 2019).



- January 2019 was proclaimed as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in the City of Mountain Brook.
- Authorized the expenditure of up to \$1,000 for island improvements on Lewis Circle.
- Authorized the purchase of LED fixtures and lights from the Sourcewell (formerly NJPA) governmental purchasing cooperative contract with respect to the Athletic Complex improvements.
- Authorized an agreement with Stone & Sons Electrical Contractors, Inc. with respect to the Athletic Complex LED lighting improvement project.
- Authorized the renewal of a franchise agreement between the city and Marcus Cable of Alabama, L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company and successor to Marcus Cable of Alabama, L.P. (dba\ Charter Communications) for a cable system in the city.
- Authorized the execution of the second amendment to the franchise agreement with AT&T for television programming in the city (U-verse).
- Authorized an amendment to the field use/maintenance agreement between the city and Birmingham Levite Jewish Community Center with respect to the use of gym space.
- Authorized an agreement between the city and G & A Electrical Services for electrical work with respect to the Mountain Brook Elementary School athletic field restroom project.
- Authorized the execution/renewal of a 3-year agreement between the city and Chabad of Alabama

located on Overton Road for the use by the city of its parking lot.

- Authorized the application for an APPLE grant for the joint study by the Cities of Mountain Brook and Vestavia Hills of Overton Road from Liberty Park to U. S. Highway 280 with the scope to be determined and formal agreement to be authorized at a future meeting of the City Council.
- Authorized the city's participation of up to \$49,000 with respect to the bank stabilization and related improvements of Jemison Park in the vicinity of the new pedestrian bridge to be administered and performed by the Friends of Jemison Park with said agreement related thereto to be considered at a future meeting of the City Council.
- Reauthorized the city's participation in the creation of the Highway 280 Public Road Cooperative District by the Cities of Birmingham, Mountain Brook, Homewood and Jefferson County with respect to the planned construction of a pedestrian pathway along Hollywood Boulevard overpass at U. S. Highway 280.
- Authorized the execution of a right-of-way encroachment (driveway in unimproved right-of-way) agreement between the city and TJB, LLC with respect to the property located at 142 Spring Street.
- Granted an exception to the development moratorium imposed upon the adoption of Resolution Nos. 2018-150 and extended upon the adoption of Resolution No. 2018-163 with respect to the hardship appeal of Michael Staff, owner of 401 Michael Lane.

## “Whom Do I Call?”

Ever wonder whom to call at City Hall when you have a certain issue, question or complaint? Below is a list that will help you. If you don't see what you are looking for, you can always call the **City Manager's** office at **205-802-3800**.

Contact the **Municipal Court** if you need information on any of the following items:

**Heather Richards**- Magistrate Supervisor, Municipal Court **205-802-3828**

- traffic tickets
- false alarm tickets
- parking tickets
- criminal charges (ie. Unlawful possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, Public Intoxication, Domestic Violence, Harassment, Assault, Menacing, etc..)
- citizens wishing to press charges against someone
- outstanding warrants
- missed court dates
- continuances
- defensive driving school
- certified copies of dispositions
- notarizing documents
- court information (ie. when court is held, location of court, time of court, etc..)

Contact the **Revenue Department** at **205-802-2400** prompt 4 if you need information on any of the following items:

### Business Licenses

- How to obtain a new license
- The status of your existing license
- When licenses are due
- How to pay for your license
- Inquire if a business or contractor is licensed to do business in Mountain Brook

### Sales taxes

- The various types of taxes (sales, rent, lodging, liquor, consumer)
- Collecting and remitting sales tax
- The status of your sales tax account

- When sales taxes are due
- How to pay for your taxes

### Home Occupation Permits

- Am I required to have a Home Occupation Permit to work from my home?

### Building/Construction Permits

- Am I required to have a building permit?
- What are the requirements for obtaining a permit?
- Permit costs
- Requirements for contractor surety bonds

### Garage Sale Permits

- The city requires a permit to conduct garage/yard/estate sales.

### Trunk Shows

- The city requires a permit to conduct a trunk show.

### Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services (FPEMS)

- Available for residents that live outside the city limits of Mountain Brook with certain requirements being met.

### Municipal Assessments

- Documentation that may be required in order to sell your home

Contact the **Fire Marshall's Office** if you need help with any of the following items:

**Leland Rhudy 205-802-3832**

- For fire inspection and code enforcement in all new and existing buildings (except single family residence)
- Reviewing plans for life safety in new construction (except single family residence)
- Outdoor burn permits
- Concerns of hazardous conditions
- Fire prevention education



## Doo Your Part!

Spring is almost upon us, and that means more and more of our kids playing and practicing on our fields. Can you imagine the pure excitement of one of these kids running and playing only to slide through a huge pile of dog waste that someone left on the field? Now imagine how bad that smells, and what it takes to get everyone cleaned up. Some people do not have to imagine it because it does happen, all too frequently. This is why we are asking everyone to “Doo Your Part” in helping keep our parks free of dog waste.

Dog waste left on the fields and trails does not just go away or become fertilizer.

In fact, dog waste is very toxic and is labeled as a non-point pollutant by the EPA. This places it in the same category as pesticides, oil, and other chemicals. Dog feces can contain many types of parasites and bacteria that can cause humans and other pets to become sick. Besides the dangers of physically coming into contact with it, remnants can wash into the water ways and cause havoc on the ecosystem.

These dangers are increasing at our parks, schools, and trails. This is why the City of Mountain Brook, Mountain Brook Park Board, Mountain Brook

Board of Education, and Mountain Brook Athletics are asking all pet owners to be more attentive to their pets’ actions while visiting our parks and athletic facilities. Doggie Stations that provide bags for waste disposal are present at all of our outdoor facilities to help you “Doo Your Part” in keeping them clean. Please then dispose of the “doggy bags” in trash cans and DO NOT leave the bags by the sidewalk. We want our parks to remain pet friendly, but not at the expense of our children’s health and well-being. We thank everyone that is helping us keep our green spaces clean and safe!

## Building Permit Activity

Permit Type:	3rd Quarter - 2018		4th Quarter - 2018	
	No. Permits	Permit Value	No. Permits	Permit Value
New Construction	8	\$6,807,312	22	\$13,260,738
Alterations/Additions	113	\$ 10,580,393	90	\$8,562,025
Repairs/Other	246	\$5,757,835	196	\$3,289,208
Totals:	367	\$ 23,145,540	308	\$ 25,111,971

## COMPARISON OF YEAR - 2017

Permit Type:	3rd Quarter - 2017		4th Quarter - 2017	
	No. Permits	Permit Value	No. Permits	Permit Value
New Construction	14	\$5,987,300	15	\$9,527,979
Alterations/Additions	99	\$10,777,450	79	\$9,210,715
Repairs/Other	287	\$5,454,519	237	\$4,653,920
Totals:	400	\$ 22,301,269	331	\$23,392,614

## Easter Events

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Offshoots Garden Club will be held at Overton Park. Festivities will begin at noon on Saturday, April 6th (rain out date will be April 13th). The Egg Hunt is for kids ages 1-4 and 5-10. However, all are welcome to enjoy other games and activities including a cake walk, face painting and pictures with the Easter Bunny. This event is free to the public.

The Annual Easter Egg Roll sponsored by the Mountain Brook Chamber of Commerce will be Saturday, April 20 at 10:00 am. This event will be held on the grassy field across from the Emmet O’Neal Library. The Easter Bunny will arrive riding on a Fire Truck! The entire family is welcome to attend the event, but the egg hunt is best for kids ages 1-6. BYOB (Bring Your Own Basket). Local merchants will help sponsor the event and normally provide goodies within the eggs. Check back with the Chamber for updates on this event as more activities may be announced.



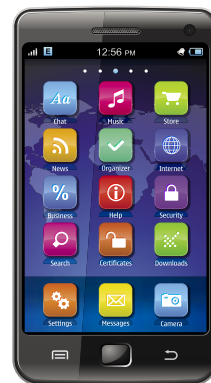


## Quarterly Crime Statistics

	3rd Quarter 2018	4th Quarter 2018	Total 2017	Total 2018
Robbery	2	1	5	6
Robbery (aggravated shoplifting)	1	0	1	1
Burglary/Residence	12	7	33	39
Burglary/Business	0	2	1	6
Theft	32	28	171	131
Theft from Vehicle (UBEV)	14	9	122	55
Auto Theft	5	2	18	10
Assaults (Other)	0	3	14	5
Identity Theft	25	26	89	92
Criminal Mischief	3	2	42	15
Drugs	31	46	78	153
Family Violence	7	4	32	21
Accidents	240	279	1049	990
A With Injuries	13	20	65	62
A With Fatalities	0	0	0	1
Calls For Service	6,127	7,010	30,105	26,734
House Watches	444	509	1,244	1,471
Property Stolen	\$255,293	\$429,859	\$2,347,227	\$1,276,298
Property Recovered	\$102,761	\$10,755	\$198,624	\$326,119

### 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.



## STAY IN TOUCH!

The City has a new means to communicate with the public. Beginning in January, we will send messages, alerts, and news via text message. To receive messages, send the text **MTNBROOK** to **888-777**. You should receive a confirmation message. You may reply **STOP** at any time to cancel.



## 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.

## Schedule of Meetings

<b>CITY COUNCIL</b>	2nd & 4th Mon.	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
	<i>(Call 802-3800 for time of Pre-Meeting)</i>		
<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION</b>	2nd Mon.	3:30 p.m.	Call Board of Ed Office 871-4608
<b>LIBRARY BOARD</b>	3rd Tues.	4:30 p.m.	Library
<b>PARK &amp; REC. BOARD</b>	2nd Tues.	5:00 p.m.	City Hall
<b>BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT</b>	3rd 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>BOARD OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN</b>	3rd Tues.	5:15 p.m.	City Hall
<b>CHAMBER OF COMMERCE</b>	3rd Thurs.	7:30 a.m.	City Hall



## Pedestrian Bridge Dedication

The long awaited pedestrian bridge over Shades Creek in Jemison Park was formally dedicated on January 4th. Mayor Welch, Council President Virginia Smith and Council President Pro Tem Billy Pritchard welcomed those in attendance.

Appreciation was given to the Mouron Family Foundation and an anonymous donor for their substantial contributions to the bridge costs. Many thanks were also due to Dick Shea and Morris-Shea Bridge Company for their additional work and design of the bridge in order to make it much more maintenance friendly for our community.

Soon, re-landscaping will begin on the area around the bridge as a joint project of the city and the Friends of Jemison Park.



MAX offered a free pilot program from November through January for a village circulator shuttle. Thank you, Mountain Brook, for embracing the Spartan Shuttle!



(Above) Realtors from RealtySouth Mountain Brook Village rode the Spartan Shuttle for their "Holly Jolly Trolley" lunch outing.



(Right) The Spartan Shuttle launched on November 5th with a Kick-Off Ride by city employees and officials.



(Right) Leadership Mountain Brook rode the Spartan Shuttle for an afternoon of coffee and shopping in Lane Parke.





## Sidewalk Projects update

### DUNBARTON DRIVE

The city has received federal funding through the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) for a sidewalk on Dunbarton Drive from North Woodridge Road to Locksley Drive. The survey is complete and the design is underway. Once the plans are fully designed, they will be reviewed by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). Upon ALDOT's approval, the project will be bid for construction. The construction is expected to take place in late 2019 to early 2020.

### HAGOOD

When we prepared the city's Master Sidewalk Plan, we solicited public feedback to help us prioritize which sidewalks should be installed around our city. Due to the numerous comments we received from our residents, the section of sidewalk on Hagood Street rose to the top on our priority list.

The City of Mountain Brook partnered with the City of Birmingham for a submittal to the Alabama Department of Transportation's (ALDOT) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) to fund the installation of sidewalk on Hagood Street from Euclid Avenue to Montclair Road. We recently were informed this project was selected to be awarded the funding. The city is currently working with ALDOT for finalizing and executing our funding agreement so the project can begin with surveying and design. Construction is expected to start in 2020.

### PINE RIDGE ROAD

The city has secured federal funding with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) to design and construct a sidewalk on Pine Ridge Road from Overbrook Road to Old Leeds Road. Due to the challenges presented with the road's curves, narrow width, and significant drop-offs, the installation of the sidewalk will be difficult and expensive. Currently, the city and ALDOT have executed our funding agreement, and we are awaiting ALDOT's approval to contract with an engineer. Once this process is complete, the surveying of the road will begin. We anticipate surveyors will be on this stretch of roadway from February to May, with having lanes closed for short periods while they perform their work. Once the survey is complete, the design can begin. Once a layout has been prepared, the city will advertise and host a public meeting and solicit public comments on the project. We expect this meeting to be conducted this summer. The process to gain approval of the plans in order to begin construction is difficult and requires several years to complete; therefore construction is currently estimated to begin in 2021.

### HOMWOOD-MOUNTAIN BROOK CONNECTOR

**Soon, two pedestrian connections will link Homewood to Mountain Brook.**

The City of Homewood requested a planning study be performed through the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham's APPLE program. The result of the study showed the installation of a pedestrian bridge to span Highway 280 is the most feasible option to allow pedestrian access along Hollywood Boulevard. Currently, the Cities of Homewood and Mountain Brook are seeking funds from entities for the design and construction of this bridge.

Additionally, the City of Birmingham has planned a project to install a one-half mile long segment of sidewalk to connect existing sidewalks near the intersection of Hermosa Drive and Poinciana Drive to the intersection of Cahaba Road and Lane Park Road. The sidewalk will begin at the intersection of Hermosa Drive and Poinciana Drive. It will then pass beneath Highway 280 before continuing east along 20th Place Access Road adjacent to the Birmingham Zoo property. The sidewalk will terminate at existing sidewalks at the intersection of Cahaba Road and Lane Park Road. The design of the project is approximately 85% complete and is expected to be under construction toward the end of 2019.

## Delayed Mountain Brook Village Paving to Start Later this Spring

Plans by the City of Mountain Brook to resurface the business district streets of Mountain Brook Village were delayed in 2018 due to required utility work.

At this writing, an exact start date is not scheduled, but, the work to be performed by Dunn Construction, is anticipated to begin by May, 2019 with most work done at night.

The roads to be paved are as follows:

- The Circle,
- Montevallo Road from Jemison Lane to Hollywood Blvd., at the city limits,
- Canterbury Road from Culver Road (at the bridge) to Cahaba Road,
- Cahaba Road from Heathermoor Road to just west of HWY 280 ramp, and,
- Culver Road from Montevallo Road to Cahaba Road including the Petticoat section.

**NOTE:** Culver Road from Cahaba Road to Montevallo Road in front of Sneaky Pete's could be delayed due to ongoing construction in that area.

The City looks forward to restoring the streets of Mountain Brook Village and appreciates everyone's patience as this project proceeds. Questions concerning the paving? Please call Hunter Johnston (802-3825) or Ronnie Vaughn (802-3865).

## E-911 Annual Test

Did you know that the first 911 call in the United States was made on February 16, 1968, in Haleyville, Alabama? Many of our calls for service now come through our Enhanced 911 system. If you call 911 by mistake, do not hang up. Make the dispatcher aware that it was a mistake and that there is no emergency. Regardless, we will dispatch a car to your location to be sure you are OK.

It is also a good idea to make a test 911 call annually from your land line home phone. Just dial 879-0486 and, when the dispatcher answers, tell them you want to make a test 911 call. Then dial 911 and allow them to verify your name and address as shown in our 911 systems. If you



live in Mountain Brook, dial 911 and another agency answers, notify us immediately so that we can correct the problem.

If you need to call 911 on your cell phone, please pay attention to how the person answering the call responds. Jurisdictional lines for call centers are very irregular and it is possible that the Call Center answering your cell call is not the one you want to get the help you need. When calling from a cell phone always try to give the operator an exact location of where you are.

# Emmet O'Neal Library News

## Special Programs

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

### February

All month – Under Wraps: take one of our book recommendations without seeing title or cover

- Tuesday, Feb. 5, 5:30 pm – Family Night: Activated Story Theatre – Tuneful Tales
- Monday, Feb. 11, 4:00 pm – STEAM Powered: CSI Forensics
- Thursday, Feb. 14, 6:00 pm – Bookmania: The Last Olympian
- Monday, Feb. 18, 6:00 pm – Breakout Book Club: Cheetah Can't Lose
- Tuesday, Feb. 26, 6:00 pm – Hot Off the Press Book Club

### March

- Wednesday, Mar. 6, 3:30 pm – Etc.: Chopped! Family Cooking Challenge
- Monday, Mar. 11, 4:00 pm – STEAM Powered: Paper Airplane Science
- Tuesday, Mar. 12, 5:30 pm – Family Night: Birmingham Children's Theatre – 3 Little Kittens
- Thursday, Mar. 14, 6:00 pm – Bookmania
- Monday, Mar. 18, 6:00 pm – Breakout Book Club: I Lost My Tooth!
- Tuesday, Mar. 19, 6:00 pm – Hot Off the Press Book Club
- March 25 – 29 – Spring Break, no regular programs

### April

- Monday, Apr. 8, 4:00 pm – STEAM Powered: Gardening
- Monday, Apr. 15, 4:00 pm – Breakout Book Club: Noodleheads Find Something Fishy
- Wednesday, Apr. 17, 3:30 pm – Etc.: Pete the Cat Party
- Thursday, Apr. 18, 6:00 pm – Bookmania
- Tuesday, Apr. 23, 6:00 pm – Hot Off the Press Book Club

## Children's Department



Parents and kids work together to create a stick puppet movie set at Breakout Book Club for emerging readers.

## Under Wraps

**D**o you really believe in not judging a book by its cover? The children's department librarians at Emmet O'Neal Library want to find out. For the entire month of February, they will be wrapping up some of their favorite kids' books – from picture books to emerging readers to chapter books to nonfiction – so that the covers and titles are hidden, then adding just a few words or phrases to the wrappings to give a hint about the story inside. So how do kids know what to choose? Some patrons might prefer to browse the wrapped books and take one that seems appealing, while others may select one because they think they know the title based on the outside descriptors. A brave few will tell the librarians about their recent favorite reads and trust the suggestions they get as a result. No matter how kids choose an Under Wraps recommendation, they will only find out the books' secret identities after checking them out.

Do you dare?

# Emmet O'Neal Library News



## Cooking Program

Calling all chefs! It's nearly time for Chopped, our annual family cooking challenge. On Wednesday, March 6, parents and kids are invited to compete as family teams in three rounds of food preparation. Librarians set the challenges and judge the dishes. Whether your cooking style is messy, simple, precise, or inventive, you and your family will have a blast creating something delicious and beautiful from the ingredients the library provides.



*A young patron enjoys his family's dessert creation at last spring's Chopped! Family Cooking Challenge.*



## Pete the Cat

Everyone's favorite cool cat will make an appearance at the library in April. Watch his stories live, sing along, meet the feline himself, and enjoy Pete-themed crafts, games, and snacks. All ages are welcome in their buttons and white shoes (or whatever other groovy duds you want to don) on Wednesday, April 17, at 3:30 pm. Do you want to miss this party? Goodness, no!



# BOOK SALE



It's the Library event you have been waiting for! The last weekend in February is the giant Friends of the Emmet O'Neal Library Book Sale and you're invited! All donors giving \$25 or more to The Emmet O'Neal Library will receive an invitation to the Book Sale Preview Party on Thursday, February 21st from 6pm-8:30pm. At the Preview Party you'll get first crack at the best books, including beautiful art and coffee table books, collectible items, and rare titles. Visit the Friends page of the Library's website at [www.eolib.org/friends.php](http://www.eolib.org/friends.php) and donate today!

**THE SALE OPENS TO THE PUBLIC FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND AND 23RD FROM 10AM-5PM AND ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH FROM 1PM-4PM.**

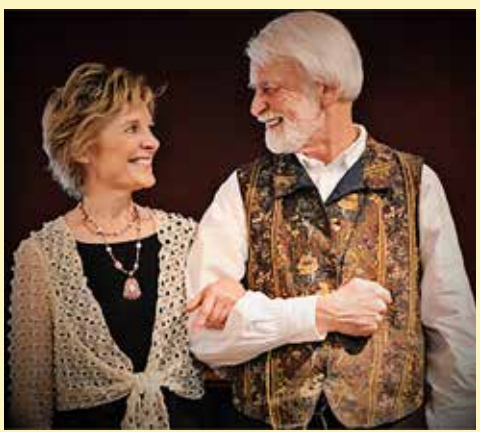
# Emmet O'Neal Library News

TEEN & ADULT NEWS

## A Sweet Strangeness Thrills My Heart: An Alabama Bicentennial Celebration Event With Dolores Hydock & Bobby Horton

**SUNDAY, APRIL 07:  
2:30PM - 5:00PM**

The Emmet O'Neal Library kicks off the Alabama Bicentennial celebration in April with a powerful glimpse into Alabama history that few of us have ever had the pleasure, or the privilege, of witnessing.



Sallie Independence Foster was 12 years old and living in Florence, Alabama in 1861 when the War Between the States began. She was keeping a diary at the time, and kept on keeping a diary for 26 years. This performance, based on Sallie's diaries, papers, and letters from her brothers off at war, presents a funny, touching, and uniquely personal look at the life and times that Sallie shared with her paper "dear Companion."

Storyteller Dolores Hydock and music historian Bobby Horton interweave Sallie's story with camp songs, period favorites, and original tunes to create a poignant, powerful, humorous, and honest picture of a world of innocence turned upside-down.

Doors open at 2:00 p.m.

Performance at 2:30 p.m.

Intermission.

This is a ticketed event. Tickets will be available in March.

## The Neuroscience Café

The UAB Comprehensive Neuroscience Center

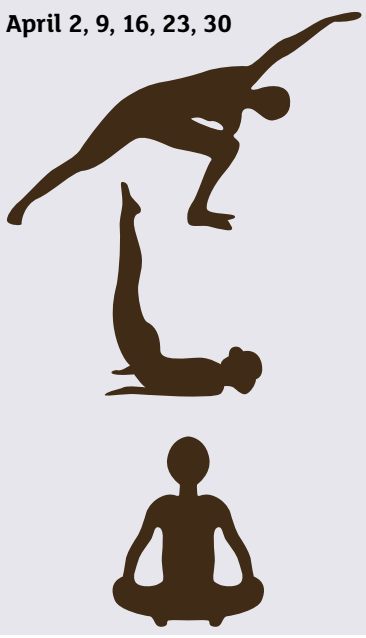


Communicate. Educate. Collaborate. Accelerate.

The Emmet O'Neal Library and The University of Alabama at Birmingham's Comprehensive Neuroscience Center continue their popular series, Neuroscience Café, this spring. One Thursday evening each month finds a new scientist at the Library discussing his or her research, new developments and trends in science and medicine, and answering audience questions. Due to the Friends' Book Sale, there will not be a February Neuroscience Café. However, on **Thursday, March 14th**, we will have a speaker on Parkinson's Disease research and on **April 11th**, our topic will be Brain Tumor Wars.

## Yoga with Marie Blair

Mark your calendars for Tuesday mornings in 2019! Marie Blair will lead her popular yoga class most Tuesday mornings in the Library's Community Meeting Room. Our dates for February - April are:  
**Feb 5th**  
**March 5, 12, 19, 26**  
**April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**



## Explore Mindful Meditation with Kathy Hagood

Meditation and mindfulness offer a wide variety of psychological and physical benefits from improving mood, sleep patterns, learning, and memory to lowering blood pressure and risks of cardiovascular disease. Emmet O'Neal Library is excited to invite certified Tai Chi and Yoga instructor Kathy Hagood to the library **first and second Thursday mornings from 10-11am March 7 & 14th, April 4 & 11th, and May 2 & 9th** to lead hour-long "Meditation and Mindfulness" workshops. She will combine interactive discussion with brief periods of meditation and mindfulness to show you how easy and beneficial it is to meditate. Take the entire 6-week course or drop in to the classes in which you have a particular interest! Registration and more information are available on our online calendar at [www.eolib.org](http://www.eolib.org).



# Emmet O'Neal Library News

## Author Madeline Miller to visit the Library

We are excited to welcome author Madeline Miller to the library for a free event on Saturday, March 9th at 7:00 pm. Miller is the author of the best-selling novels *Circe* and *The Song of Achilles*. In *Circe*, Miller brings a minor but fascinating character from *The Odyssey* to dazzling life as Circe transforms from the outcast daughter of Helios to ruler of her own earthly domain as

a powerful witch. Miller will give a talk and answer audience questions, followed by a book signing. Books will be available for purchase at the event.

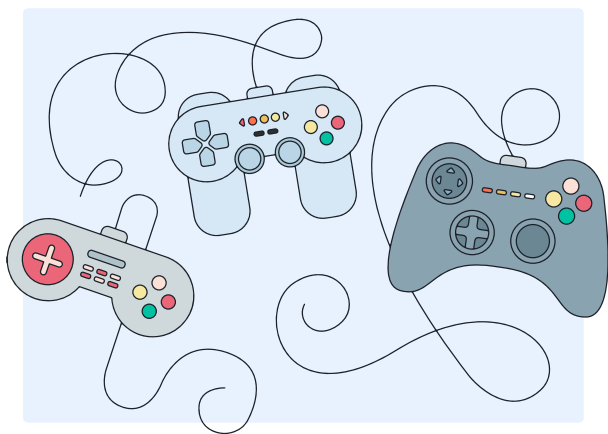
Before Madeline Miller's visit, join us for a special one-time book club meeting to discuss her books on Tuesday, February 19 at 6:30 pm.

Also in February, we will present

*Perfumes of the Ancient World*. You've probably heard of frankincense and myrrh, but can you identify their scents? We will have various ingredients on hand for you to create your own custom fragrance based on the scents of ancient Greece and Rome on Friday, February 1st at 6:30 pm. This program is for ages 21 and up and is free but registration is required at [www.eolib.org](http://www.eolib.org)

**THE EMMET O'NEAL YOUNG ADULT DEPARTMENT HAS PREPARED SOME EXCELLENT PROGRAMS FOR OUR TEENS IN GRADES 7-12 IN THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY, MARCH, AND APRIL. THESE PROGRAMS CONSIST OF VIDEO GAMING, CRAFTING, AND COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS.**

**O**ur Game On programs occurs on the first Saturday of every month at 1-4 PM. Another regular program we have for teens is our Craftspllosion series, which usually occurs on the first Thursdays of every month at 6:30 PM. We provide all the materials for these free evening craft programs - the teens only need to show up! We will be making DIY lip balm on February 7th, moon paintings on March 7th, and red clay pottery on April 4th.



Make sure to check out our new college and career readiness series of programs titled, *Find Your Way*. On Saturday, February 2 at 10:30 AM, we have invited Amelia Johnson, the College & Career Counselor at Indian

Springs School, to come speak with our teens about choosing the right college for them.

In March, we will have two *Find Your Way* programs: *Paying for College* on March 2nd at 10 AM and *Dorm Cooking* on March 30th at 1 PM. We will have a *Safety & Self-Defense* program on April 20th at 1 PM taught by one of our Young Adult librarians, Eric Cottingham, who has had decades of martial arts experience. On April 27th we will have a *Stress Management & Mindfulness* program in which we will learn some meditation exercises.

In addition to all of those programs, we will have *Teen Advisory Board Meetings* on February 6th, March 4th, and April 1st at 5 PM. Our *Teen Advisory Board* is a group of teens in

our community who provide ideas and suggestions on how to improve our department and volunteer for some of the large annual programs. There are some special perks for being a member of our *Teen Advisory Board*, such as movie theater showings and summer internships, to express our appreciation for their help. Pick up an application to be a member of the *Teen Advisory Board* at the *Adult Services Desk* today - we would love more input at our meetings!





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THE VILLAGES OF

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# WELCOME Vince Schilleci!



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## Congrats to Bert Amason

who took home the Grand Prize for the 2018  
Mountain Brook Restaurant Trail



Thank you to everyone who participated in #i8mb!

**SCHAEFFER EYE CENTER**



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**Register now at [village2village10k.com](http://village2village10k.com)**



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# Mobilizing the community for academic excellence.

The Mission of the Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation is to mobilize community support and resources for the academic improvement of the school system. Funds raised become part of a permanent endowment.

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The Foundation exists to provide financial support to meet the academic needs that are beyond the current scope and means of the school system. The Foundation's work is based on the needs of the school system as a whole.



Gifts & Pledges to Date:

# \$127,473

\$22,527 to go to meet the goal of \$150,000 by 2/28!

## Grandparents Club Donor Listing Thank You Grandparents!

**(This list reflects all gifts & pledges received as of January 11, 2019. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. Any corrections should be sent to [smaxwell@mtnbrookschoolsfoundation.org](mailto:smaxwell@mtnbrookschoolsfoundation.org) – Thank You!)**

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on next page



# Mobilizing the community for academic excellence.

The Mission of the Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation is to mobilize community support and resources for the academic improvement of the school system. Funds raised become part of a permanent endowment.



# \$22,527 from our \$150,000 goal!



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## Foundation Board Elects New Officers & New Members



Charles Smith



Key Hudson



Britt Redden



Anne Cowin



Edward Elliott



Bill Rodrigues



Barry Staples

With the new year, comes changes in Foundation leadership. 2019 brings not only new Board Members but a new President and President-Elect as well. Charles M. Smith '98 and Key R. Hudson '00, were elected as the Foundation's new President and President-Elect, respectively, at the Foundation's

November Board Meeting. Both started in their new offices effective January 1st. With these changes, Britt A. Redden '93 was elected Chair of the Programs and Needs Committee to replace Hudson's previous position.

The Foundation thanked Suzan Doidge, A. Brian

C. Doud, and Lori Robertson for their many years of service to the Board of Directors, and approved new members Anne Hamner Cowin, Edward Elliott '01, Bill Rodrigues, and Barry A. Staples to fill empty slots through the year 2020. Welcome to all of our new Foundation Board Leadership!