



the Reporter

Mountain Brook, Ala.

www.mtnbrook.org

Volume XVIII, Issue 2

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Mountain Brook, Alabama

MAYORS MESSAGE

U.S. HIGHWAY 280

Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) will move forward as planned with the latest modifications to the traffic controls and movements on U.S. Highway 280.

Governor Bentley has stated that he supports the modified plan as proposed by ALDOT. Resolutions were passed by the State House of Representatives, the State Senate and the City of Mountain Brook. Also, Council President Virginia Smith, Councilman Billy Pritchard and I paid a personal visit to the Governor. Untold numbers of letters and emails, etc. have been sent protesting the modifications and changes to the intersection at Cherokee Road and the intersection at Hampton Inn/Wendy's and U.S. 280.

So far, City officials and various other officials have been unsuccessful in convincing ALDOT to modify their plan. The Governor stated that if the proposed plan does not work, he will then revisit the issue and make necessary changes.

The City Council and I deeply regret this situation but, at this time, there is nothing more we can do.

Sincerely,

Lawrence T. Oden

City Services Relocate to Crestline Village

Our new municipal complex is now complete. Our City Hall, Police Station and Fire Station #1, which includes the Fire Department administrative offices, have relocated back to Crestline Village. The Mountain Brook Chamber of Commerce has also relocated to our new City Hall.

Street addresses for our new municipal complex are:

City Hall – 56 Church Street

Police Department – 101 Tibbett Street

Fire Department – 102 Tibbett Street

Chamber of Commerce – 101 Hoyt Lane

We appreciate the patience of the Crestline merchants and residents during this construction project. Please come and visit us!

Second SRO Added

In efforts to further enhance our relationship with the Mountain Brook City School System and provide additional security for our children, the Mountain Brook Police Department is adding a second School Resource Officer (SRO). Officer Chris McCay has been selected to be the additional SRO. He has been with the Police Department since April of 2007.

Officer McCay will be assigned to the Junior High as well as Crestline and Mountain Brook Elementary Schools. The other SRO officer, Brian Kelley, will remain assigned to the Senior High as well as Cherokee Bend and Brookwood Forest Elementary Schools.



Officer McCay brings a wealth of knowledge to his new position. He has served the Department as a Field Training Officer, training many of our most recently hired Officers; Evidence Technician, and on the Department's Tactical Team. Prior to joining the Department, Chris was in public education. Chris taught in the Blount County School System for 9 years. Not only did he teach classes, Chris also coached several sports teams.

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BIRMINGHAM, AL
PERMIT NO. 40

Mayor: Lawrence T. Oden

CITY COUNCIL

Council President:

Virginia Carruthers Smith

President Pro Tem: Amy Carter

Jack Carl

Jesse Vogtle Jr.,

William S. "Billy" Pritchard, III

City Manager:

Sam S. Gaston, 802-3800

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

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SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

SHOP MOUNTAIN BROOK FIRST

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

www.welcometomountainbrook.com



Arbor Day

The Mountain Brook Tree Commission wishes to thank all those who took part in the annual Arbor Day Tree Giveaway. Prior to the event, Boy Scout Troop 320 assisted with the bagging and labeling of all the seedlings. Without such valuable assistance, this event could not be held! A special thanks to the management of participating merchants for allowing us space to set up and distribute trees. Shoppers visiting Western, Whole Foods, and both Piggly Wiggly stores on Saturday, March 2, were able to select from a variety of native tree species (cherrybark oak, sweetbay magnolia, blackgum, and red maple). Tree Commission members were on hand at each location to distribute trees, provide information, or simply chat with other tree enthusiasts. Some of the leftover trees are being utilized at the Public Works facility as part of the ongoing reforestation efforts following the April 2011 tornado.



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



City Employee of the Year

Ronnie Vaughn, Public Works Director, was named the 2012 City Employee of the Year by the Mountain Brook Chamber of Commerce. Ronnie was recognized for his reorganization of the Public Works Department and establishment of a more proactive approach and attitude toward customer service and projects completion.



Quarterly Crime Statistics

	4th Quarter 2012	1st Quarter 2013
Robbery	0	3
Burglary/Residence	28	23
Burglary/Business	2	1
Theft	65	48
Auto Theft	2	3
Assaults (Other)	2	1
Identity Theft	20	22
Criminal Mischief	10	11
Drugs	8	13
Family Violence	7	8
Accidents	268	218
A with Injuries	10	19
A with Fatalities	0	2
Calls For Service	6,002	6,946
House Watches	726	988
Property Stolen	\$755,856	\$983,470
Property Recovered	\$64,312	\$85,794

Stay Safe While Exercising

With warmer weather upon us, many of us are getting outside to exercise. Wearing reflective gear while running, walking, or bicycling at night is very important.

Mountain Brook City Ordinance requires individuals that walk, jog, or run in City streets during the hours of 4:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. to wear either (a) reflective clothing between the waist and shoulders on the front and back with a coverage of at least fifty (50) square inches or (b) strobe style continuously flashing lights at least two (2) inches in diameter between the waist and shoulders that are visible from the front and back.

On cold nights, don't make the mistake of wearing your reflective vest under your jacket or sweat-shirt. Reflective outerwear is designed to reflect to a driver's eye when approaching you. It is not enough to just wear bright clothing. An alternative to reflective clothing could be reflective tape or bands that you can put on several parts of your body.

Alabama law requires pedestrians to use a sidewalk "where a sidewalk is provided and its use is practicable." When a sidewalk is not available, either because there is not a sidewalk or because using an existing sidewalk is not practicable, pedestrians are to walk or run on the left side of the street and yield the right-of-way to vehicles in the roadway.

When bicycling at night, make sure you have working lights on both the front and back of your bike. On the front, it should be a solid light. On the back, it should be a blinking light below the back of your seat allowing better visibility to cars and for recognition that you are a cyclist. Also, **DON'T FORGET YOUR HELMET** if you are under 16 years of age and riding on public roads or property! It is just as important to wear a helmet as it is to make sure you have reflective tape on your helmet while night riding. Remember, covering your body with as much reflective gear as possible is the key!

Planning and Zoning Tidbits

ACCESSORY STRUCTURES

The City recently adopted new regulations governing the construction and placement of accessory structures such as fences, walls, accessory buildings, swimming pools, basketball courts, etc., on residential lots. If you are considering installing an accessory structure please review the new ordinance on-line, and call the City Planner (802-3821) with any questions.

www.mtnbrook.org → about us → useful links → Mountain

Brook City Code → Chapter 129 (Zoning)

→ Article XIX, General Area & Dimensional Requirements

→ Section 129-314, Accessory Structures and Buildings

→ Section 129-315, Fences and Walls

→ Section 129-318, Private Recreational Facilities

→ Section 129-319, Exterior Lighting of Private Recreational Facilities

LANE PARKE

The Park Lane Apartments have been razed and construction is ready to begin for the residential component of Lane Parke. This component will be located at the north end of the site and will be comprised of 5 apartment buildings contain 247 units. Initial occupancy of the apartments is expected in spring 2014. It is anticipated that the boutique hotel is next "up to bat," with the City's Village Design Review Committee gearing up to begin review of the hotel elevations in May 2013.

SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS

The City Planning Commission has just adopted new Subdivision Regulations and a related Road Classifications Map. Birmingham based KPS Group was the lead consultant on the year-long project which involved the coordinated efforts of many City departments and a host of local design professionals and engineers. Generally speaking, subdivision regulations govern the manner in which property may be subdivided and what types of public improvements must be made in conjunction with the subdivision. Find the new regulations on the Planning Department page of the City's website, under "Helpful Links."

Building Permit Activity

Permit Type:	4th Quarter-2012		1st Quarter-2013	
	No. Permits	Permit Value	No. Permits	Permit Value
New Construction	11	\$6,703,000	11	\$6,411,000
Alterations/Additions	88	\$7,798,185	76	\$6,113,076
Repairs/Other	199	\$2,701,837	171	\$2,975,876
Totals:	298	\$17,203,022	258	\$15,499,952

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.

2013 Street Paving List

The City of Mountain Brook recently awarded the 2013 paving contract to Dunn Construction. The paving will be done in two phases this year with the first phase focusing on Crestline Village. It has been close to twenty years since some of these streets have been paved and we look forward to restoring the streets of Crestline. Phase two of this year's paving will begin in early summer. Below is a list of streets to be milled and resurfaced.

PHASE 1

- Church Street
- Oak Street
- Hoyt Lane
- Tibbett Street
- Keeley Court
- Dan Watkins
- Alley between Hoyt Lane and Oak Street
- Vine Street (Dexter to Euclid)
- Euclid Avenue (Memory to Vine)

PHASE 2

- Dell Road
- Sherwood Road
- Briarcliff Road (West end)
- Euclid Avenue (Vine to Montevallo)

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

Sidewalk Projects Update

MOUNTAIN BROOK WALKWAY SYSTEM PHASE 6

Construction is ongoing on the Mountain Brook Walkway System Phase 6 project. We have completed the sidewalks on Green Valley Road and Knollwood Drive. Construction is ongoing on Overcrest Road, Cherokee Road, Overbrook Road, and Old Leeds Road. We have yet to start construction on Shiloh Drive. The previous delays experienced on driveway and retaining wall approvals have been resolved with ALDOT and this work is actively being performed. It is currently estimated that the project will be completed in mid to late summer.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

The "Safe Routes to School" sidewalk project near Crestline and Mountain Brook Elementary Schools is currently being redesigned to accommodate comments from residents in Crestline. The project will add sidewalks along Canterbury Road, Overhill Road, Watkins Road, Vine Street, and West Monterest Drive. We are anticipating the project will be bid this summer with construction ongoing this fall.

Spring Cleaning Tips

COMPOST

Our compost operation is in full swing. We load open-bed vehicles for a cost Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and in the afternoons between the hours of 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. There is no cost to residents who load their own vehicles. Call our office (205-802-2390) for more information.

TRASH PICKUP

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

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

SPECIAL ITEMS DISPOSAL

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

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

REMEMBER IT'S MOSQUITO SEASON



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

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

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

Mulch and Pine Straw Fire Hazards

During the spring months many homeowners turn their attention to their outdoor living spaces. A big part of this includes cleaning up leaves and other wind-blown debris from the property and freshening up the landscape areas around the property by re-mulching.

Since 2008, there have been four instances of landscape lighting and mulch causing fires within the City of Mountain Brook. These four fires resulted in \$450,000 damage to homes and property.

In addition, four instances of auxiliary generator exhaust have caused fires resulting in over \$30,000 damage. These fire hazards can be minimized.

Make sure your landscaper is aware that you have landscape lighting on your property and stress with them to pay particular attention to the location of these lights. Any landscaping materials, such as mulch or pine straw, create a fire hazard when placed on top of, or against the lights. Also keep the mulch or pine straw away from auxiliary

generators and their exhaust discharge.

After the mulch has been applied, be sure to walk around your property and inspect the areas where the landscaping material has been applied to make sure that the mulch is not on or against the light fixtures or around the auxiliary generator.

If you have questions about landscape lighting, auxiliary generators, or other fire prevention matters, please contact the Mountain Brook Fire Department at 205-802-3838.

Recent City Council Actions

The City Council has adopted the following ordinances since December 2012

- Ordinance 1884: Amended Chapter 34 of City of Mountain Brook Code regarding destruction of trees and shrubs on City property.
- Ordinance 1871 Amended PUD development plan for the Lane Parke development.

The City Council has authorized/approved the following projects since December 2012:

- Approved a change-order for converting the Police report room to a kitchenette area in the jail area in the municipal complex.
- Authorized a change order to Walker Patton CMAQ-95802(921) sidewalk contract for the purchase and installation of trees and shrubs in consideration of an amount not to exceed \$9,981.77.
- Authorized the installation of a street light at the northwest corner of the Caldwell Mill Road and Old Trace intersection.
- Amended the restating of the City of Mountain Brook Employee Dental Benefit Plan Summary Plan Description
- Awarded the bid for the purchase of a fire pumper to Bay Fire Products in the amount of \$426,002.
- Authorized a change order to the security and CCTV system contract between the City and Alscan for the purchase and installation of an additional camera in the Police booking room of the new municipal complex in consideration of \$1,685
- Authorized two contracts between the City and Allcom Wireless for the installation and relocation of communication antennae system and a distributed antenna system for the municipal complex.
- Authorized the execution of a letter of approval to Crown Castle lease an additional 831 square feet of space adjacent to the existing communications tower site located at the City's Public Works facility
- Authorized City Manager to initiate proceedings to secure a lien against the property located at 2210 Sterlingwood Drive to recover demolition costs incurred to remedy its public nuisance.
- Authorized 3-year contract renewal with Waste Management for garbage, trash and recycling service.
- Awarded street (re)paving bid for 2013 to Dunn Contracting in the amount of \$784,826.50.
- Authorized \$340 change order to Alscan, Inc. contract for purchase of a pedestal mount for the garage access card reader.
- Accepted additional 20 feet of right-of-way along Pine Ridge Road at 3415 and 3501 Pine Ridge Road regarding the Thompson subdivision.
- Approved Preliminary Engineering Agreement for Phase 9 Sidewalk project with the Alabama Department of Transportation.
- Approved conditional use application by Village Dermatology for their operation of a medical office located at 2900 Cahaba Road.
- Appointed the City's Fire Battalion Chief – Training and Safety Division to serve as the City's Safety Coordinator.



Every Second Counts

ADVANCES IN TECHNOLOGY EQUAL BETTER PATIENT OUTCOMES

Most everyone is familiar with the adage that “Every second counts” in pre-hospital emergency care. However, there is a new buzz phrase that is beginning to circulate that says, “Time is Muscle”. So just what does this new buzz phrase mean? The “muscle” in the phrase refers to the cardiac or heart muscle and “time” represents a very critical factor that can significantly impact the outcome of a person suffering from an acute coronary event, most commonly referred to in layman’s terms as a “heart attack”. In instances of a heart attack, time is a crucial element and is a major factor in the patients’ chance for survival. Generally, the more time that passes the more damage the heart muscle suffers. The less time it takes for a patient to receive definitive medical treatment, the better.

With advances in technology, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) can now help to reduce the time it takes for patients to realize these advanced life saving interventions. One of the diagnostic tools used in determining a heart attack is a 12-lead electrocardiogram (ECG or EKG). The Mountain Brook Fire Department recently purchased six (6) Zoll X-Series cardiac monitor defibrillator units, which not only gives us the ability to acquire 12-lead ECG’s in the field but also the ability to transmit the data to the receiving hospital through a wireless cellular modem. This gives cardiologists a “real time” look at the patient’s cardiac condition which allows them to make preparations, such as readying the cath lab/cath team, for the patient’s arrival. In fact, many patients bypass the emergency department altogether and are advanced straight to an awaiting cath team.

THINGS TO REMEMBER IF YOU EXPERIENCE CHEST PAIN

- Stop any physical exertion
- Call or have someone call 911 immediately
- DO NOT attempt to drive yourself to the hospital or to a fire station
- Try to remain calm
- Do not try to reason it away (denial)

Time is muscle and seconds really do count.



New Businesses

CONSTRUCTION

- **Harwell Renovation & Restoration:** 1911 27th Avenue South, 205/296-2100
- **Southland Builders & Construction:** 3269 Cahaba Heights Road, 205/937-7874
- **Village Park Builders:** 2900 Cahaba Road, 205/802-1818

WHOLESALE/RETAIL

- **Blossom Blanks:** 3641 Spring Valley Road 256/503-9216
- **Buckhead Interiors (The):** 2724 Cahaba Road, 205/637-5991
- **Jay Weinacker Tennis:** 3325 Country Club Road, 205/803-4230
- **P31 Life Ministries, LLC:** 14 Peachtree Street, 205/824-8813

SERVICE

- **Alliance Publishing, LLC:** 400 Office Park Drive, Suite 301, 205/482-2464
- **Bolton Production Group, Inc.:** 2850 Cahaba Road, Suite 201, 205/251-0346
- **Jill Copeland, LMT, NMT:** 3918 Montclair Road, Suite 100, 205/383-9440
- **Mary House Kessler, PhD:** 2700 Highway 280, Suite 470 E, 205/602-8329
- **Rebecca Impello at SOS YOGA:** 3918 Montclair Road, Suite 100, 205/568-6040
- **Southern Femme:** 2839 Culver Road, Suite 202, 205/873-9797
- **Eddie Fryer Insurance Inc:** 2921 Cahaba Road, 205/942-0496
- **Sunbelt Sweeteners:** 400 Office Park Drive, Suite 200, 205/380-6305

REAL ESTATE

- **Drennen Family, LLC:** 4148 Stone River Road, 205/871-2098
- **Exceptional Settings:** 8 Woodhill Road, 205/871-4342
- **LTM Properties, LLC:** 3 Buildings in Office Park, 205/410-1953

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- **Brothers CPA, PC:** 2913 Pump House Road, 205/444-9281
- **Jeannette M. Briscoe, LCSW-PIP:** 3 Office Park Circle, Suite 115, 205/912-2000
- **Lorant Law, PC:** 6 Office Park Circle, Suite 214, 205/871-7551
- **Yerby Therapy, LLC:** 3918 Montclair Road, Suite 100, 205/401-3818

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT

- **Urban Cookhouse:** 212 Country Club Park, 205/527-6564

Board Appointments/Vacancy

REAPPOINTMENTS

The City Council has recently made the following reappointments:

- Lynn Ritchie – Village Design Review Committee
- David Murdock – Editorial Board
- Lloyd Shelton – Finance Committee
- James Ernest Grisham, III – Village Design Review Committee
- Ellen Elsas – Village Design Review Committee

BOARD VACANCY

The City of Mountain Brook has the following board/committee vacancy to fill immediately:

- Editorial Board – 4-year appointment (City newsletter)

If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact Sam Gaston at 802-3800 or gastons@mtnbrook.org.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

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

**Reminder: City Hall has moved back to 56 Church Street in Crestline Village.*



Above: Teens enjoy the annual water balloon war as part of the library's summer reading program.

Adult Summer Reading @ EOL

Summer reading is always a fun time, no matter your age. This year is no exception for adults and teens at Emmet O'Neal Library. Summer Reading kicks off for everyone at the annual carnival and fun run on May 19th. Adults and teens can register for summer reading, pick up a free book, and take in the carnival atmosphere. In addition, our Teen Advisory Board will be hosting a bake sale to raise money for their programs.

Other not-to-be-missed opportunities for fun @ your library are:

Parents & Teen Olympics!

Tuesday, June 4

At this interactive program, teams of parents and their teens will compete against other parents and teens in different games and challenges. There will be prizes, including an e reader for the parent/teen team to earn the most points!

Foodie Trivia

Tuesday, June 11, 6:30pm

Trivia is one of our favorite programs! This summer it's all about foodie trivia. We plan to test our brains, but fill our stomachs at tonight's program. Please call the library's reference desk to register.

Mountain Brook Residents Have Free Music @ Their Fingertips!

When you think about the public library what comes to mind? Books? Magazines? Research? We certainly have all of those in spades, but what about music? Did you know Mountain Brook residents can register for *Freegal*, enter a valid library card number, and have instant access to 3 free MP3 songs per week?

These songs are yours to keep and can be downloaded either to the *Freegal* app (free on iOS and Android) or to iTunes. *Freegal* gives you access to the Sony Music catalog – a catalog which represents 54 labels with artists as varied as Paul Simon, Justin Timberlake and Bruce Springsteen. Prefer classical or folk? It's there too! *Freegal* allows you to sample 30 seconds of a song before deciding to download it. Your 3 song limit resets at midnight each Sunday. For more information, please call the Library's Reference Desk at (205) 445-1121.

Exam Breaks & Teen Summer Reading @ EOL

Summertime rules in the young adult department at The Emmet O'Neal Library, but before summer starts we have to get through finals! This spring the library will once again open up the big meeting room to offer our students a safe and comfortable place to study with their classmates Monday, May 20th - Thursday, May 23rd. We'll also provide snacks and drinks and keep the meeting room open late on Wednesday, May 22nd.

Once exams are over, we'll start the summer in Olympic style with a Parent-Teen Cooperative Olympics, each pair of contestants will go through a series of competitions and the ones with the highest score will win the grand prize, and it's guaranteed to be a night you and your teenager will long treasure.

In honor of the popular Hunger Games series, our Teen Advisory Board has chosen *To Kill a Mockingjay* as the summer reading theme for 2013. Some of our summertime highlights include a teen cooking competition, our annual water balloon war, an 80's movie marathon, comic book making and an electronics workshop. Make sure your teen signs up early for all the fun!

Movie Potluck

Saturday, June 22, 5pm

Movie potluck returns this summer with a new release. Tonight's film takes us to imperial Russia where we meet Anna Karenina, a married aristocrat who is having an affair with an affluent count.

Please bring a dish to share!

Birmingham Arts Journal

Tuesday, July 9, 7pm

Please join us at Emmet O'Neal at a reception with our friends from Birmingham Arts Journal for a preview of their summer issue. Artists, photographers, poets and writers will be @ EOL to share their work.

Brown Bag – Birthday Party for Proust

Wednesday, July 10, 12:30pm

Last year we threw a birthday party for Hemingway, this year it's for Marcel Proust. Please join us on what would be Marcel Proust's 142nd birthday! We will hear from an internationally recognized Proust scholar. We will hear about the famous writer's life and legacy - and perhaps munch on madeleines.

Let's Talk Money

Thursday, July 18, 6:30pm

Join us tonight for our newest series on personal finance and investing. Area professionals will speak on topics important to you – please feel free to ask questions. Doors open at 6:15, a light meal will be served.

Bad Art Night – FINALE

Tuesday, July 23, 6:30pm

Help us celebrate the finale of our Adult Summer Reading program with a perennial favorite, Bad Art Night! Bring a friend or two or three and compete for title of worst art of the night. We'll have stations set up for you with paper, paint, watercolors and other materials. All you have to do is create the art. Participants will vote on the worst art in several categories before picking the absolute worst art of the night. Bad Art Night happens to be the night that we announce the winner of our Adult Summer Reading contest, so don't miss out!



Children's Department

We've got something for you this summer at the Emmet O'Neal Library!

Summer Reading Kickoff

Sunday, May 19

The Summer Reading Kickoff Carnival, sponsored by the Junior Women's Committee of 100, begins at 2:30 with our annual Thomas Hughes Brinkley Memorial Fun Run, open to walkers, runners, cyclists, skateboarders, roller skaters, and strollers. The outdoor carnival follows from 3:00 to 5:00 and features game and craft booths, concessions, and a train ride. During the carnival, librarians will be on hand to help readers of all ages register for the Summer Reading program. Tickets for kickoff events are available starting May 2.

The Junior Women's Committee of 100 is a source of essential support to the Emmet O'Neal Children's Department. The carnival raises funds that make our programs and services possible, and JWC members also assist in our

day-to-day operations by contributing over 400 volunteer hours throughout the year. Special thanks to Carnival Chairs Morgan Cook and Fluff Roberts, Fun Run Chair Laura Canterbury, and JWC President Diana Browning.



Above: A crowd gathers for the Summer Reading Kickoff with Mountain Brook's fire department helping to cool everyone off!

Left: The JWC is gearing up for another fantastic summer reading carnival.

Summer Camps

All camps are for registered patrons only, so be sure to visit our website starting May 3 and get a spot before they're gone.

Gardening Camp

We'll continue our successful collaboration with Oak Street Garden Shop to bring you all-ages Tuesday/Thursday morning sessions in the community garden throughout June.

Literacy Camp

This summer also sees the return of our literacy camp for rising 1st and 2nd graders. Due to its past popularity, we'll offer two sessions: July 8-11 and July 22-25.

Glaub Memorial Camp: Geology

Our deepest thanks to the Glaub family and friends for once again making possible the Geoffrey Glaub Memorial Summer Camp for rising 3rd – 6th graders, taking place June 17-20. This year the Glaub Camp will totally rock – it's all about geology!

Dig Into Reading & Xtreme Reads

Visit the children's desk every week to win prizes by playing our weekly games; you'll also be able to keep track of your reading to earn the opportunity to visit the book room and pick out a book to keep. And our online program, Xtreme Summer Reading, will be back by popular demand this year for those rising 3rd – 6th grade readers looking to dig a little deeper into books.

August 6 – Summer Reading Finale

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, August 6, when we'll have the block party we like to call the Summer Reading Finale. Summer Reading participants are invited for pizza and a live performance by everybody's favorite sultan of silliness, Roger Day! Whatever you dig, we've got something for you at the Emmet O'Neal Library this summer.

Summer Reading Programs

Begin June 3

Regular Storytimes

The regular lapsit storytimes you depend on will continue through June and July this summer, serving children from birth to 36 months with their caregivers. Visit www.eolib.org to register online. Mr. Mac will still stop by every Saturday morning for our all-ages, no-registration-required Family Storytime.

Tuesdays & Thursdays

This summer, we'll feature two movie-and-popcorn events each week, with Tuesday afternoons geared toward the preschool and lower elementary crowd, and Thursday mornings aimed at upper elementary students. Tuesday mornings, we'll bring in the best performers from around the region and the country so all ages can dig in to theater, puppet shows, live music, and more. Thursday afternoons will feature Xtreme SNaP, a hodge-podge of activities and gaming days for rising 3rd through 6th graders. Summer editions of Bookmania – with games, book chats, and pizza – will continue to keep your upper elementary schoolers happy and fed. Dates, performers, and book selections, as well as the rest of the programming details, will be available on the summer calendar in the library and at www.eolib.org after May 1.



Be Local. Be Mountain Brook. Be You.

Welcome to the Villages of Mountain Brook

Mountain Brook's Third Annual Chamber Luncheon



A sold out crowd was present to hear keynote speaker Mike Royer.



The Jemison Visionary Award was given to Rele Evans (far left) pictured here with his family.

MOUNTAIN BROOK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Welcome to the
2013 Mountain Brook
Chamber of Commerce
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- Mountain Brook Sports Corporation:** Doug Centeno
- Executive Director:** Suzan Smith Doidge
- Project Manager:** Hannon Sharley Davidson

May Chamber Luncheon

Dicky Barlow superintendent of Mountain Brook City Schools to speak at May 9th Luncheon at Lane Park



Left to right: Dena Berte, Carol de la Torre, Tricia Golden, Dicky Barlow, Leigh Ann Sisson, Emily Frost and Laura Hydinger

MARKET DAY

Saturday July 20

Mountain Brook Village

MOUNTAIN BROOK
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Food Truck Fundraiser

Food lovers will think they have died and gone to culinary heaven on Saturday, May 4, 2013, when several of Birmingham's most popular food trucks join forces for The Food Truck Roundup, a carnival of cuisines to benefit PreSchool Partners.

Food trucks and several restaurants and breweries will converge from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. to whip out their most beloved dishes and beverages underneath the Alabama sky. The event, presented by PreSchool Partners Executive Board, Young Partners Board and Women's Committee, will take place at the Macy's parking lot at Brookwood Mall in Mountain Brook.

PreSchool Partners is dedicated to preparing at-risk 3- and 4-year-olds, and their parents, for kindergarten in the Birmingham City Schools. Students, who may not otherwise get a pre-school education, receive a solid educational foundation and are set on a path toward success.

"We are excited about this fundraiser," says Lella Carl, executive director. "We are grateful that these businesses believe in supporting education. At PreSchool Partners, we know that a good education is a proven solution to fighting poverty and building better communities. Our program is changing lives for the better."



Distinctive Woman



Congratulations Suzan Doidge for being recognized as a Women of Distinction by the Girls Scouts of Central Alabama. Left to right: Anne Raines, Campbell, Neil, Suzan



Thank you to the 2013 Chamber Board of Directors



Front row, left to right: Terry Chapman, Martha Gorham, Lee Perry, Anne Womack, Kaye Emack; Row 2: John Rucker, Al Rabiee, Sam Gaston, Lori Smith, Alice Womack; Row 3: Christopher Groom, Christiana Roussel, Joanne Mummert, George Jones, Jesse Vogtle; Row 4: Ladd Tucker, Amy Jackson, Suzan Doidge, John Wilson, Steven Hydinger



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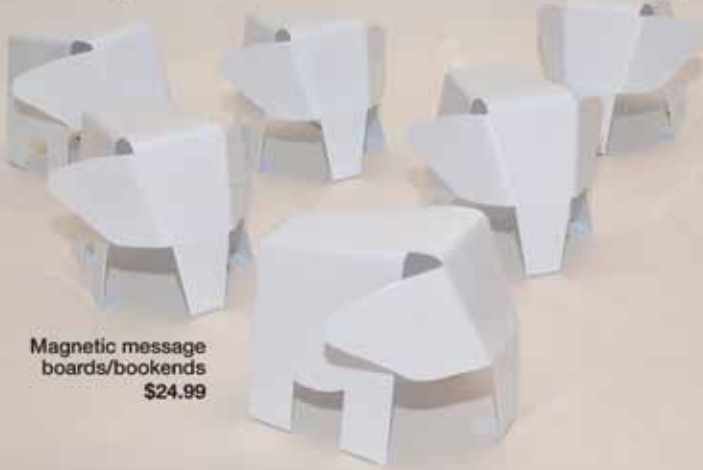
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KEN KEY TO RETIRE AS SCHOOLS' FACILITIES DIRECTOR

By Dale Wisely

Here is a project you want to avoid: Writing a brief article about Ken Key's career.

Key had already accumulated enough of a range of training and experience to make one's head spin before he came to work for Mountain Brook Schools in 1994. He will retire as the school system's Director of Facilities in June.

Key, a Gardendale native, worked as an electrician after graduating high school. He subsequently

"Ken Key has been instrumental in vast improvements in the school facilities in Mountain Brook during his tenure. The community should know what a debt they owe to Ken."

– Dicky Barlow

enrolled in night classes at UAB which was then known as the University of Alabama Birmingham Extension Center. He worked as a draftsman for a consulting engineer for a time. He then moved to Auburn where he was involved in ROTC and was in a co-op program between Auburn and Alabama Power. He studied engineering but actually ended up with a degree in education. He taught science, math, and PE at Irondale Junior High, where he met his wife of 48 years, Jessie. Key then joined the Air Force, went through officer training and flight school and ultimately flew helicopters and fixed wing aircraft. One of his early assignments in the Air Force was flying missions in Vietnam, retrieving drones over Vietnam, literally in mid-air. "This was basically a series of carefully planned mid-air collisions," said Key.

For a time, Key was stationed in Iceland and flew rescue missions. One of his most difficult and memorable missions was the rescue of the two-man crew of the Double Eagle. "The Double Eagle was a



Photo by Dale Wisely

helium balloon which made a failed attempt to cross the Atlantic Ocean in 1977," said Key. "The balloon and its crew had ditched off the coast of Iceland." After a long, challenging, and successful mission to rescue the two balloonists, Key gave the balloonists two patches from his own uniform as a memento.

As his career progressed, Key was trained in air traffic control. Because of his background in engineering, he also worked extensively for the military in the areas of electronics, computers, and communication and ultimately commanded military command-and-control communication systems in Korea, Hawaii, and all of Europe. He also served at the National Security Agency in the Pentagon for a time. He retired at the rank of Colonel in 1993.

"I worked as a consultant for a while after retiring from the military and in 1994 I saw an ad in

the Birmingham News for the position of Director of Facilities at the school system," recalls Key. "I called to inquire and learned the deadline for the application was that day, but I managed to get an application in. A week later, I got a call asking me to interview. I was in England at the time on a consulting job and was in Germany the following day. But, I was able to return to participate in an interview."

For a man accustomed to challenges, Ken Key faced a new one. Charles Mason, superintendent at the time of Key's hiring, had come to Mountain Brook to find an exemplary school system with outdated and inadequate facilities. Key recalls that, before Key was hired, Mason asked him to read an extensive report on the state of the school system's

Continued on page 14

Continued from page 14

outdated facilities, which had been prepared by a consultant. Key recalls that Mason was surprised Key still wanted the job after reading that report. “He said, ‘you read this report, but you came back!’”

In his letter announcing his retirement, Key wrote, “This decision to retire comes after many hours of prayerful consideration and discussions with Jessie and our family. I have enjoyed 19 years of challenges, opportunities, growth experiences, and visible rewards from the people I have had the pleasure of serving. I will certainly miss the great atmosphere of this school system. I especially appreciate the integrity and professional guidance of our Superintendents and the Board of Education. Our citizens are certainly blessed by their service. I feel as if I am leaving my family because that is what the staff members and employees have become. We have laughed and cried together. As I have said before, this is the best place I have had the privilege of working and belonging.”

Charles Mason recommended Key’s hire to the school board and they served together until Mason’s retirement in 2009. “Because of Ken Key’s leadership,” Mason said, “Mountain Brook and its schools are better off in several important ways. Students and teachers do their work in environments that are attractive, safe, and conducive to learning. The schools and their grounds project an image of the schools and the community that instill pride, communicate the importance the community places on education, and contribute to the overall appeal of Mountain Brook. And, through the establishment and maintenance of relationships with city government, PTA’s, and community youth sports groups, Ken has enabled the community to get maximum value from school properties.”

Commenting on Ken Key’s retirement, Superintendent Dicky Barlow said, “Ken is one of those people you just can’t replace. His background and experience are so rich and he is as wise and intelligent a person as you could hope to know. In many ways, he has been a mentor to me and I will always be grateful to him. He has been instrumental in the vast improvements that have been made in the school facilities in Mountain Brook during his tenure. We now have facilities that are needed in a first-class school system. The community should know what a debt they owe to Ken.”

“You may not personally know Ken Key,” added Charles Mason, “but you and this community benefit every day from the incredible work he has done during his time with Mountain Brook Schools.” ■



Photo by Heather Wood

COMMUNITY SHOWS HUGE SUPPORT FOR CHAMPIONSHIP BASKETBALL TEAM

At this point, perhaps all the stories have been told about the Mountain Brook Spartans varsity basketball team winning the 6A state men’s basketball title. There is the story of former Spartans men’s basketball coach Mark Cornelius (current Mountain Brook women’s coach), in 1998, telling junior high basketball players that they would one day win the state championship, and that in that group of young players was current men’s basketball coach Bucky McMillan.

Many people in Mountain Brook would be able to chart for you the team’s progress in the winning season: Victories over Woodlawn, Shades Valley, Carver, then on to the Northeast Regional Tournament at Jacksonville State to defeat Clay-Chalkville, and then the thrilling come-from-behind victory over a mighty Lee-Huntsville team. Off then to the final four to face and defeat Blount, and then victory in the 6A championship final on March 2 over Sparkman High.

These stories are familiar and barely need retelling, because of the massive presence of the citizenship of Mountain Brook at these games which, for many, will be the most memorable of all the stories.

Estimates of the number of fans at the big game wearing neon green t-shirts usually center on the number 8,000. For a town with 20,000 men, women, and children, it seems reasonable to estimate that half of the people in Mountain Brook who were physically able to come to the game were there.

“This group of players had an amazing will to win and so we knew they had a shot at doing very well,” said Athletic Director Terry Cooper. “But, anyone who came to any of the games, particularly as we got closer to the championship, knows that the fan support by our students and community played a huge part in this championship. When players glance up in the bleachers and see all of those enthusiastic fans, all displaying that bright



Photo by by Dealie Pope

neon color, it definitely energizes them. All the people who came out to support us should know that part of this championship belongs to them.”

“The community support of this basketball team was amazing and it was literally highly visible,” said Superintendent Dicky Barlow. “All of those spectators in neon were hard to miss. But, I think the support of this team is just a representation of what we are blessed with throughout the school system. We have a community that is always there for us, in athletics, in academics, in our fine arts programs, in everything we do. That’s as close as you can get to the key to what makes this a great school system and a great community.” ■



Photo by by Heather Wood

SWAG

“When we started our workouts in June, our Mountain Brook men’s basketball team made a decision that we would commit to three things for the upcoming season. First, we would put in more hours and work harder than any other team. Second, we would give 100% in every workout, practice and game and we would do this 100% of the time. Third, we would always be unselfish. We knew that if we accomplished these three things, we would then be able to experience one of the best feelings in life--fearlessness. That was our ultimate goal. There is no better way to play a sport or to live your life than to live it fearlessly. Some people might call this confidence. Others would call it toughness. We called it ‘swag.’ It was good to see our team represent an entire community with courage, with confidence, with heart, with Spartan Swag. What made me the most proud is how our players’ hard-working, unselfish, fearless attitude became contagious to an entire community and we saw a whole community ‘get their swag on.’ I know I speak for the team when I express our gratitude for this Mountain Brook Community for the incredible support they gave this championship team.”

--Bucky McMillan, Men’s Head Basketball Coach

MIKE THOMPSON ENDS SCHOOL BOARD SERVICE; RICHARD MURRAY APPOINTED

On April 8, 2013, the Mountain Brook City Council appointed Richard Murray IV to the Mountain Brook Board of Education, filling a position to be vacated at the end of May by the retirement from the board of Mike Thompson. “Mike Thompson has served the Mountain Brook Board of Education extremely well for 10 years,” wrote school board president Jane Menendez, in a letter to the City Council. “Mr. Thompson’s knowledge of finance and business has been invaluable in numerous decisions that have come before the Board and we have come to rely on his expertise. He will be greatly missed.” Commenting on Thompson’s conclusion of two terms on the school board, superintendent Dicky Barlow said, “Mike is passionate about serving our students and community members. He has been thoughtful, involved, and a wise voice for the school system. His business and financial background has been a tremendous asset, but he is also a deeply caring and compassionate man. He has served this community with distinction.”

Richard Murray IV is President and CEO of National Bank of Commerce. He has been in banking for nearly 30 years. He has served as a member of the board of directors of the Crippled Children’s Foundation and the United Way of Central Alabama. He is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Birmingham and the Vanderbilt Alumni Association. He is a current Trustee of the Birmingham Business Alliance and a former board member of the Emmet O’Neal Library Foundation.

Born in Mobile, Mr. Murray attended Vanderbilt, receiving his B.S. in 1984. He received his M.B.A. in 1988 from Samford University. He is a member of Canterbury United Methodist Church. He is married to Norita Riegle Murray and they have three children, Richard, Grace, and Margaret. ■



Richard Murray IV

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

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



Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation

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School	Tuition
Altamont	\$18,036
Indian Springs	\$18,450
Trinity (Montgomery)	\$10,690
St. James (Montgomery)	\$9,840
Montgomery Academy	\$12,408
St. Paul's (Mobile)	\$10,176
UMS-Wright (Mobile)	\$10,295
Tuscaloosa Academy	\$8,792
Harpeth Hall (Nashville)	\$22,770
Ensworth (Nashville)	\$24,390
MBA (Nashville)	\$21,250
Baylor (Chattanooga)	\$20,585
McCallie (Chattanooga)	\$21,690
GPS (Chattanooga)	\$20,570
Charlotte Latin	\$19,650
Charlotte CDS	\$21,125
Westminster (Atlanta)	\$22,270
Pace (Atlanta)	\$22,570
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