



the Reporter

Mountain Brook, Ala.

www.mtnbrook.org

Volume XX, Issue 3

the Reporter
Mountain Brook, Alabama

After Three Decades of Public Service, Two Beloved City Hall Employees Retire

Jerry Weems (Building Superintendent of the Inspections Department) and Carole Epstein (Executive Assis-

erosion control measures. He has mentored and supervised a great team of three inspectors, and has provided consistent support to multiple city boards, the City Council and the Mayor.

Carole has provided unparalleled administrative support to multiple offices at City Hall, including the City Manager's Office and the Departments of Inspections and of Planning; she is also the Executive Assistant to the Mayor. In addition, Carole has supported multiple boards at the City, such as the Planning Commission, the Board of Zoning Adjustment and the Village Design Review Committee. She has been an excellent keeper of minutes and records and has been an outstanding representative of the City with her professionalism and smile!



Jerry Weems, Vietnam War vet and Purple Heart recipient

tant) are retiring this summer after three decades of committed service to the City of Mountain Brook. Both of these excellent employees and friends of the City will be missed, but we wish them a well-deserved retirement!

Over the years Jerry has worked tirelessly to oversee the Building and Zoning functions of the City, ensuring that the City's construction reflects the highest standard of relevant codes. In addition to reviewing all construction plans for permit issuance he has implemented the Subdivision, Flood Plain, Stormwater and Telecommunications ordinances, as well as overseeing a variety of regulations, including



Carole Epstein

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Board Appointments / Vacancy

APPOINTMENT

The following Council appointments were made:

- Brandon Plowden – Tree Commission
- W. Craig Fravert – Finance Committee
- T. K. Yardley – Finance Committee
- Paige Daniel – Finance Committee
- Nicky Barnes – Board of Education
- Julia Gibler – Tree Commission

VACANCY

Board of Zoning Adjustment Super-numerary - to be filled immediately (3-year Council appointment)

Inspections and Planning Departments Combined into One Central Department

Under the direction of City Planner Dana Hazen the two departments of Inspections and Planning have been reorganized into one department: Planning, Building & Sustainability. Since Planning and Building are closely related fields that engage many of the same professionals (architects, engineers, builders, contractors) on many of the same construction projects, the City has combined these two functions as a way to improve efficiency, coordination and productivity, facilitating building and planning projects throughout the City.

The staff of the newly established department consists of the three current Inspectors, a new Building Official, a new Administrative Assistant and a new Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Manager.

NEW FACES AT CITY HALL



Building Official

Glen Merchant comes to Mountain Brook from the Cities of Irondale and Alabaster, and brings with him a wealth of knowledge relating to inspections, commercial and residential building, and the application of plumbing and electrical codes as well as experience in the implementation of Subdivision, Flood Plain and Stormwater regulations. He comes

highly recommended by previous employers as a key team member in ensuring the safe and orderly development of commercial and residential projects, both large and small. Glen has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice/History from UAB. He has been working with the City of Mountain Brook since June 2, 2015, and is the key contact for any permits relating to construction throughout the City. merchantg@mtnbrook.org 205/802-3812



Administrative Assistant

Tammy Graham comes to the City of Mountain Brook from the City of Center Point, where she served as the City Clerk and Treasurer, as well as the Secretary to the Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Adjustment. Tammy brings with her an impeccable set of administrative skills that will serve the City well. In her new role as Administrative Assistant she will provide support to the Department of Planning, Building & Sustainability as well as to the Planning Commission, the Board of Zoning Adjustment and the Village Design Review Committee. Tammy has been with the City since June 30, 2015, and is the key contact for case submittal and agendas for the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Adjustment and Village Design

Review Committee. grahamt@mtnbrook.org 205/802-3810



Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Manager

Hunter Simmons comes to the City of Mountain Brook from the City of Homewood where he served as the E-9-1-1 Director/GIS Manager. Hunter brings with him a vast knowledge of all things

“tech.” He develops and maintains GIS databases and applications, provides technical and operational support for GIS related software, and is well on his way to providing new and exciting mapping products and services to the City staff and citizens (such as land parcel information, infrastructure systems, emergency response facilities, recreational facilities and other data-related to City operations). Hunter has an Associate Degree in Computer Information Systems from Herzing College and a Bachelor's Degree in Landscape Architecture from Auburn University. Be looking on the City website in the near future for informational maps relating to a variety of City departments. Hunter has been with the City since April 21, 2015. simmonsh@mtnbrook.org 205/802-3830

The City staff is excited to have these three professionals on board, and looks forward to continuing the legacy of great public service in the City of Mountain Brook!

MAP Mountain Brook

Vision. We expect our public leaders to have a progressive and sustainable vision of our community's future. Mountain Brook is fortunate. Your city leaders are fervently evolving decision-making procedures to support a better vision for your community. One such measure realized the importance of a Geographic Information System (GIS).

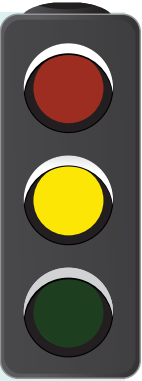
A GIS will provide a foundation to support more intelligent decision-making. We want information to be readily available, and not stuck in file cabinets or personal spreadsheets. A GIS can put data in the hands of those who need it, when they need it, efficiently and dependably.

On April 22, 2015, I began my employment with the City of Mountain Brook as GIS

Manager. I have begun the process of creating a GIS for Mountain Brook. This process will continually evolve to meet the needs for our community, both internal to government operations and open to public needs. Your input is now, and will continually be, welcome.

Our GIS, entitled MAP Mountain Brook, should be available in the coming weeks, and will host a collection of maps, applications, and data. I look forward to serving the community, and welcome questions and ideas.

Hunter Simmons
simmonsh@mtnbrook.org
(Office Phone) 802-3830



APPLE Grant Traffic Study Update

Work is nearing completion on the APPLE (Advanced Planning Programming and Logical Engineering) traffic study being performed by the City of Mountain Brook using grant money provided by the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham. The total cost of the APPLE study was \$50,000, with \$40,000 provided by the RPC and \$10,000 provided by the City. Skipper Consulting of Birmingham was hired as the consultant to undertake the study. Ten locations were selected by the City for study, based on public input received in January and February. The scope of work for each location and the study results are described below.

Cahaba Road at 21st Avenue and Fairway Drive

These intersections were studied to determine if a left turn arrow should be installed for the traffic signal on Cahaba Road southbound turning left onto Fairway Drive and also to review the situation with traffic exiting Little Hardware opposite 21st Avenue. The results of the study for the left turn arrow indicated that adding the left turn arrow would cause significant increases in delay for other traffic movements at the intersection. Additional time was added to the green time for Cahaba Road in lieu of installing a right turn arrow. A conflict study performed for traffic entering and exiting Little Hardware did not indicate the need for any immediate improvements.

Country Club Road south of Montclair Road

Residents on Country Club Road, Fairway

Drive and Salisbury Road expressed concern about the increasing volume of cut-through traffic from Montclair Road to English Village. Cut-through traffic on these roadways had previously been studied in 1997 and 2008. Speed humps were installed on Country Club Road following the 1997 study. In 1997, the daily traffic count on Country Club Road south of Montclair Road was 3,900 vehicles per day. In 2008 the number had decreased to 2,700 vehicles per day. The new count conducted in 2015 showed a further reduction to 2,300 vehicles per day.

Montevallo Road at Church Street/Montrose Road

Traffic congestion is a regular occurrence at this intersection during both the morning and afternoon peak periods of traffic. Two projects were developed to alleviate congestion. The first project, which has been designed and let to contract, involves modification to the traffic signals facing Church Street and Montrose Road. This work should be completed during the autumn of 2015. Cost of this project is approximately \$25,000. The second project, which is a long-term project, would construct a left turn lane on Montevallo Road turning left onto Montrose Road.

Montevallo Road at Overbrook Road

Traffic congestion is a regular occurrence at this intersection during both the morning and afternoon peak periods of traffic. Three projects were developed to alleviate congestion. First, traffic signal timings were adjusted during the morning peak period to allow more time for left turning

vehicles from Montevallo Road onto Overbrook Road. Second, extension of the right turn lane on Overbrook Road was recommended. The City is contemplating a capital improvement project to implement this project in 2016, at a cost of approximately \$150,000. The third project, which is a long-term project, would construct a left turn lane on Montevallo Road turning left onto Overbrook Road.

Montevallo Road at Country Club Road/Norman Drive

The complaint addressed in the APPLE study was insufficient time to clear the intersection after the signal turns yellow before conflicting traffic enters the intersection. Measurements were made and the signal timings were adjusted to provide adequate clearance times.

Overbrook Road at Mountain Brook Parkway/Pine Ridge Road

This intersection also experiences traffic congestion on a regular basis during both the morning and afternoon periods. Due to the historic walls and bridge, physical improvements to the intersection are not feasible. A review of the traffic signal showed that better efficiency could be gained by installing advanced technology to detect the presence of vehicles. This project, which has been designed and let to contract, should be completed during the summer of 2015. Cost of the project is approximately \$55,000.

Old Leeds Road at Pine Ridge Road

During the morning peak period of traffic,

traffic regularly backs up on Old Leeds Road from Pine Ridge Road all the way to Glencoe Drive. Traffic signal timings were adjusted to allow more green time for Old Leeds Road during the morning peak period of traffic.

Oakdale Road at Oakdale Drive

Due to the layout of this intersection, there was confusion regarding a Yield sign. Additional pavement markings were added to the intersection to provide drivers better guidance.

Overton Road at South Brookwood Road

The City had considered installation of a left turn lane on Overton Road turning left onto South Brookwood Road in the past. This project was not implemented due to the impact to adjoining residential properties. In the APPLE study, the traffic signal operation was reviewed to determine if modifications could be made to the signal timing to improve operation. The review found small changes, but concluded that alleviation of traffic congestion would require installation of turn lanes on Overton Road.

Brookwood Road at Crosshill Road

The final project in the APPLE study is for the intersection of Brookwood Road at Crosshill Road. The study is attempting to address queuing of vehicles on Crosshill Road due to heavy traffic on Brookwood Road. This study is currently underway and should be complete by the end of June.



STOP Signs reversed at Dexter Avenue and Vine Street

The Stops Signs on Vine Street at Dexter Avenue have been removed. Stop Signs have been placed on Dexter Avenue at Vine Street. This reverses how traffic stopped at this intersection in the past. This change was made during the summer, while school is out, to help drivers

that frequent the area become accustomed to the change.

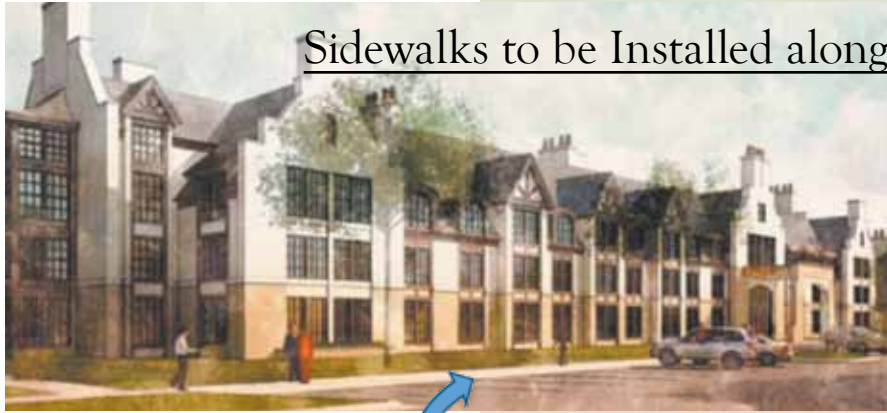
Motorists on Dexter will now stop in both directions at the Vine Street intersection while motorists on Vine Street will continue on through the intersection without being required to stop.

The changes at this intersection were recommended by the City's traffic consultant in anticipation of increased traffic along Vine Street due to the relocation of the Piggly Wiggly grocery store and to alleviate school car pool traffic.

The actual change in

location of the stop signs occurred Friday, June 12th. The Police Department placed its two message boards along Dexter Avenue to alert motorists to these stop signs relocation and change. The message boards will return to this area when school begins again this fall.

Sidewalks to be Installed along Lane Park Road



Sidewalks to be in front of the Grand Bohemian along Lane Park Road



As the construction of the new Grand Bohemian Hotel has progressed the City has received numerous requests for confirmation that a sidewalk will, indeed, be provided along Lane Park Road. It's great to know that connectivity and walkability are important amenities to the citizens of Mountain Brook! A sidewalk will be installed that will connect the north end of the Lane Parke project to the core of Mountain Brook Village.

Budget Update

Based on the fiscal 2015 collections reported through May 2015, the City is on track to surpass its revenue forecast for the year. Some of the more notable collection categories include:

- Real estate tax collections stand at \$13.9 million \$175,000 (1.3%) more than budgeted for the year. The fiscal 2015 real estate tax collections are projected to increase about 1% from last year (more than originally projected).
- Sales tax collections are projected to exceed the budgeted amount of \$9.8 million by as much as 2% and are expected to finish the year about the 3% higher than realized last year. Shop Mountain Brook!
- Business license collections in the amount of \$2.5 million are up \$115,000 (4.7%) from last year.
- Utility taxes and franchise fees in the amount of \$1.9 million are consistent with last year (down \$7,500 or 0.4%).

The 2016 budget process officially began May 20 with a City Council work session. Departmental budgets were submitted to the Finance Director at the end of June. The City Manager conducted the first review of the budgets with department supervisors during July. The Finance Committee will review the second draft of the budget on August 11. The City Council will also review the budget and Finance Committee recommendations on August 18. The public hearing to consider the ordinance adopting the 2016 budget is tentatively scheduled for September 18.

Schedule of Meetings

CITY COUNCIL*	2nd & 4th Mon.	7:00 p.m.	City Hall	(Call 802-3800 for Pre-Meeting)
BOARD OF EDUCATION	2nd Mon.	3:30 p.m.	Call Board of Ed Office	
LIBRARY BOARD	3rd Tues.	4:45 p.m.	Library	
PARK & REC. BOARD	2nd Tues.	5:00 p.m.	City Hall	
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT	3rd 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.	City Hall	

Quarterly Crime Statistics

	1st Quarter 2015	2nd Quarter 2015
Robbery	1	3
Robbery (aggravated shoplifting)	0	0
Burglary/Residence	1	5
Burglary/Business	1	2
Theft	38	45
Theft from Vehicle (UBEV)	16	6
Auto Theft	3	0
Assaults (Other)	1	2
Identity Theft	20	26
Criminal Mischief	21	13
Drugs	23	30
Family Violence	14	12
Accidents	213	240
A With Injuries	11	10
A With Fatalities	0	0
Calls For Service	7,369	8,234
House Watches	405	548
Property Stolen	\$169,134	\$252,526
Property Recovered	\$84,263	\$1,514

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 April 13, 2015:

- Ordinance No. 1934 - Remove two stop signs on Vine Street at its intersection with Dexter Avenue and provide for two stop signs on Dexter Avenue at its intersection with Vine Street and to provide for punishment thereof.
- Ordinance No. 1935 - Provide for a stop sign on Belle Meade Way at its intersection with Spring Valley Road and to provide for punishment thereof
- Ordinance No. 1936 - Alter and rearrange the boundary lines of the City of Mountain Brook, so as to include within the corporate limits certain other territory contiguous to said City by annexing a parcel of land in the Lockerbie subdivision.

The City Council has approved the following projects since April 13, 2015:

- Recommended issuance of Special Retail License to Red Mountain

Restaurant Group dba Cinco de Mayo for May 5, 2015 event.

- Authorized lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for upgraded mailing machine.
- Approved conditional use application for Jimi Yoga, LLC at 2414 Canterbury Road.
- Approved modifying terms of janitorial service contract between the city and Jordan Janitorial, Inc.
- Awarded bid for janitorial services for The Emmet O'Neal Library and authorized the execution of a 3-year contract.
- Authorized the execution of a professional services agreement between the City and Skipper Consulting for a traffic signal modification design for the intersection of Overbrook Road at Mountain Brook Parkway/Pine Ridge Road in the amount of \$6,000.
- Authorized City's participation in 2015 "Back-to-School" Sales Tax Holiday from August 7 to August 9.
- Declared 2008 postage machine obsolete and authorized lease

agreement with Pitney Bowes for upgraded mailing machine.

- Authorized execution of contract for professional services for Parks & Recreation master plan development with Lose and Associates.
- Authorized license agreement with respect to West Montcrest Drive sidewalk construction project.
- Authorized and directed parking signage changes in the commercial villages.
- Authorized the execution of a professional services agreement between the City and Skipper Consulting, Inc., with respect to traffic signal modifications design work for the intersection of Church Street and Montevallo Road/Montrose Road in the amount of \$20,191.
- Accepted proposal submitted by Stone and Sons Electrical Contractors for their installation of equipment pursuant to the traffic signal modifications designed by Skipper Consulting for the intersection of Overbrook Road at Mountain

Brook Parkway/Pine Ridge Road in the amount of \$23,058.

- Authorized the execution of a lease between the City (The Emmet O'Neal Library) and Southlake Capital, LLC with respect to the leasing over thirty-six (36) months of twenty-eight (28) computers by The Emmet O'Neal Library Board.
- Approved the creation of municipal clerk position, Class 2105, GR 26/10.
- Agreed to modification of Development Agreement with Evson, Inc. regarding Lane Parke.
- Authorized payment from General Fund of \$300,000 in City of Mountain Brook Section 115 (retiree medical insurance) Trust.
- Authorized disposal of unneeded municipal property.
- Approved appointment of 28 members to the Parks Master Plan Steering Committee to facilitate the development of a master plan for future Parks and Recreation services and facilities.

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.

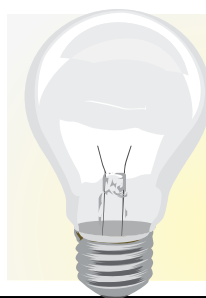
Additionally, pets should be curbed at all times and never soil our sidewalks, playing fields or your neighbor's yard. Pet owners should immediately and properly clean up any accidents that may occur.



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

Building Permit Activity

Permit Type:	1st Quarter - 2015		2nd Quarter - 2015	
	No. Permits	Permit Value	No. Permits	Permit Value
New Construction	5	\$3,506,000	8	\$11,423,500
Alterations/Additions	86	\$7,410,024	122	\$14,559,640
Repairs/Other	146	\$2,307,228	211	\$3,512,972
Totals:	237	\$13,223,252	341	\$29,496,112



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 so the City can coordinate its repair with Alabama Power Company.

New Businesses

CONSTRUCTION

- Camp, Ehney, 3665 Crestide Road, 205/743-9660
- Carroll, Tony, 3961 Bearden Drive, 205/586-5617

WHOLESALE/RETAIL

- Beverly Ruff, Inc., 2410 Canterbury Road, 205/572-2979
- Medical & Education Resources, 10 Office Park Circle, Suite 120, 205/907-2543
- Ogle, Carol K., 2820 Petticoat Lane, 205/617-5719

HOTEL/HOSPITALITY

- ARC Hospitality Portfolio I Hil TRS, LLC, 2731 US Highway 280, 205/870-7822

PUBLISHING

- Reeder, Richard & Shelly, 4432 Fredericksburg Drive, 205/789-8817

RESTAURANTS

- Cup Food You Pick Up, LLC, 73 Church Street, 770/653-6534
- Gulf State Restaurant Management, 3150 Overton Road, 205/516-5325

LEGAL SERVICES

- DeGaris Law Group, LLC, 3429 Brookwood Trace, 205/281-5185

MANAGEMENT/CONSULTING

- JROK, Inc., 2 Dexter Avenue, 205/266-8391
- Paper Plane Consulting, LLC, 3829 North Woodridge Road, 205/410-7704

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Over the Mountain Dentistry, 2850 Cahaba Road, Suite 140, 205/968-1296

PERSONAL CARE SERVICES

- Ford, Lauren, 2810 Petticoat Lane, 256/283-8225
- Learn Play Grow, LLC, 3736 Montrose Road, 205/907-1571
- Meisner, Dale, 5 Dexter Avenue, 205/870-9983

Parks and Recreation News

Picnic Tables at Cahaba River Walk

Two new picnic tables have been added to the pavilion at Cahaba River Walk. One table is handicap accessible. Now you can enjoy lunch or a birthday party by the river. Use of the tables and pavilion is first come, first serve unless you have paid for a reservation. If you would like to reserve the pavilion, you can contact the Parks and Recreation office at 205-802-3877. Residents can reserve the pavilion for two hours for \$35. Non-resident's fees are \$70.

Tot Lot's new fence

The Crestline Tot Lot has a new look! The Mountain Brook High School Leadership group for this past school year did a community service project and decided to give the Tot Lot a long overdue make-over. These high school students, with the help of the Parks and Recreation Department and a generous donation from Good Fences, replaced two of the fences, pressure washed the remaining fence, and laid new sod in an eroding corner. Then on Little Leader Day, junior high students helped put down fresh pine straw and mulch. We are proud of the way it turned out! If you get a chance, go by and see it.



Parks Master Plan

The City has hired Lose & Associates to create a Parks Master Plan. This plan will lay out goals and objectives for the Parks and Recreation Department for

the next 5-10 years. In order to get the best plan, we will need input from Mountain Brook residents. Several public meetings will be held over the next 3-4 weeks. All residents are encouraged to attend at least one meeting and express their thoughts and ideas.

A Steering Committee has been formed to help advertise the public meetings and guide this process. This committee is made up of approximately 28 individuals that represent the various groups of people that use the parks including the various sports, runners, nature and history enthusiasts, the Arts, people with young children and senior activities, emergency personnel, animal lovers, etc.

Help the Parks and Recreation Department be what you need it to be by attending one of the public meetings. Look for the announcements on flyers at the parks, on Facebook, the City's web page, and in Village Living.

If you are unable to attend we encourage you to send suggestions to Shanda Williams, Parks and Recreation Superintendent at Williamssh@mtnbrook.org.



Public WiFi Expanded

In June 2015, the City activated WiFi networks in English Village and Mountain Brook Elementary. These latest WiFi additions cover the outdoor areas of English Village and the Mountain Brook Elementary playground and adjacent soccer field. Other locations where public WiFi networks are available include: Overton Park, Crestline Village, Rathmell Athletic Complex, High School athletic fields, and Brookwood Forest outdoor fields. Future public WiFi networks are planned to include Mountain Brook Village and various parks and playing fields.

To get online using the City's free public wireless networks follow these steps:

- Verify your wireless connection is enabled or turned on
- Navigate to the list of available wireless networks
- Locate the connection named, "City WiFi." Select this network and click "Connect"
- Open any browser, to see the City of Mountain Brook's WiFi Access welcome page
- After reading the terms and conditions, click continue.

The public WiFi networks are free to the public, filtered, and monitored by the City. As with any public WiFi, users assume all risk associated with using the service and should always exercise good judgment and caution to avoid unauthorized access of their private information. If you have questions or comments about the City's public WiFi network, please call our technology staff at 802-3819 or 802-3820.

Trees and Water

Many homeowners have irrigation systems, or diligently drag portable sprinklers around the yard to keep grass and flowers quenched when it gets hot and dry. Many assume that lawn watering is sufficient for trees as well, but in reality, roots of turf grasses intercept most of the water applied by a sprinkler system. This is why it is important, especially for older trees as well as those in the establishment phase to keep competing vegetation to a minimum. Tree health and longevity depend largely on the ability to develop as deep a root system as soil/site conditions will allow. Roots will not grow where water and oxygen are not present. So, assuming soil texture and compaction is not a problem (i.e. there is sufficient oxygen) the depth of a root system is determined primarily by the

depth achieved during regular watering. Trees draw water and nutrients upward through a process called transpiration. By opening and closing millions of “pores” on the underside of the leaves, it creates a negative pressure inside the system. Under ideal conditions, it regulates this process to maintain equilibrium. Studies have shown that under normal conditions, a mature tree can process hundreds of gallons a day: a number that increases as temperatures rise and relative humidity falls. In short, we need to be applying a lot of water to the soil without most of it running off at the surface. This can be extremely difficult in itself, just due to the nature of the soil, but it can become next to impossible when we begin to consider the time involved. Drip irrigation is the perfect solution, as it can apply large

volumes of water at a very low rate over a longer period...without the need to manually tend to it. A negligible amount of water is lost to evaporation or runoff.

It is best to begin a watering schedule before the onset of harsh summer conditions, as it is much easier to prevent drought stress than to recover from it. Effects of drought stress carry over and accumulate with other stressors, thus weakening the tree and making it more susceptible to the next pest, disease, etc. Consider the fact that sod and shrubs can be replaced and established in relatively short order, while it takes decades to produce a mature tree.

Finally, drip irrigation may not be feasible on every site. If this is true for you, look into some of the following alternative methods to maximize the

amount of water you can apply, given your particular situation and constraints.

- 1. Water bags – fill with garden hose to provide 5-30 gallons at a slow drip**
- 2. Soaker hoses – placed in concentric circles around base; up to 50gal/hr per 50’ of hose**
- 3. Shower wand – low pressure nozzle; saturate to point of runoff...wait... repeat**
- 4. Soil needle – applies water directly to root zone; rate/volume depends on soil conditions**
- 5. Bucket – drill several ¼” holes in three or more 5 gal buckets and place near base of tree**

Don Cafaro
City Arborist

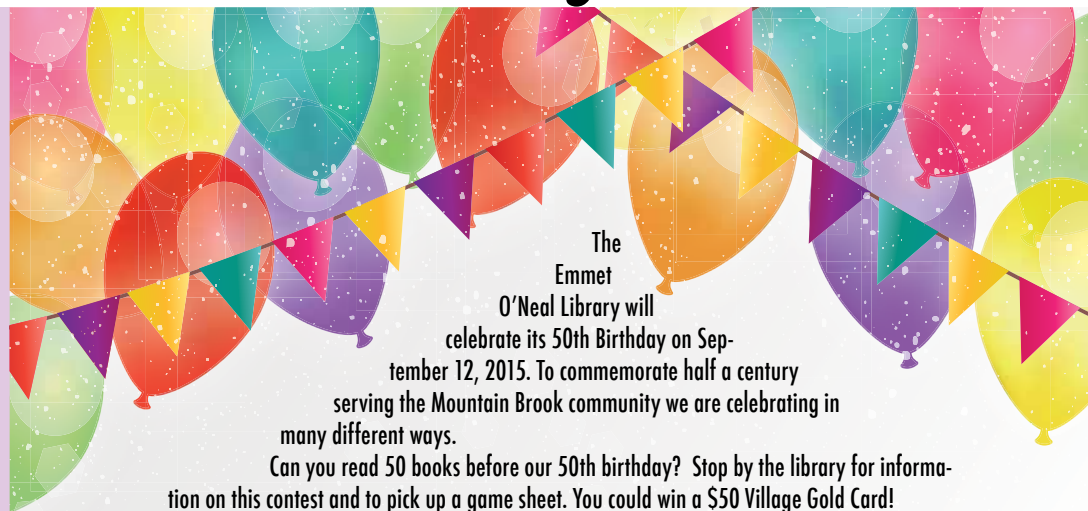
Emmet O’Neal Library News



**YOUR SOURCE. PAST. PRESENT. FUTURE.
EMMET O’NEAL LIBRARY**

Emmet O’Neal Library’s 50th Birthday Celebration

In conjunction with the teen and adult departments, the children’s department wants you to join us in celebrating the library’s birthday! Stop by our photo booth to snap a picture that you can enter into our 50th birthday photo contest for a chance to win one of our Mountain Brook Village Gold Cards.



The Emmet O’Neal Library will celebrate its 50th Birthday on September 12, 2015. To commemorate half a century serving the Mountain Brook community we are celebrating in many different ways.

Can you read 50 books before our 50th birthday? Stop by the library for information on this contest and to pick up a game sheet. You could win a \$50 Village Gold Card! Have some fun in the Children’s Department dressing up from different decades of the last fifty years. Have your photograph made in our special photo booth and enter our contest.

The week before our 50th Birthday visitors to the library’s programs will be treated to cupcakes and lemonade. On Saturday, September 12, 2015 we will celebrate our 50th Birthday with cake and lemonade at the library’s Circulation Desk throughout the day. At 10:00 a.m. The Friends of Emmet O’Neal Library will host a morning gathering with antiquarian and rare book expert John Jones.

Saturday evening at 6:30 p.m. the library will host Pulitzer Prize winning author and historian Doris Kearns Goodwin. A few of her many New York Times Bestselling titles include *The Bully Pulpit*, *Team of Rivals*, and *No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt*. This ticketed event will kick off with a reception followed by a talk and book signing. Copies of Ms. Goodwin’s books will be available to purchase. Tickets are \$50 and will be sold at the library beginning August 3, 2015.

Emmet O'Neal Library News

Children's Department

August: Movie on the Lawn



Celebrate your super summer reading with a final fling before school starts. On Friday, August 21, we'll show a movie on the big screen on the lawn across the street from the library. Bring your picnic dinner and a comfy blanket, kick back with your family, and enjoy the show.

September: Back to School

Regular children's programming resumes in September. Visit our online registration page to sign up for age-specific lap-sit storytimes that happen on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings, or come on Tuesday and Saturday mornings for our all-ages, no-registration-required family storytimes. Tuesday evenings, bring the family back in their PJs for a different activity each week – storytime, games & LEGOs, a short family movie, or a craft.

For the school-aged crowd, start with **Library Out Loud**, a lively Tuesday afternoon drop-off program for students in kindergarten through second grade. Third through sixth graders can try the Thursday afternoon drop-off program, **SNAP (Seriously No Adults, Please!)**. SNAP is different every week and features video game tournaments, movies with popcorn, crafts, and special guests. Upper elementary students can also sign up for **Bookmania**, a monthly book group with pizza and games that takes place one Thursday evening each month.

The first **Family Night** program of the 2015-16 school year, happening on September 8, sees the return of the energetic, interactive music show, Funi-kijam! Stay tuned to hear more details about a special after-school program on September 23.

Pick up a copy of our fall programming calendar in the children's department, or view it online at www.eolib.org.

One way to be a heroic supporter of the library this summer is to **make a donation**. Zoom by the children's desk to find out more information about how you can see your name in a comic burst on the walls of the Children's Department.

October: A Night Dark & Grim

In addition to a Birmingham Children's Theatre production of *The Little Red Hen* on October 13 at 3:30, the month of October also brings our annual evening of family fairy-tale fantasy, *A Night Dark & Grim*. Show up in costume to enjoy a whole world of fairy tale games, snacks, and crafts. Goof off in the photo booth. Have your face painted. Find out if you're nuts enough to get through the Mad Hatter's tea party. Finish out the magical evening with a sing-along movie on the lawn, where live characters from the movie will lead you in rousing renditions of movie songs as you watch on the big screen. Mark your calendar for *A Night Dark & Grim* on Friday, October 16, walls of the Children's Department.

Standing Room Only @ EOL Present Back to The Future Night!



\$mart Directions @ Emmet O'Neal Library

This fall the Emmet O'Neal Library is prepared to offer you and your family a roadmap to greater financial education. If you participated in the Smart Investing @ Your Library seminar series in 2011-2012, you will remember the dynamic programming we offered. With \$mart Directions we intend to add even more programs and services geared toward steering you down the \$mart road to personal finance and investing information. This new seminar series will focus on advanced topics in personal finance while also directing you toward the fundamentals if you missed the first series. Our Smart Investing content from the first series is on the library's website and still available for you to enjoy for the first time, or re-visit if you need a refresher. Our library's collection of books, magazines, DVDs and books on CD on the topic are being refreshed and updated, and our librarians are gearing up for this new seminar series with training of their own. Be on the lookout in the coming year for sessions with community favorite, Dr. Andreas Rauterkus,

Western's Annual Wine Event

September brings a return to school and the approach of cooler weather, but it also heralds the return of a favorite event in the Mountain Brook community. Western Supermarkets Wine & Food Festival is scheduled for Friday evening, September 25th at The Birmingham Zoo. Join us from 6-9 pm for a night of wine, food, and the wild animals at the Zoo. The annual event benefits Emmet O'Neal Library and features hundreds of wines for sampling and delicious food from vendors whose items are sold throughout Western Supermarket's several area stores. Food featured at the event includes pork and steak as well as shrimp, cheeses, sauces, and desserts to finish off your meal. Wine vendors are on hand to pour wine, explain their varieties, and introduce you to new flavors and pairings. Cases of wine may be ordered at the event at a discount for all of your entertaining needs for the upcoming holiday season. Tickets are \$60 in advance or \$75 at the door the night of the event and may be purchased in advance either at Western Supermarkets, at the Emmet O'Neal Library, or online. Tickets for groups of ten or more are \$50. A raffle is a highlight of the night; tickets for the raffle are \$5 per ticket or five for \$20. For more information, call The Western Wine Shop in Mountain Brook at 205-879-1746 or go to: <http://westernsupermarkets.com/wine-shop/>

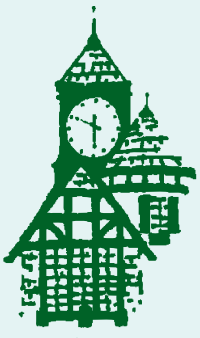


**Wednesday, October 21, 2015
6:00pm – 10:00pm**

Today is the day we welcome Marty McFly back to the future! We will celebrate with a Back to the Future movie marathon complete with an Enchantment Under the Sea theme.

21 & UP ONLY • FREE

Associate Professor of Accounting and Finance at UAB. His seminars were so popular in 2012 that we have invited him back. His advanced topics will include understanding world markets and foreign currency, in depth studies of money markets, mutual funds, stocks and bonds, purchasing your first home, understanding and avoiding fraud, and more. We will offer programs for children, teens, and adults of all ages. If you have topics you would like to have covered, please let us know! We want your input! Look for a link on the library's website at the beginning of August to a survey open for all in the community. Please visit the library's website at www.eolib.org and navigate to our Smart Investing page. There you will find the survey as well as links to the previous seminar series classes and other valuable information. This program series is funded by a generous grant from the American Library Association and FINRA, The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.



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RIBBON CUTTINGS



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Congratulations to the Mountain Brook retailers that have been nominated for the 2015 Alabama Retailer of the Year by the Mountain Brook Chamber!

The award honors business that have operated or managed a retail business in Alabama for at least five years. Finalists will be honored Oct. 6 at the annual Alabama Retail Day luncheon, which will feature Stu Crum, chairman and president of the Bridgestone Retail Operations. The award is sponsored by the Alabama Retail Association in conjunction with the University of Alabama at Birmingham Collat School of Business.

THE NOMINEES INCLUDE:

- Paige Albright of Paige Albright Orientals
- Billy Angell of Oak Street Garden Shop and Local Market
- Frank Davies III of Little Hardware
- Faith Gardner of Little Lavender Consignment
- Mary Anne Glazner of Smith's Variety Toy & Gift Shoppe
- Will Haver of Otey's Tavern
- Will Haver of Taco Mama
- Julie Howell and Elizabeth Roberts of Lamb's Ears Ltd.
- Chris and Anna Newsome of Ollie Irene
- Scott Pyburn of Harrison Limited
- Al Rabiee of Vino
- Marguerite Ray of Marguerite's Conceits
- Lynn Ritchie of A'Mano
- Jimmy Tracy of Tracy's Restaurant

Pride and responsibility drive us to be the best in everything we do.



Joseph Braswell

As a life-long Over-the-Mountain resident and a third generation working at Guin, I feel great pride and responsibility in carrying on the legacy of honesty and hard work that my grandfather began over 55 years ago. Family is very important to us, and we treat our customers with the same care and respect as members of our own family. It would be a privilege to serve you.

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MOUNTAIN BROOK

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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.

EVERY is the Word of the Day, Every Day at the Foundation!

Foundation Executive Director, Stephanie Maxwell, knows firsthand the importance of Mountain Brook Schools. "As both the Executive Director of the Foundation and a parent of current Mountain Brook Schools' students, I was energized to recently hear our teachers explaining the difference funding from the Foundation made in their classrooms. Our school system is such a key asset to

Mountain Brook as a whole." She continued, "Investing in the Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation should be a natural choice in our community. We provide funding that impacts every student, every school, and every faculty member, every year. The Foundation is truly making a difference in the lives of our students."



Altec/Styslinger Foundation Invests \$150,000 in Foundation

The Altec/Styslinger Foundation demonstrated a great sign of support for the Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation with its recent donation commitment of \$150,000.

Lee Styslinger III, President and CEO of Altec, pledged this commitment to assist the Foundation as it raises funds to bridge the gap between Mountain Brook Schools' technological, professional development and library enhancement needs, and funding received from local and state government.

Altec, headquartered in Birmingham, has operated as a leading provider of products and services to the electric utility, telecommunications, tree care, lights and signs, and contractor markets for over 85 years.

New Memorial & Honorary Giving Program

Tribute gifts offer a special option for friends and family to remember a loved one, or celebrate a special accomplishment. The Foundation's Memorial and Honorary Giving Program does just that.

Envelopes are included in this issue of The Reporter that provide a convenient way to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or other special event; remember a loved one or friend upon their passing; and notify the honoree or memorialized individual's family members with a special card sent within 24 hours of receipt of the donation; all the while supporting the work the Foundation does for the students of Mountain Brook.



**Every Student.
Every Teacher.
Every School.
Every Year.**

Since its inception, Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation has awarded over \$5.9 Million for the benefit of our children.

To become involved, contact:
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Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation

Foundation Approves School System Requests for \$382,776

The Board of Directors of the Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation approved a request from Mountain Brook Schools (MBS) for \$382,776 in library, professional development and technological enhancements at its



Chromebooks await distribution to MBHS and MBJH students.

Board Meeting on May 18, 2015.

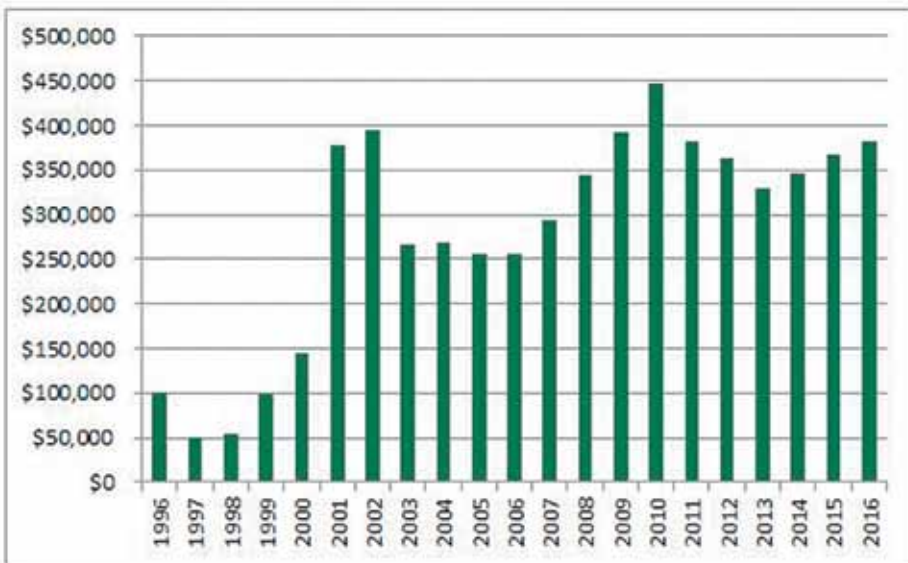
The Foundation, which currently has an Endowment valued at approximately \$8 million, is able to help fund the gap between the school system's

annual needs and the funding it receives from local and state sources. With this latest approval, the Foundation has donated almost \$6 million to Mountain Brook Schools since its inception in 1992.

A confirmed \$175,776 of this year's grant will fund the school system's website, replace classroom projectors and continue to fund MBTV with EduVision. However, the largest portion will underwrite a partnership between the Foundation and parents by enabling the system to offer a new Technology Bundle to all Mountain Brook High School students, beginning this fall.



FOUNDATION AWARDS TO MOUNTAIN BROOK SCHOOLS SCHOOL YEARS 1995-96 THROUGH 2015-16 TOTAL: \$5,912,495



The Foundation's underwriting of the new Technology Bundle, paired with technology fees paid by families during registration, will arm each student with a Chromebook, school system management, tech support, custom care and email and content filtering.

"The Foundation has been the catalyst to help determine which way the school system should go in terms of devices," Dicky Barlow, Mountain Brook Schools Superintendent, said at the Programs and Needs Committee presentation held earlier in May.

"Usually the system requests funding for technology and then gives it to the teachers with a directive to implement its use. This time, the teachers have asked for this important technology initiative. This change in the request process is evidence of the impact the Foundation's support is



Continues to Enhance Student Learning

making,” Barlow added.

In addition to the technology funding, each of the system’s six school libraries will receive \$2,000 for enhancements. This funding enables the schools to purchase books, magazines, subscriptions and software.

\$195,000 was also awarded for the continuation of partial funding for a math coach at the elementary level, summer professional learning stipends for all faculty members and a virtual learning space.

“It is exciting to hear how our teachers are using these resources and rewarding to see their enthusiasm for the new initiatives. The Foundation is empowering change for all of the students of Mountain Brook,” Alice Womack, Foundation Board President, said.



MBS Administration and Faculty participated in the Leadership Institute in June.

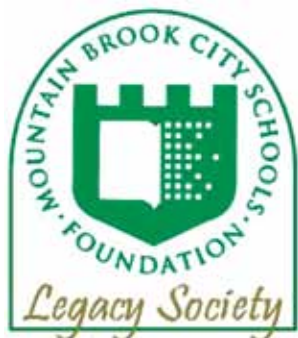
Foundation’s Support of Mountain Brook School Technology Since 2010

YEAR	ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	JUNIOR HIGH	HIGH SCHOOL
2010-2011	Pilot for InterWrite Replacement – Mobis		
	Laptop Replacements		
	K-1 Promethean Boards Pilot		
2011-2012	Promethean Boards		
	Laptop Replacements		
2012-2013	iPad Carts – 2 nd Grade		
	Funding Toward Laptop Replacements		
	Digital Device Pilot (CES)	Digital Device Math	Digital Device Eng/SS
2013-2014	iPads for 38 Classrooms		
	New School System Website		
		Learning Spaces Pilot	
2014-2015	Wireless Access Points		
2015-2016	Data Projector Replacements		
	MBTV Online with Eduvision		
			Technology Bundle
	School System Website		

2016

2017

2018



PLANNED GIVING – THE LEGACY SOCIETY

Planned gifts are a way to help the students of Mountain Brook beyond your lifetime without affecting your current cash flow. If you have already made plans to include the Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation in your estate plan, please notify the office so we can include you as a member in the Foundation's Legacy Society, and thank you.

Class Gift Program Is Underway

The Mountain Brook High School Class of 2016 will be the first class to make a gift to the Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation in the name of its class upon graduation. The program, started in 2013, is led by parent volunteers who contact every family in their child's grade beginning with a student's entry into 10th grade.

Volunteer Parent Class Gift Captains have recently been recruited for the Classes of 2017 and 2018. These parents join Lane and Thomas DeWine and Leigh and Brian Doud, Class Gift Captains for the Class of 2016 who have already secured gifts and pledges in excess of \$36,000.

The new Class Gift Captains for the Class of 2017 are Lori and Dan Barber, Sally and Brett Bussman, Betsy and Jimmy Holloway, and Adelaide and Russell Vandavelde.

Lori and Eddie Allen, Carol and Jorge de la Torre, Bridget and Steven Sikora, Teresa and Bob Shufflebarger will serve for the Class of 2018.

All classes are striving for 100% participation by the families in each class.

Student captains are also recruited through the High School to serve in leadership roles and raise funds at the school to raise awareness about the Foundation and the important purpose it serves in the community.

Career Tech Course Offerings

Mountain Brook High School offers several courses in the areas of business administration and finance: Business Technology I and II, Accounting, Business Law, Management Principles, Business Finance, Leadership Mountain Brook, Career Focus and Career COOP. Mountain Brook Junior High offers Project Lead the Way- Gateway to Engineering courses as semester electives for seventh, eighth and ninth grade students. These courses include: Automation and Robotics (AR), Design and Modeling (DM), Intro to Computer Science (ICS) and Foundations of Engineering.

MBHS CLASS REUNIONS SCHEDULED

It is that time of year! The MBHS Classes of 1975, 1985 and 1995 are preparing for their class reunions in August.

CLASS OF 1975 40TH REUNION
July 31st and August 1st

CLASS OF 1985 30TH REUNION
August 28th and 29th

CLASS OF 1995 20TH REUNION
August 8th

For more information, contact the Foundation office at 205.414.0042.

Class of 1985 Establishes Class Gift to the Foundation

The Class of 1985 Reunion Committee has established a gift in their class name. The Committee has set a goal of \$30,000 for the gift, and with over 240 alumni in their class, they feel certain they will meet or exceed that goal. Donations can be made to the Class of '85 30th Reunion Gift by mail to the Foundation at 32 Vine Street, Mountain Brook, AL 35213, or through the Foundation's online giving page at www.mtnbrookschoolsfoundation.com.

CONTACT: Stephanie Maxwell, CFRE | Executive Director
Mountain Brooks City School Foundation
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smaxwell@mtnbrookschoolsfoundation.com