



# the Reporter

Mountain Brook, Ala.

www.mtnbrook.org

Volume XXV, Issue 3



## » MAYOR'S MESSAGE: COVID-19 UPDATE - MASKS REQUIRED «

On June 29th, the Jefferson County Health Department issued a county-wide order mandating that employees and customers of public businesses must wear a face covering while inside the premises.

I want to thank our residents, business owners and their employees for embracing this mandate. In many cases I know you are not doing this for yourself but for others whom you might unknowingly infect.

Nobody likes wearing a face covering. It is not particularly comfortable; it is hard to talk; it is harder to hear someone who is wearing one; but a mask is an important tool for reducing the spread of COVID-19.

My background is investing so I naturally think in terms of risks versus

rewards. With COVID, I realize that there is scientific debate on the effectiveness of wearing a mask. For me, the risk of wearing one is low...inconvenient and annoying, while the potential reward is very high...reducing the spread of COVID by 50% to 80%, depending on which study you believe.

COVID is real; it is highly contagious, and it can be deadly, particularly to people with compromised immune systems.

**SPECIAL MESSAGE TO OUR YOUTH:** It is true that your risk of serious illness from COVID is low but your risk of contracting the disease is the same as everyone else. The reason to wear a mask is so you are less likely to inadvertently

infect someone who is vulnerable to serious illness or death.

This is a great opportunity for us to come together and show we are a community who cares for each other. Thank you for being part of this community.

## Thank you, EBSCO Industries!

*EBSCO donated 2,000 masks to our first responders and city employees back in April and another 1,600 masks in June. These donations have been extremely helpful to our city and will be put to good use.*

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

Mayor: Stewart H. Welch, III

**CITY COUNCIL**

**Council President:**

Virginia Carruthers Smith

Council Pro Tem, William S. "Billy" Pritchard III  
Alice Womack, Lloyd Shelton, Phil Black

**City Manager:**

Sam S. Gaston, 802-3800

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

## Municipal Election

The general municipal election is scheduled for Tuesday, August 25, 2020. Offices up for election include: 1) Mayor (currently held by Stewart Welch, 2) City Council Place 2 (currently held by Philip Black), and 3) City Council Place 4 (currently held by Virginia Carruthers Smith)..

The qualification period ended on July 21, 2020. The following residents (listed by office alphabetically) qualified for the open offices:

- Mayor: Stewart Welch, III
- Place 2: Phil Black  
Gerald Garner
- Place 4: Virginia Carruthers Smith

Certificates of Election were issued to Welch and Smith at the July 27, 2020, meeting of the City Council by virtue of being the only persons who qualified for their respective offices.

Mountain Brook residents are assigned by the Jefferson County Board of Registrars to polling locations based on congressional districts. To minimize confusion by voters, Mountain Brook has adopted the same poll assignments used by the County (meaning residents generally vote in their "customary" polling location). The only exceptions are those City residents assigned to vote at polling locations outside of the

**Our BUSINESSES need your SUPPORT now more than ever!**

**UPDATED INFORMATION AT [www.mtnbrookchamber.org](http://www.mtnbrookchamber.org)**

**SHOP MOUNTAIN BROOK FIRST!**

City. Those individuals will be reassigned to another polling location within the City (as prescribed by law) **but such change will only be effective for the August 25,**

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**2020 City election.** Mountain Brook voters assigned to polling locations outside of Mountain Brook should receive a post card in the mail in August informing them of their polling location for the August 25th election.

The six polling locations for the City election are as follows:

- St. Luke's Episcopal Church
- City Hall
- Brookwood Baptist Church
- Mountain Brook Community Church
- Canterbury United Methodist
- Cherokee Bend Elementary

It is each voter's responsibility to update their voter registration at the Jefferson County Board of Registrars' office. Only voter registration changes made on or before August 10, 2020, will be processed for the upcoming August City election.

Anyone who is unsure of where to vote may visit the City's website ([www.mtnbrook.org](http://www.mtnbrook.org)>>Departments>>City Manager's Office>>Voting and Election Information>>Polling Districts) or call the Board of Registrars at (205) 325-5550.



## United Way Ignite Award

**R**onnie Vaughn, Public Works Director for the City of Mountain Brook, was recently chosen as the Government Volunteer of the Year for the United Way Hands On Ignite Award. Ignite is committed to recognizing and celebrating outstanding volunteer service.

While their actions go largely unrecognized, volunteers are truly the "heart of the community". Ignite was created to celebrate the grassroots level volunteer; the leaders making a difference in our community that can be seen everywhere.

Vaughn began volunteering for United Way eighteen years ago after his daughter, Heather, was killed in a car accident. He has served as a Loaned Executive and was voted the Loaned Executive of the year in 2002, Leadership speaker for eighteen years, served on the 2020 cabinet as Municipal Coordinator, and has been the United

Way Coordinator for the City of Mountain Brook for eight years. "This community is very compassionate and giving. In most cases volunteering is as simple as informing your audience of the need and then asking for assistance," Vaughn said.

The official awards event for 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19 and was instead broadcasted on Facebook LIVE. Next year's awards event will be held on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at The Club. The 2020 nominees and winners will be honored and receive their awards at that time.



## Curbside Pick-Up Street Parking in the Villages During COVID-19



**D**uring these unprecedented times, the city finds that temporary identification of "pick-up" parking and regulation of the use of spaces in those areas to be appropriate and necessary to allow the economic vitality of the community to continue, as well as to protect the health and safety of patrons. While the State of Alabama has allowed business establishments to resume operation

under careful social distancing guidelines, contactless commercial transactions remain the safest and most effective way to effectuate the social distancing which is still believed to be necessary to manage the spread of COVID-19.

Most of the city's commercial enterprises in its historic villages are without dedicated private parking

and rely on shared public street parking to support operations. To facilitate the use of contactless "pick-up" services for restaurants and other commercial goods, the city has provided a parking zone on most major blocks in Mountain Brook Village, Crestline Village, and English Village to be used for pick-up only. This is a temporary measure during COVID-19; the parking spaces will be returned to regular parking in the future.

Look for the parking spaces identified as "Pick-Up" zones near the middle of each block. These spaces are to be used only for the delivery of food or other commercial goods or services directly to the automobiles parked therein. Vehicles parked in any "Pick-Up" zone must be occupied and the occupants thereof must be waiting on the delivery of commercial goods or services. To view an on-line map of the general locations for pick-up spaces, go to [www.mtnbrook.org](http://www.mtnbrook.org) and search for "Pick-Up Parking."

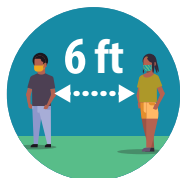
# Important Information About Your Cloth Face Coverings

Print Resources Web Page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html>

As COVID-19 continues to spread within the United States, CDC has recommended additional measures to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. In the context of community transmission, CDC recommends that you:



**Stay at home as much as possible**



**Practice social distancing (remaining at least 6 feet away from others)**



**Clean your hands often**



**In addition, CDC also recommends that everyone wear cloth face coverings when leaving their homes, regardless of whether they have fever or symptoms of COVID-19. This is because of evidence that people with COVID-19 can spread the disease, even when they don't have any symptoms.** Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

## How cloth face coverings work

Cloth face coverings may prevent the person wearing the mask from spreading respiratory droplets when talking, sneezing, or coughing. If everyone wears a cloth face covering when out in public, such as going to the grocery store, the risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 can be reduced for the community. Since people may spread the virus before symptoms start, or even if people never have symptoms, wearing a cloth face covering may protect others around you. Face coverings worn by others may protect you from getting the virus from people carrying the virus.



## General considerations for the use of cloth face coverings

When using a cloth face covering, make sure:

- The mouth and nose are fully covered
- The covering fits snugly against the sides of the face so there are no gaps
- You do not have any difficulty breathing while wearing the cloth face covering
- The cloth face covering can be tied or otherwise secured to prevent slipping



Wash your cloth face covering after each use in the washing machine or by hand using a bleach solution. Allow it to completely dry.

For more information, go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-make-cloth-face-covering.html>



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

## Sidewalk Café Ordinance Modified in Response to COVID-19

The city recognizes that many restaurants have suffered due to business disruptions related to COVID-19 restrictions. The State of Alabama has lessened operational guidelines for restaurants, while still imposing safeguards for partial re-openings. The city understands the importance of keeping appropriate safeguards in place so as to maintain the progress that has been achieved through social distancing, while at the same time understanding that continued productivity and economic activities are necessary to the welfare of business owners, employees, families and the entire Mountain Brook community. The city is committed to protecting both the economic health of its business owners and the health of the community.

To this end, the city believes on-premise dining can be made safer and compliant with State Health requirements by the use of outdoor dining areas. The city has approved an interim sidewalk café ordinance that allows restaurants to utilize sidewalks, not only in front of their own premises, but in front of adjoining businesses that are closed in the evenings. Also, the permitting process for sidewalk cafes has been streamlined by eliminating Village Design Review and City Council approvals (making it a quicker, administrative process). This interim Ordinance 2067 was approved on May 11, 2020, and is effective for an initial period of 90 days from the date of approval. For further details contained in the ordinance, or to obtain a permit package for a sidewalk café, go to [www.mtnbrook.org](http://www.mtnbrook.org) and search for "sidewalk café."

city events      city calendar  
 construction updates      Road closures

**STAY IN TOUCH!**

The city now sends notifications, alerts, and news via text message. These messages include: city events, road closures, construction updates, and the city calendar with many other types of messages to come. To receive messages, text **MTNBROOK** to **888-777**. You should receive a confirmation message. You may reply **STOP** at any time to cancel.

### Child Find Notice

Special education services for children with disabilities are provided in accordance with the Individual with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, Amendments of 2004 and Alabama Act 106. Child Find is an attempt to locate and provide appropriate educational and related services to all children with disabilities between the ages of birth to 21. If you are the parent of a child with disabilities who is not receiving services, or if you would like more information, please contact Dr. Missy Brooks at the Mountain Brook Board of Education, Special Education Department, 205-414-3836.



## CAREER TECH COURSE OFFERINGS

Mountain Brook High School offers students 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, Career COOP and INCubatoredu.

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 the following: Automation and Robotics (AR), Design and Modeling (DM), Intro to Computer Science (ICS) and Foundations of Engineering.

No student will be denied admission to these courses or discriminated against based on race, sex, color, religion, national origin, disability or age.



*Bikes are not allowed on city trails*

It has been a hot topic lately on the trails, but **BICYCLES ARE NOT ALLOWED**. It has been a long- standing Park Board rule, but has only become an issue recently as the parks have grown more crowded in response to the economic shut down caused by COVID-19. The city has received feedback from both sides of this issue and city leaders have had several discussions about it and have sided with the rule in place. The trails are not set up to handle both pedestrian and wheeled traffic. There are several wide areas that could accommodate both, but there are also some very narrow pinch points and steep terrain that could be very dangerous to both bikers and pedestrians.

The city is looking to renovate the Jemison trail making it wider for multiuse purposes. The trail would be smoother for safer travel, and it would meander a little differently to give more pleasing views of the creek, while avoiding the lower areas that receive the most damage during flood events. The city applied for a trail grant and was denied so now the city is exploring other options, including completing the trail in phases. We hope this will allow everyone access to the trail to enjoy it in their own individual ways very soon.



## Recent City Council Actions

### The City Council has adopted or amended the following ordinances since April 13, 2020:

- Ordinance No. 2066 - Levied ad valorem taxes for the city for the tax year commencing October 1, 2020.
- Ordinance No. 2067- Approved temporary modifications of sidewalk restaurant dining regulations.
- Ordinance No. 2068 - Established time restrictions for selected on-street public parking in various villages of the city to facilitate take out restaurant and curb-side retail service.
- Ordinance No. 2069 - Established the City of Mountain Brook Law Enforcement Retirement Benefit Policy (Presentation of badge and duty weapon/pistol to officers who retire in good standing with a minimum of ten (10) years of service with the city.)
- Ordinance No. 2070 - Amended Sec. 14-1 of the City Code with respect to emergency/after-hours inspection fees in the city.

### The City Council has approved the following projects since April 13, 2020:

- Ratified the Mayoral Declaration of Public Health Emergency (Corona Virus/COVID-19) and authorized future modifications that may be necessary to reflect federal, state or local mandates or guidelines.
- Amended the City of Mountain Brook Employee Handbook with respect to the firefighter vacation and sick leave accrual rates.
- Authorized the professional services agreement between the city and Caprine Engineering, LLC with respect to the feasibility of

constructing a new fire station on the existing site (3785 Locksley Drive).

- Approved the conditional use application for MPower Fitness located at 2419 Canterbury Road to include fitness classes on weekdays at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. with no music allowed, with conditional approval permitted once the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted until school resumes.
- Authorized an agreement between the city and Sain Associates with respect to additional services (Birmingham plat and right-of-way acquisition) for the Mountain Brook Village roundabout project.
- Authorized an agreement between the city and Schoel Engineering Company, Inc., with respect to the South Brookwood drainage project.
- Authorized the 1) temporary waiver of the City's Home Occupation license requirements and 2) waiver of penalties for the delinquent filing and remittance of taxes resulting from logistical issues with respect to third-part tax providers and/or employee availability, schedule and access to accounting records.
- Accepted the proposal submitted by Maynard, Cooper & Gale, PC with respect to legal services as bond counsel for the city.
- Accepted the proposal submitted by Regions Investment Management (RIM) with respect to the management of the City's Section 115 Retiree Medical (OPEB) Trust investments.
- Adopted the investment policy statement for the City of Mountain Brook Section 115 Trust Agreement (retiree medical other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan).

- Amended the City of Mountain Brook Employee Handbook with respect to firefighter holiday leave.
- Approved the sidewalk cafe permit application for Craft's on Church Street (formerly Miss Dot's) subject to the approval by the city's inspection staff and City Attorney for compliance with provisions of the City Code with respect to indemnification and related requirements.
- Awarded the bid (Dunn Construction, Inc.) for street resurfacing and authorized a 3-year contract.
- Authorized an amendment to the construction contract between the city and Morris-Shea Bridge Company for the installation of a retaining wall at the Athletic Complex.
- Approved the conditional (office) use application submitted by Built Capital located in Lane Parke Phase 1 subject to office hours of 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. weekdays.
- Accepted and approved the stamped concrete color section recommended by the Village Design Review Committee with respect to the Cahaba Road/ Culver Road/U. S. Highway 280 roundabout.
- Authorized a construction contract between the city and Wright Construction Co. with respect to the construction of a segment of sidewalk along South Brookwood Road.
- Authorized an Alabama Emergency Management Agency State-Local Disaster Assistance Agreement with respect to COVID-19 costs incurred by the city.
- Authorized Amendment #2 of the Construction Contract between city and Morris-Shea Bridge Company

to further modify the retaining wall project at Fields 3 and 4 of the Athletic Complex.

- Appointed Steven Boone, Trustee of the Amended and Restated Section 115 Trust Agreement to act on behalf of the City Council as specified in the Trust Agreement.
- Authorized the purchase and installation of a memorial bench and plaque at the corner of Canterbury Road and Culver Road from the donation pledged by Mr. J. H. Whyte and his mother.
- Authorized a Community Development Block Grant Program Cooperative Agreement Resolution with Jefferson County.
- Authorized the City Manager to proceed with the deep milling and repaving of a section of Smyer Road to remediate the existing pavement fractures and cracks.
- Approved the municipal parks re-opening plan effective May 13, 2020.
- Awarded the bid to Morris-Shea Bridge Company for improvements at the Athletic Complex (Fields 3 through 7).
- Declared 2020 "Back to School" Sales Tax Holiday from July 17—19, 2020.
- Accepted the building services proposal submitted by Williamson & Associates, Inc., with respect to the library flat EDPM roof replacement construction services.
- Authorized a Synthetic Turf Project Implementation Agreement between the city and Board of Education for improvements of Fields 3 through 7 at the Athletic Complex.
- Authorized the sale of one Craftsman Lawn Tractor formerly used by the Fire Department.

## Recent City Council Actions (cont.)

- Authorized the 2-year Master Contract for Public Safety Services (Surveillance - Governmental) between the city and Alabama Power Company for the use of APCO facilities for license plate recognition service.
- Authorized the City Manager to issue a [taxable] one-time, lump sum cash award to Officer Craig Fisher in the amount of \$1,000.00 in recognition of his Employee Suggestion Award application (take home vehicles for the police department).
- Authorized the City Manager to proceed with the South Brookwood Road culvert repair as recommended by Schoel Engineering Company, Inc.
- Conditionally approved the application of Golden Age Wines to use public parking spaces for after-hours seating and service.
- Imposed a curfew in the City of Mountain Brook effective June 1, 2020, from 7 p.m. until 6 a.m. until further notice.
- Modified the curfew hours imposed upon the adoption of Resolution No. 2020-082 to 8 p.m. until 5 a.m. until further notice.
- Approved the discontinuance of the curfew (Resolution No. 2020-082 and 2020-083) effective June 8, 2020 at 8 p.m.
- Authorized an agreement between the city and Morris-Shea Bridge Co., Inc. for the relocation of two (2) light poles at Field 3 of the Athletic Complex.
- Approved the conditional service use application submitted by BBVA Bank for 229 Country Club Park.
- Authorized the application for CARES Act COVID-19 Disaster Relief financial assistance through the Jefferson County Commission.
- Amended the City's IRC Section 125 Cafeteria Plan (Flexible Spending Account, Dependent Care and Unreimbursed Medical) effective October 1, 2020, and authorized an administration agreement between the city and BeneTech Administrators, Inc.
- Accepted the professional services proposal of Schoel Engineering with respect to Mountain Brook Junior High flooding study.
- Authorized the execution of a contractor agreement for the installation of a guardrail on Mountain Brook Parkway.
- Authorized the installation of a 35w LED street light with 2' arm on Sedley Drive.
- Awarded the bid to Meadows Contracting, Inc. for mall security improvements at City Hall.
- Conditionally approved the temporary outdoor seating in public parking spaces at Brick and Tin Restaurant for after-hours seating and service.

## City Budget Update

Based on the fiscal 2020 collections reported through May, it appears General Fund revenues are on track to achieve the budgeted amount of \$40.3 million for the year. It is estimated that the business disruptions caused by the pandemic have adversely impacted revenues by up to \$500,000 for the two months ending in May. Some of the more notable revenue and collection observations include:

- Real estate tax revenue is projected to be \$16.8 million (\$129,000 (0.1%) more than budgeted for the year). The fiscal year-to-date real estate tax collections have exceeded last year's annual total by 3.7%.
- Sales tax revenue is projected to be \$10.8 million for the fiscal year (in-line with the amount budgeted)
- Business license fees are projected to be \$2.95 million for the year
- Construction permit fees collected through the 8-month period ended May 2020 totaled \$764,000 compared to \$897,000 for the same period one year ago (a 15% decrease for the period)



The 2021 budget development began on June 10 with a City Council work session. Departmental budgets were submitted to the Finance Director in mid-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 18. The City Council will also review the budget and Finance Committee recommendations on August 26. The public hearing to consider the ordinance adopting the 2021 budget is tentatively scheduled for September 28. For more information, please visit the city's website ([www.mtnbrook.org](http://www.mtnbrook.org)).



Please Doo Your Part! and clean up behind your dog. We still see problems with this on all of our parks and trails. We have disposable bags available for your use in our doggie stations that are conveniently located at all our parks and trails. If you see any that need to be refilled, please contact the Parks and Recreation at (205)802-3877. Please properly dispose of your bag after use.



## Building Permit Activity

Permit Type:	1st Quarter - 2020		2nd Quarter - 2020	
	No. Permits	Permit Value	No. Permits	Permit Value
New Construction	8	\$ 4,505,085	14	\$ 5,630,427
Alterations/ Additions	129	\$15,460,797	77	\$ 6,781,078
Repairs/Other	188	\$ 4,669,022	158	\$ 5,227,519
Totals:	325	\$24,634,904	249	\$ 17,639,024

### COMPARISON OF YEAR - 2019

Permit Type:	1st Quarter - 2019		2nd Quarter - 2019	
	No. Permits	Permit Value	No. Permits	Permit Value
New Construction	12	\$7,607,402	22	\$13,176,700
Alterations/ Additions	86	\$ 9,579,685	116	\$13,986,846
Repairs/Other	200	\$7,367,585	242	\$ 5,663,018
Totals:	298	\$24,554,672	380	\$ 32,826,564

## Quarterly Crime Statistics

	1st Quarter 2020	2nd Quarter 2020
Robbery	0	0
Robbery (aggravated shoplifting)	0	0
Burglary/Residence	3	3
Burglary/Business	3	1
Theft	25	21
Theft from Vehicle (UBEV)	7	5
Auto Theft	2	1
Assaults (Other)	0	1
Identity Theft	14	17
Criminal Mischief	4	5
Drugs	35	2
Family Violence	5	5
Accidents	226	97
A With Injuries	11	16
A With Fatalities	1	1
Calls For Service	6,128	3151
House Watches	352	171
Property Stolen	\$109,105	\$52,428
Property Recovered	\$15,596	\$1,154

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

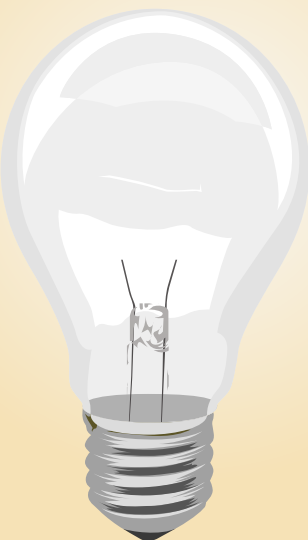
1. Lock your vehicle.
2. Take your keys.
3. Do not leave valuables in plain view in your vehicle.
4. Keep lawn and sports equipment around your home secured when not in use.

5. Keep doors locked and use your security system when you are not at home.

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

## STREET LIGHT OUT?

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





## New Businesses

### WHOLESALE TRADES (DURABLE GOODS)

- Vulcan Truck Sales, LLC, 4 Office Park Circle, 205-222-1511

### FOOD AND DRINK SERVICES

- Clubview Holdings, LLC, (dba\ Vaughan & Co), 73 Church Street, 205-999-9097

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Law Wellness, LLC, 4237 Sharpsburg Drive, 205-612-7648
- The Glen Law Firm, LLC, 402 Office Park Drive, 205-637-6115

### ADMINISTRATIVE, PROFESSIONAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES

- Allen, Elon, (dba\ Facemask for Alabama), 3203 Pine Ridge Road, 205-879-0606
- Balanced Work Space, LLC, 6 Office Park Circle, Suite 215, 205-795-3000

### HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND PHARMACY/DRUG STORES

- HGD, Inc., (dba\ Gunn Dermatology), 32 Church Street, 205-444-9291
- Leach Pharmacies, LLC, 60 Church Street, 205-871-0317

### PERSONAL CARE SERVICES

- Isbel, Kara, (dba\ Haira By Kara), 26 Dexter Avenue, 205-518-6116
- Josey, Pamela, (dba\ Intuitive Touch Bodywork), 13 Office Park Circle, Suite 3, 205-999-8376
- Much Kneaded Massage Therapy, LLC, 300 Office Park Drive, 205-767-2366
- Gierchak II, Ronald, 2412 Canterbury Road, 205-527-1121
- Nguyen, Chau Phu, (dba\ Envy Nails), 2721 Cahaba Road, 205-879-3689
- Brake, Beth, (dba\ Brake Training), 4 Office Park Circle, Suite 203, 205-532-0627
- Truong S Dinh, (dba\ Envy Nails), 2721 Cahaba Road, 205-879-3689

## Schedule of Meetings

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

**CHECK CITY WEBSITE ([WWW.MTNBROOK.ORG](http://WWW.MTNBROOK.ORG)) FOR STATUS OF THESE MEETINGS DUE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS.**

## Board Appointments/Reappointments:

### REAPPOINTMENTS

- Reappointed Turner Williams as municipal court judge with the term to end April 13, 2022.
- Reappointed Nicky Barnes to the Mountain Brook Board of Education with the term to end May 31, 2025.

### APPOINTMENTS

- Appointed Marjorie K. Colvin to the Jefferson-Blount-St. Clair Mental Health Authority with the term to end April 13, 2026.
- Appointed Brooks Sanders to the Board of Landscape Design with the term to end June 22, 2023.

- Appointed David Lyles as a supernumerary member of the Board of Landscape Design with the term to end June 22, 2023.
- Appointed Mary Evelyn McKee as a supernumerary member of the Board of Landscape Design with the term to end June 22, 2023.

### BOARDS & COMMITTEES APPLICATIONS:

City government depends heavily on residents who volunteer their time and energy to participate as member of boards, commissions, and committees. The involvement of residents is important to

setting the direction of Mountain Brook's future. If you are interested in serving, whether a vacancy is available or not, please submit an application for future consideration.

All applications and/or inquiries should be submitted on the website at [www.mtnbrook.org](http://www.mtnbrook.org). Complete the application and upload it with your resume. (Go to Government > Get Involved > Boards and Committees > Apply here. You can upload your resume and include your application.)





## Sidewalk Projects Update

### DUNBARTON DRIVE

Sidewalk along Dunbarton Drive from North Woodridge Road to Locksley Drive is currently under construction. This section of sidewalk is expected to be completed by the time of this newsletter publication.

### ZOO CONNECTOR

The City of Birmingham is currently constructing sidewalks from the intersection of Hermosa Drive and Poinciana Drive, beneath Highway 280, along 20th Place Access Road, and the Highway 280 ramp to the intersection of Cahaba Road and Lane Park Road. The project is estimated to be complete by end of summer 2020.

### HAGOOD

The City of Mountain Brook has teamed with the City of Birmingham and has received funding through the federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). The project will construct a sidewalk along Hagood Street from Euclid Avenue to Montclair Road.

Currently, the design of the sidewalk is approximately 85% complete. The City of Birmingham is currently acquiring Right of Way from two of their property owners for the sidewalk installation. Construction is expected to begin at the end of 2020.

### PINE RIDGE ROAD

The City has secured federal funding with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) to design and construct a sidewalk along Pine Ridge Road from Overbrook Road to Old Leeds Road. Currently, the design of the project is approximately 50% complete and is progressing towards its next milestone submittal to ALDOT. With the use of federal funds, the process to gain approval to begin construction requires several years to complete; therefore construction is currently estimated to begin in 2022.

## COMPOST IS AVAILABLE



**T**he City of Mountain Brook Public Works Department still has plenty of compost available for your gardening needs. We suspended the sale of compost for a couple of months in the spring due to the COVID-19. As the state and city began to open back up we slowly resumed our complete compost operation. If you have not had a chance to get your compost

this year you are more than welcome to give us a visit. Compost is available all year. Many gardeners add compost to their garden and other planted areas at various times throughout the year.

The city recycles the loose leaves collected each year in the fall and winter. The leaves are picked up at the curb by Waste Management as a service to our citizens. The leaves are then dropped off at the Public Works facility at 3579 East Street, Mountain Brook, Alabama, near the Rathmell Soccer complex; (use Birmingham if entering into GPS).

Residents of Mountain Brook

may come to the Public Works facility and can pick up the compost at no charge if they load themselves. Public Works employees will load the compost mechanically for a fee of \$20.00 per pickup load. Non-residents may purchase the compost for \$15.00 if they load themselves. We will load it for \$20.00 per pickup load or \$30.00 per scoop for larger trucks.

The compost operation is available Monday through Thursday 7:00 am - 11:00 am and 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm. If you have questions regarding compost you may contact Mountain Brook Public Works at (205) 802-2390.

## Watering Trees

**M**any homeowners have irrigation systems, or diligently drag portable sprinklers around the yard to keep grass and flowers quenched when it gets hot and dry. A common misconception is that lawn watering is sufficient for trees, but in reality, roots of turf grasses intercept most of the water applied in this manner. It is important, especially for older trees, to keep competing vegetation to a minimum.

Studies have shown that under normal conditions, a mature tree can process hundreds of gallons of water 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.

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.

- Water bags - fill with garden hose to provide 5-30 gallons at a slow drip

- Soaker hoses - placed in concentric circles around base; up to 50gal/hr per 50' of hose
- Shower wand - low pressure nozzle; saturate to point of runoff...wait...repeat
- Soil needle - applies water directly to root zone; rate/volume depends on soil conditions
- Bucket - drill several ¼" holes in three or more 5 gal buckets and place near base of tree

Remember, sod and shrubs can be replaced and established in relatively short order, while it takes decades to produce a mature healthy tree!

# NO

# SOLICITING ALLOWED in most CASES

## DOOR-TO-DOOR SOLICITATION

The City of Mountain Brook has an ordinance that prohibits solicitations in most cases.

Ordinance No. 1930, Chapter 26, Section 26-277 requires that all transient/itinerant dealers, vendors, and or other salespeople who make door to door calls, or those who may set up in a temporary location, to first obtain a business license to do so.

This includes individuals, firms, corporations, companies, associations, partnerships, agencies, or representatives of a business who attempt to sell, solicit orders for sale of goods, services, or merchandise.

It also includes the distribution of handbills, newspapers, or other forms of advertising.

The only exception to this ordinance is for those that are engaged in activities associated with or supporting religious, charitable, governmental, educational, or political organizations or causes.

The Mountain Brook Police Department must be notified prior to sending out any door to door solicitors. A background and criminal check is performed.

The requirements for a solicitation license are:

- The applicant must have a written invitation from each individual resident that they intend to visit prior to a license being issued. This letter must be mailed from the resident directly to the City and include the resident's name, address, and phone number. All residents will be contacted to verify the invitation.
- Applications must be completed ten (10) days prior to business commencing in Mountain Brook.
- A valid photo identification for all salespersons/ solicitors must be provided.
- A bond in the amount of not less than \$100 and no more than \$1,000 must be posted.
- Applicants must comply with all City Ordinances and State laws.
- The hours of door to door operation are limited to 9:00 am through 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

# O'Neal Library News

*Community  
Alliances*

When a representative of Bham Support contacted the IT Department of the O'Neal Library in early spring asking for help in providing face shields to health care workers, Justin Morrison jumped at the opportunity.

"They started recruiting anyone who had access to 3D printing and was capable of printing the face shield headbands. Other members who had laser cutters were cutting out the transparent pieces of the face shield," Justin explained.

Justin printed forty face shield headbands using the Library's 3-D printer, which took more than 100 hours of printing time. He delivered the headbands to other volunteers who assembled, sanitized, and distributed the shields across the state. OL librarians appreciate opportunities to work with new community partners.



# O'Neal Library News

## DORIS YOUNG RETIRES FROM O'NEAL LIBRARY

Back row, from left to right: Anthony Vacca, Justin Morrison, Michael Moore, Daniel Daughhetee, Thomas Kulovitz, Phylanda Blue  
Front row, from left to right: Alicia York, Carly Pappas, and Doris Young



From finding the job opening on a microfiche machine in 1976, starting as a Page, advancing to Circulation Librarian, to becoming Circulation/Building Manager, Doris' forty-four-year career at O'Neal Library has never been one for the faint of heart. Although her road to Manager was not always a smooth one, her love of meeting and helping people has been the driving force behind her success and dedicated service to the Mountain Brook community.

Being the people person she is, Doris made the Circulation department her home, as it provided her the opportunity to connect to the people of the community daily. A highlight of her many responsibilities was being appointed Chair of the Circulation Roundtable, a group representing the forty Jefferson County Public Libraries, where she was able to meet many new people who shared common professional experiences and ideas. When she hosted Roundtable meetings at the Library, you could be sure to find record numbers of attendees due to the possibility of her making a delicious homecooked breakfast.

Doris also loved going to national, state, and

local conferences where she enjoyed the excitement of interacting with librarians from different locations. Those who have attended conferences with her will not forget the excitement and sometimes side-splitting episodes that came with being her traveling companion. She had a way of making the ordinary activities of eating, meeting and garnering transportation unforgettable events. Tales will be told for years to come by those fortunate enough to experience these trips with her, thanks to her wonderful sense of humor and her "never met a stranger" attitude.

Doris' retirement will leave a void that will be difficult to fill. According to her coworkers, she has always been generous, kind, and fun to be around. She has a fair, non-confrontational way to handle tough issues so that she never singles anyone out, and could still get the job done gracefully in an all-for-one approach while adding her ever present good humor and caring tone. She has always valued dedication in herself and others, and has inspired her department to learn everything they could from her vast knowledge and experience.

Even though Doris will miss her Library coworkers,



the City of Mountain Brook employees, and all the Library visitors, she is looking forward to being with her family full-time. When asked about her plans for retirement, she responded, "I plan to go fishing and to travel as soon as the pandemic is over."

# O'Neal Library News

## Children's Department



### MYREADS

Do you miss walking among the shelves with your librarian while she hands you book after book that will be just perfect for your child? You can still get those personalized recommendations through the MyReads form, accessible on the children's home page of the library's website. Just put in a little bit of information about your reader's interests, reading level, and previous favorites, and the very same librarians who send you home with a stack of books in person will email a list of special suggestions. You can decide which ones look right for you and put them on hold for curbside pickup. Some of them are even immediately available as online ebooks and audiobooks. Of course, if you prefer to hear a real voice, you can also call 445-1111 to talk to a librarian about great books for your kids. There is no need to wonder what your family should read next – ask the librarians you already trust for recommendations!

### BOOK GRAB BAGS

If your favorite way to find new books is to browse with no particular ideas in mind, you need to know about the Kids' Book Grab Bags. Call the children's department at 445-1111 and let your librarians know the number of surprise books you'd like to check out for your child, then they will select a variety of picture books, emerging readers, or non-fiction for you to try. You will put them on hold and pick them up curbside just like any other book, but this time you will not know what you are getting until you come get them. It is an especially handy way to discover stuff that is brand new – when you call, just specify that you would like a grab bag with new books. This is your chance to read adventurously!

### READ, LISTEN, AND WATCH ONLINE

You may not be aware of all the places to access children's materials online, so here's a quick run-down. The Libby app (or Overdrive, if you're using a computer) offers ebooks and audiobooks for checkout. These items, like physical library books, are available to one patron at a time, and if what you want is checked out you can put it on hold. Browse Hoopla for ebooks, audiobooks, and movies that are available to an unlimited number of people at once – no waiting! Capstone Interactive is a great web resource for non-fiction children's ebooks. If you have a kid that loves facts, try the research sites PebbleGo (for new readers) or PebbleGo Next (for older elementary students). On the Tumblebooks website, explore ebooks and animated picture books available to stream. Be sure to navigate to these resources through the links at [www.eolib.org](http://www.eolib.org) so you'll have free access.



### STORY WALK

You have probably been spending a lot of time outdoors these days. Do not forget you can enjoy a book while you hike at Books in the Brook, the picture book walk at Overton Park in Mountain Brook. As you mosey down the path, look for the placards along the way. Each one displays an enlarged page of a nature-themed picture book, as well as suggestions for activities to engage with your environment and with the book's illustrations. The picture book walk is inviting you to explore!

## ADULT DEPARTMENT



Many of the Library's virtual programs take place on the Zoom videoconferencing platform and require registering your email on the online calendar at [www.eolib.org](http://www.eolib.org). The day of the event, registrants will receive a link to join the meeting. Contact us at [adult@eolib.org](mailto:adult@eolib.org) for more assistance with any of the virtual programming.

The Summer Reading Challenge for adults is live on Beanstack right now! Read books and complete activities to earn badges for entry into drawings for a great prize each week. Download the Beanstack app on Google Play and Apple App Store or register from the Library's website.

Coffee Klatch is a weekly conversation series on Wednesdays at 11am. The topic varies each week so there's always something new to talk about. Great Short Stories Discussion Group meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30pm to discuss classic short stories and themes. The Bookies Book Group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10am to discuss popular fiction and nonfiction. The Genre Reading Group meets the last Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm to discuss various topics. All selected books, short stories, and topics for these groups are noted in the online calendar entries. The Library hosts occasional film discussions, crafts, and fun competitions on Zoom as well, so sign up for the newsletter to get weekly announcements of engaging events.

Click on Virtual Programming under the "Adults" tab at [www.eolib.org](http://www.eolib.org) to see our always-available activities, including yoga with Marie Blair, crafts with Virginia Brasher of Peaceful Acres Farm, virtual tours of cultural sites around the world, Electra Light Ukulele lessons with Andrew Hollywood and more!

As the fall approaches, your librarians are busy ensuring the outstanding programs you have come to expect will happen, even in a different form. Stay tuned to the Library's website, app, and social media accounts for any changes, additions, updates, or cancellations that may occur.



THE VILLAGES OF

MOUNTAIN BROOK

## Chamber “No Show” Luncheon

Featuring Britney Summerville  
August 6th, 11:30-1:00  
via Zoom

Britney is the VP of Community Engagement for Shipt and Founder of Birmingham Bound. Register at [mtnbrookchamber.org](http://mtnbrookchamber.org) to reserve your lunch catered by Vaughan and Company and receive the Zoom link.



### Saturday, August 8th

*Check out the 'Tremendous Deals  
Under the Tents in Crestline Village!*

Check with individual merchants to see their sale operations.  
Please shop safely by wearing a mask and social distancing!

## IT'S TIME TO USE YOUR VILLAGE GOLD!



We have gone digital with Village Gold, and the older, cardstock Village Gold will expire in September. NOW is the time to get shopping or dining and use your Village Gold! Plus, the merchants sure will appreciate your support!



Gold Level Investors: Abhi | Alabama Power Company | Alliance Publishing | American Family Care | Brasfield & Gorrie  
Bryant Bank | Evson, Inc. | Home Instead Senior Care | Iberia Bank | Morningstar Storage  
Oakworth Capital Bank | Regions Bank | Synovus Bank | Stifel Financial | Southern States Bank | Tonya Jones Salon Spa

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

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## Mountain Brook Merchant Relief Fund

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# Mobilizing the community for academic excellence.

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

## Institute for Innovation

### Foundation Funds Innovative Teacher Grants

The Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation proudly supports the professional development of Mountain Brook teachers through the Institute for Innovation. Created in 2014, the mission of the Institute for Innovation is to establish a culture of innovators within Mountain Brook schools. Through an annual granting process funded by the Foundation, teachers are encouraged to submit transformative ideas for consideration. This year's recipients include: Mountain Brook Junior High's Paul Hnizdil, Matt Howard and Tami Genry for "World Peace Game - From Confusion To Connections Part 2," Cherokee Bend Elementary's Hannah Umphrey, Emily Griner, Leah Saab, Betsy Draper and Alexandra Andrews for "Chief Life Lab," Brookwood Forest Elementary's Tara Smith, Tanishia Sims, Perry Wright, Katie Seeger, Jennifer Jinnette and Stefanie Cook for "If The World Became Your Classroom, Would You Want To Live There?" and Crestline Elementary's Heather Phillips and Katie Meyerpeter for "The Collaboratory – Equipping Students To Turn Ideas Into Innovation."



Crestline Elementary's Institute for Innovation Grant Recipients Katie Meyerpeter and Heather Phillips

## Projects Funded by the Foundation Support eLearning

Mountain Brook Schools faced extraordinary challenges when Governor Ivey issued an emergency declaration that in-person instruction must change to distance learning on April 6th. The Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation supported Mountain Brook students during distance learning through projects recently funded for the school system such as Chromebooks for every student and Seesaw, a digital portfolio program.

The Foundation would like to thank the Mountain Brook teachers and administration for quickly and effectively implementing these tools into students' eLearning and is proud of the partnership between Mountain Brook schools, teachers and families during this unprecedented time.



Polly and Louise Mayfield holding their Chromebooks funded by the Foundation

**Record Breaking Year:** The Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation raised a record number of funds from community donors for the 2019-2020 fiscal year ending on April 30, 2020 for a total of \$508,534. With these donations, the Foundation supports professional development, technology and library enhancement for Mountain Brook Schools. The Foundation would like to thank the generous donors who made these community-funded resources a reality for our school system. Please visit [www.MBGives.org](http://www.MBGives.org) to make a tax-deductible donation today and learn more about projects funded by the Foundation.

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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.