the Reporter Mountain Brook, Ala.

Volume XXV, Issue 4

The Village Circle Project: A Historic Community Investment

unique effort is underway this Fall to improve Amountain Brook Village guided by nationally-renowned design firms and a team of plant experts. In anticipation of the permanent closure of Canterbury Road to Cahaba Road and connecting the traffic islands in front of Gilchrist and RealtySouth to create a larger green space, the volunteer Mountain Brook Board of Landscape Design has gathered a team of landscape architects and botanists to redesign all of the traffic islands around historic Village Circle. Much as Robert Jemison, Jr. first invested in exceptional design for Mountain Brook Village by hiring the nation's then-leading landscape architect Warren Manning of Massachusetts, private donors have contributed funds to the City of Mountain Brook to hire landscape architecture firm OLIN to study the best use of Village Circle to support our local businesses by designing public seating for the community to enjoy safely.

You will likely be familiar with OLIN's work on other complicated traffic circles such as Columbus Circle in New York and Logan Circle in Philadelphia. OLIN has a reputation for its appreciation of historic landscapes like Village Circle, and our community can have confidence that OLIN's design

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Our BUSINESSES need your SUPPORT now more than ever!

UPDATED INFORMATION AT www.mtnbrookchamber.org

SHOP MOUNTAIN BROOK FIRST



DECISIONS, DECISIONS, DECISIONS

As the COVID-19 pandemic enters its ninth month, it continues to take center stage in our everyday lives. This is certainly true for city government and is also the case for our school system. As I have observed through emails and social media, many of our residents are unclear about the intersection of decision-making between our city and our school system.

The City Council makes the appointments to the five-member school board who serve five-year staggered terms. In the past, these appointments have mostly come from candidates both vetted and recommended by the school administration and school board. Their goal is to have a diversity of skillsets, civic experience and family situations, including some members with children currently attending our schools. The City Council does its own vetting

before making the appointment. The school board members serve without compensation as is also true of the City Council and Mayor positions.

While the City Council has an excellent relationship with our school administration and board, beyond the board appointments, the school system is autonomous from the City Council regarding decisions they make.

Just as the pandemic has brought many challenging decisions before the City Council, our schools' leadership faces an even greater challenge: Continuing our community's excellent and award winning education system while keeping our children, teachers, and staff safe and in school. Everyone wants the same thing...for our schools to return to pre-pandemic normalcy. The question is how to best get there from where we are at this point in the pandemic? That decision rests solely with the school board who receives input from many sources including school administrators, state and county healthcare profes sionals, parents, teachers, and community members

The City Council and I express our thanks to the Board of Education and school administrators for their dedication and service to our community.

Mayor: Stewart H. Welch, III CITY COUNCIL Council President:

Virginia Carruthers Smith

Council Pro Tem, William S. "Billy" Pritchard III, Alice Womack, Lloyd Shelton, Gerald Garner

City Manager:

Sam S. Gaston, 802-3800 For advertising or Chamber of Commerce information, call 871-3779

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Village Circle Project: A Historic

Welcome Gerald Garner to the City

Community Investment

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will celebrate Mountain Brook Village's past while manifesting its even brighter future. OLIN will also be collaborating with a team of plant experts to intelligently design new plantings for the traffic islands that are aesthetically pleasing with little maintenance.

With support of local philanthropic leaders, the City of Mountain Brook is contracting for OLIN and the Planting Design Team to begin developing a comprehensive redesign of Village Circle. OLIN next anticipates presenting the proposed designs to the City Council and the community before Christmas. The Mountain Brook Board of Landscape Design then aims to raise funds to construct the new seating and plantings in 2021, so that our community will have a vibrant and successful Village Circle to enjoy for years to come!



Gerald Garner

Welcome Gerald Garner to the City Council

From the moment he served as an Alabama Senate Page, Gerald Garner dreamed of serving his state and his community. After graduating from the University of Alabama and beginning his career in the financial services industry, Gerald married his wife Sally, a graduate of Mountain Brook High School. Gerald and Sally knew from the beginning they wanted to start a family and live in Mountain Brook. They have a daughter at Mountain Brook High School and one at Mountain Brook Junior High.

Gerald's desire to have his daughters grow up in a great community led him to join the Parks and Recreation Board. After serving 11 years, he was honored by being asked to serve on the Board of Zoning Adjustment, where he served until taking office as a City Council member on November 2, 2020.

Gerald's vision for Mountain Brook includes:

- Supporting our parks, the athletic fields, the library and "sidewalk connectivity"
- Ensuring our streets and schools are safer than they have ever been by supporting our Police, Fire & EMS
- Actively promoting our great local businesses and seeking new commercial growth
- Strongly supporting our schools

Business License Renewals

Business license renewals for the City of Mountain Brook are due on January 1, 2021 and will be delinquent January 31, 2021.
Licenses not renewed timely will be subject to penalties and interest. You should receive a renewal reminder prior to January. Please complete the renewal notice and return along with your payment.

If your business receives a renewal notice and you are no longer conducting business in the City, please mark the renewal notice with the ending date of the business and mail it back or fax to **205-870-3590** so that we may update our files.

If you have any questions concerning the renewal of your license or payment of taxes, please call Senior Revenue Examiner, **Jack Bankston** at **205-802-3808** or the Revenue Department at **205-802-2400** option **4.**

New businesses can apply for a license by printing an application from our website, www.mtnbrook.org. The business license application may be found under "Business" on the top

navigation bar and then looking for "Business Application" under "Forms and Permits."

Online payment options for Business Licenses and Sales Taxes are available on our website **www. mtnbrook.org** under **Pay Bills** located in the middle of the home page.

Please be aware that home-based businesses are required to obtain a home occupation license which is also available from our website www. mtnbrook.org under "Business" on the top navigation bar and then looking for "Home Occupation Application" under "Forms and Permits".

Residents, please remember that when hiring a contractor to perform any work at your home, including landscaping/yard work, or hiring a service company, please verify with the Revenue Department that the contractor is licensed to work in the City, by calling **205-802-2400 option 4**. Any contracting work being conducted within the city limits must be permitted. Permit applications may be obtained at City Hall, located at 56 Church Street in Crestline Village.

Building Permit Activity

	2nd Quarter - 2020		3rd Quarter - 2020	
	No. Permits	Permit Value	No. Permits	Permit Value
Permit Type:				
New Construction	14	\$5,630,427	11	\$8,791,071
Alterations/Additions	77	\$6,781,078	83	\$9,130,811
Repairs/Other	158	\$5,227,519	184	\$6,113,324
Totals:	249	\$17,639,024	278	\$24,035,206

COMPARISON OF YEAR - 2019

	2nd Quarter - 2019		3rd Quarter - 2019	
	No. Permits	Permit Value	No. Permits	Permit Value
Permit Type:				
New Construction	22	\$13,176,700	9	\$4,935,989
Alterations/Additions	116	\$13,986,846	115	\$21,354,838
Repairs/Other	242	\$5,663,018	207	\$13,275,079
Totals:	380	\$32,826,564	331	\$39,565,906



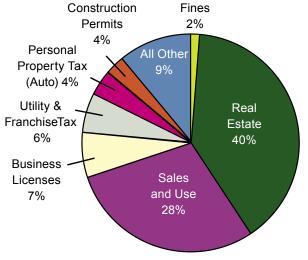
2021 City Budget

The City Council adopted the 2021 budget in September. The General Fund budget reflects a surplus of \$205,000. The General Fund revenue totals \$40.4 million which approximates the 2020 budgeted revenue. General Fund revenues include:

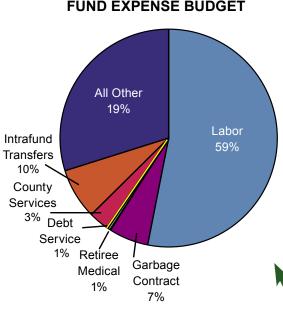
The chart below depicts the relative share of the various sources of revenue in the General Fund.

Source of Revenue	2019	2020	Percentage Change
Real estate tax	\$16,629,000	\$17,129,000	3.0%
Sales tax	10,781,000	10,545,000	(2.2)
License and franchise fees	3,367,000	3,100,000	(7.9)
Utility taxes	1,600,000	1,696,000	6.0
Automobile property tax	1,294,000	1,299,000	0.4
Construction permits	1,280,000	906,000	(29.2)
Fines	448,000	419,000	(6.5)
All other	5,120,570	5,352,042	4.5
Totals	\$40,519,570	\$40,419,042	(0.25)%

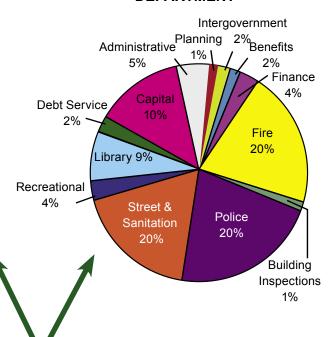
2021 GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET Construction Fines



2021 GENERAL FUND EXPENSE BUDGET



2021 BUDGETED EXPENSES BY DEPARTMENT



Other items of interest in the capital projects funds:

- Recreational facility improvements \$4.4 million
- Infrastructure improvements \$1.6 million
- Grant-funded sidewalk and trail improvements -\$2.5 million
- Equipment and facilities improvements \$2.9 million

2021 General Fund expenses and transfers total \$40.3 million, which represents a 2% decrease from last year's budget.

The charts above illustrate the functional and departmental allocation of the City's General Fund expenses:



the Reporter

Recent City Council Actions

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

- Ordinance No. 2073 Extended for 90-days the temporary restaurant sidewalk dining regulations first implemented with Ordinance No. 2067 on May 11, 2020.
- Ordinance No. 2074 Extended for 90-days the time restrictions for the on-street public parking located in Mountain Brook, Crestline and English Villages first implemented with Ordinance No. 2068 on May 13, 2020.
- Ordinance No. 2075 Amended Chapter 14 of the City Code with respect to fees for utility street cut repairs in the city.
- Ordinance No. 2076 Authorized the placement of a stop sign on Hampshire Drive (exiting the cul de sac) at its intersection with Hampshire Drive.
- Ordinance No. 2077 Amended Sec. 50-46(b)(5) of the City Code by reducing the speed limit of Briar Oak Circle to 20 miles per hour.
- Ordinance No. 2078 Amended the Lane Parke PUD Master Development Plan to allow service uses.
- Ordinance No. 2079 Authorized the placement of a stop sign on Briar Oak Circle (northbound) at its intersection with Briar Oak Circle.
- Ordinance No. 2080 Adopted the city's budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021.

The City Council has approved the following projects since July 13, 2020

- Established a new Iberia Bank account for the recently amended and restated City of Mountain Brook Flexible Benefit Plan.
- Declared four Library chairs and two round tables surplus and authorized their sale by Internet auction or disposal if not sold at auction.
- Authorized an agreement between the city and Advance Plumbing Company for the installation of a water fountain at the Irondale Furnace trail.
- Recognized Mike Cobb, 30-year co-owner of Crestline Pharmacy, upon the occasion of his retirement.
- Recognized Scooter Hammers, 30-year co-owner of Crestline Pharmacy, upon the occasion of his retirement.
- Approved and supported the O'Neal family to change the name of The Emmet O'Neal Library to The O'Neal Library.
- Ratified, approved and modified three Police Department compensation policies (on-call pay, TAC Team fitness training, and scheduled workweek).
- Authorized an agreement between the city and Acre Fencing Company for the installation of fencing at the upper soccer field of the High School.
- Approved the extension of the Office conditional use in a Local Business District for Chester's International Kitchen located at 2020 Cahaba Road under the same terms and conditions as approved in Motion No. 2017-069 dated May 22, 2017, for not more than twelve months ending January 31, 2022, or the expiration/termination of

- the lease agreement, whichever occurs first.
- Recognized Doris Young upon her retirement from The O'Neal Library with 40 years of service to the city.
- Accepted the professional services proposal submitted by Skipper Consulting for the following traffic studies:
 - 1. 3-way stop Brookwood Road at South Brookwood Road
 - 2. 4-way stop Briar Oak Drive at River Bend Road
 - 3. 3-way stop Briar Oak Drive at River Oaks Road
 - 4. Speed limit reduction on Briar Oak Drive
- Ratified a Municipal Election Services Agreement between the city and Jefferson County Commission for the August 25, 2020 general municipal election.
- Accepted the professional services proposal submitted by Schoel Engineering for a drainage problem study at Northcote Road.
- Extended the professional on-call/ on-demand professional services agreement between the city and Sain Associates (Resolution No. 2018-096).
- Awarded the bid for utility streetcut patching services to Glen Contracting and Paving Co., Inc. for a 3-year contract.
- Awarded the bid for street striping services to Highway Management Systems, Inc. for a 3-year contract.
- Certified the election (without opposition) deeming Stewart H. Welch III, the Mayor of the City of Mountain Brook, Alabama for the 4-year term of office commencing on the first Monday of November, 2020.

- Certified the election (without opposition) deeming Virginia Carruthers Smith, City Councilor (Place No. 4) of the City of Mountain Brook, Alabama for the 4-year term of office commencing on the first Monday of November, 2020.
- Recommended to the ABC Board the issuance of a Restaurant Retail Liquor license to Alverson and Ireland Fresh Foods, LLC (trade name Porch), 2 Dexter Avenue, 35213.
- Authorized the Police Chief to designate qualifying Lead Workers (e.g., Field Training Officers and Technical Services patrol officers) to the position of Corporal.
- Recommended to the ABC Board the issuance of a Restaurant Retail Liquor license to Pop Mountain Brook, LLC (trade name Post Office Pies Mountain Brook), 270 Rele Street, 35223.
- Proclamation congratulating Arrelia Callins on her selection as the Maranathan Academy Fashion Show Honoree and great work in the city.
- Expressed gratitude to Patrick Higginbotham for his service on the Board of Zoning Adjustment.
- Appointed poll workers for the August 25, 2020, general municipal election to decide City Council Place No. 2 between candidates Philip Black and Gerald Garner.
- Authorized Architectural Specialties to modify eight (8) directional signs to reflect the new name for the Library.
- Authorized a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a 5-department virtual training grant for the Fire Department.



- Expressed gratitude to William Hereford for his service on the Board of Zoning Adjustment.
- Proclaimed Women's Equality Day on August 26, 2020.
- Authorized a Traffic Enforcement Agreement between the city and East Central Alabama Safety Office.
- Declared certain vehicles surplus and authorized their sale at public Internet auction.
- Authorized an agreement between the city and Matrix Consulting Group for an organizational study of the city's Emergency Communications District/ Dispatch operations.
- Authorized agreements for design modifications of the traffic islands located at Village Circle in Mountain Brook Village conditioned upon securing donations to cover the estimated cost of design fees, plantings and improvements in excess of the city's pledged financial participation (\$16,500 Olin Studio design fee plus the cost of combining the two traffic islands into one):
 - a. Olin Studio
 - b. Landau Design + Technology
 - c. Nimrod Long & Associates
- Approved the conditional use application submitted by MPower Pilates for 2008 Cahaba Road.
- Authorized a Drillmaster U. S. Certified Ceremonial Guardsman Academy Training Agreement for the Police and Fire Departments.
- Authorized the City Manager to offer continuing medical coverage to eligible employees at 20 years of city service at any age or 10 years of city service who are eligible for normal retirement benefits

- and who elect to retire between October 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021.
- Authorized rebates due to diminished availability of fields during the COVID-19 pandemic for Mountain Brook Athletics-\$6,276, Mountain Brook Lacrosse-\$723 and Mountain Brook Soccer-\$4,700.
- Approved the purchase and installation agreement with Stone & Sons Electrical Contractors, Inc. for a refurbished transformer at the Athletic Complex.
- Authorized a Community
 Infrastructure Agreement with
 Jefferson County Commission
 with respect to ADA-compliant
 restroom upgrades at the Athletic
 Complex.
- Approved the plan to re-open public restrooms at the city's parks and playing fields and authorized the Parks and Recreation Board Superintendent to close the public restrooms at her discretion, in the interest of public safety, should conditions warrant.
- Certified the results of the August 25, 2020 general municipal election.
- Proclaimed September 17 through September 23 as Constitution Week.
- Authorized an agreement between the city and Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority with respect to fiscal 2021 public transportation services.
- Authorized the payment from the General Fund of \$200,000 into the City of Mountain Brook Section 115 (retiree medical insurance) Trust for investment in accordance with the city's investment policy (Resolution No. 2020-053).

- Authorized the payment of \$390,100 to the Retirement Systems of Alabama from the city's General Fund as an excess contribution to the city's pension trust fund to reduce the city's unfunded actuarial accrued liability.
- Appointed the City Clerk as the city's representative to act on behalf of the city and O'Neal Library with respect to unclaimed property retained by the State of Alabama.
- Amended the City of Mountain Brook Safer at Home Plan to re-open public water fountains at the city's parks and playing fields and authorized the Parks and Recreation Board Superintendent to close the water fountains at her discretion, in the interest of public safety, should conditions warrant.
- Approved the change of scope in the agreement between the city and Gresham Smith (Resolution No. 2016-202) with respect their coordination of the 6 inch water main relocation by the Birmingham Water Works Board for the Caldwell Mill Road replacement bridge project.
- Authorized an agreement between the city and Schoel Engineering Co., Inc. for their preparation of construction documents for modifications to the existing Mountain Brook Junior High detention pond outlet structure and authorized Schoel Engineering Co., Inc., to engage a contractor to perform a video inspection of the interior of the drainage line.
- Authorized a contract for general services with Birmingham Regional Paratransit Consortium d/b/a ClasTran, an Alabama nonprofit corporation.

- Assented to the approval of all Phase 1 change-orders in the estimated amount of \$256,000 by the Mountain Brook Board of Education and Alabama Building Commission with respect to the Synthetic Turf Project Implementation Agreement between the city and Mountain Brook Board of Education (Resolution No. 2020-075 dated May 26, 2020).
- Authorized an agreement with Gray's Tree Service with respect to the Athletic Complex improvement project.
- Proclaimed October as Down Syndrome Awareness month.
- Established the employees' and retirees' monthly premiums for medical insurance effective for employee payroll checks dated December 11, 2020, and retiree premiums due on January 1, 2021.
- Increased the salary schedule for all classified, unclassified and part-time employees by one-half of one percent (1/2%) effective October 13, 2020, and increased the compensation for contract security services for the city's Public Works facilities (Resolution No. 2013-146), the City Prosecutor, and Municipal Judges by one half of one percent (1/2%) effective October 1, 2020.
- Approved the stacking study for a bank drive-through in Block 8 of Lane Parke.
- Awarded the bid in the amount of \$119,000 to Alabama Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc., for the installation of a low slope roof at the O'Neal Library building.





Municipal Election Recap

The City conducts elections biennially (even years) on the fourth Tuesday in August. This year, the Mayor and City Council Places 2 and 4 were up for re-election. Mayor Stewart Welch was the only candidate who qualified for the office of Mayor and Virginia C. Smith for City Council Place 4. Gerald Garner (1,619 votes) won a close election against incumbent Philip Black (1,569 votes). Voter turnout for the August 25, 2020, election was 17%. These three newly elected officials shall begin their 4-year terms on the first Monday of November.



Next time you vote, remember to thank your poll workers for their service and the church and school officials who allow the City and Jefferson County to use their facilities.

The City is responsible for managing only its biennial elections. All other elections are managed by Jefferson County. If you have questions about the November election, please contact the Board of Registrars at (205) 325-5550.

Schedule of	Meetings
CITY COUNCIL	2nd &

CITY COUNCIL	2nd & 4th Mon.	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
	(Call 205-802-3800 for time of Pre-Meeting)		
BOARD OF EDUCATION	2nd Mon.	3:30 p.m.	Call Board of Ed Office 205-871-4608
LIBRARY BOARD	3rd Tues.	4:30 p.m.	Library
PARK & REC. BOARD	2nd Tues.	5:00 p.m.	City Hall
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT	3rd Mon.	5:00 p.m.	City Hall
PLANNING COMMISSION	1st Mon.	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE	3rd Wed.	8:00 a.m.	City Hall
BOARD OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN	3rd Tues.	5:15 p.m.	City Hall
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	3rd Thurs.	7:30 a.m.	City Hall

Check www.mtnbrook.org for status of these meetings due to COVID-19.

Board Appointments/ Reappointments:

APPOINTMENTS:

- Appointed Noel Dowling as a supernumerary member to the Board of Zoning Adjustment with the term of office to end December 31, 2021.
- Appointed Kirk Forrester to the O'Neal Library Board with the term of office to end September 28, 2024.

REAPPOINTMENTS:

- Reappointed Norman Orr to the Board of Zoning Adjustment with the term of office to end March 24, 2023.
- Reappointed Richard Simonton to the Board of Zoning Adjustment with the term of office to end July 25, 2023.
- Reappointed Vince Schilleci to the Editorial Board with the term of office to end August 8, 2024.
- Reappointed Brian Barrett to the Village Design Review Committee with the term of office to end on August 28, 2023.
- Reappointed Rhett Loveman to the Board of Zoning Adjustment with the term of office to end on September 22, 2023.
- Reappointed Helen Drennen to the Park and Recreation Board with the term of office to end on August 24, 2025.

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 resumes should be submitted on the website at www.mtnbrook.org. (Go to Government/Get Involved/ Boards and Committees/Apply here.) Complete the application and upload it under Application Form. Upload your resume in the next field and click submit.

UNTAL PARTO

New Businesses

RESTAURANT

■ POP Mountain Brook, LLC, 270 Rele St, 205-582-9808

SALE OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

- Salon Raymond Hawkins, 2816 Culver Rd, 205-243-2857
- Bayou Gourmet Enterprises, Inc, 3505 Belle Meade Way, 205-585-3108
- Amparo Fine Living, LLC, 2003 Cahaba Rd, Suite 101, 205-777-5632
- Prints Charming Soho, Inc, 1903 Cahaba Rd, 521-214-9586

Adams Computer Technologies, LLC, 3940
 Forest Glen Dr, 205-586-4638

ADMINISTRATIVE, PROFESSIONAL, AND SOCIAL SERVICES

- J Hardy Family Law, LLC, 200 Office Park Dr, Suite 310, 205-545-7445
- Shepherd Advisors, LLC, 3605 Rockhill Rd, 630-379-9403
- Snow Banner Trading, LLC, 4225 Abindgon Trail, 205-967-7127
- Over the Mountain Dentistry, 2850 Cahaba Rd, Suite 140, 205-968-1296
- Kathryn Yarbrough, 3532 Belle Meade Lane, 205-807-7276

- Sally Designs, 10 Office Park Circle, Suite 124, 205-490-4688
- Emily Ehrhardt Interiors, LLC, 2927 Virginia Rd, 404-840-3689

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

- Dr. Matt DPT, LLC, 2517 South Lane, 205-749-7423
- Sarah Ball Counselling & Consulting, LLC,
 3 Office Park Circle, Suite 220, 205-502-2974

CONSTRUCTION RELATED

- Alabama Gym Floors, LLC, 402 Office Park Dr, Suite 107, 205-937-4182
- Craig Sanderson, 3717 Dunbarton Dr, 205-999-9347

Recycle campaign & yard signs!

Bring any campaign signs or yard signs to the front door of City Hall, and we will take them to the recycling center.
We are collecting signs now through November 15.





Please Doo Your Part! and clean up after your dog. This problem exists at all of our parks, trails and sidewalks. The city provides disposable bags available for your use in our doggie stations 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.

Looking for answers? Need to report an issue?

Text The City of Mountain Brook

Introducing the new way to skip a phone call and use your mobile phone's text messaging to find answers to your questions.

Text 'HI'

or one of the phrases to the right, to:

(205) 506-6200

Text My Gov will help you to quickly find the answers you're looking for or report an issue to the Permits
Leaf Pickup
Report
Business License
FAQ
Pothole
Online Payments
Signs

Opt-In to Receive City Alerts Via Text

The City of Mountain Brook is now offering a system to receive city notifications via text message. Text 'MOUNTAINBROOK' to:



What To Expect:

 After the initial keyword is sent, you'll receive a confirmation message asking you to reply YES to

-0-4 text messages a month with a notification from the City regarding the categories you are opted-in

 Message and data rates may apply. Check with your mobile phone carrier for more details.

How To Opt-Out:

Text STOP at any time to remove yourself from the notification list.

View terms and privacy policy info at: www.textmygov.com/opt-in-terms-conditions. Mod & Data rates pools Mod frequency wries. Text



November 2020 www.mtnbrook.org Page **7**



Quarterly Crime Statistics

	2nd Quarter 2020	3rd Quarter 2020
Robbery	0	0
Robbery (aggravated shoplifting)	0	0
Burglary/Residence	3	6
Burglary/Business	1	3
Theft	21	36
Theft from Vehicle (UBEV)	5	17
Auto Theft	1	1
Assaults (Other)	1	1
Identity Theft	17	35
Criminal Mischief	5	5
Drugs	2	14
Family Violence	5	3
Accidents	97	134
A With Injuries	16	11
A With Fatalities	1	0
Calls For Service	3151	4760
House Watches	171	233

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.

Sports Complex Update

We now have artificial turf on most of our fields at the Sports Complex! We have made a number of other improvements to the sports complex over the past few months, including:

- Added a new retaining wall behind Fields 3 and 4
- Moved some of the LED field lights to eliminate some dark spots on the fields
- Replaced the bulky commissioner booths with smaller scorer tables
- Opened up the area around the concession stand for better flow of traffic

There are other big projects planned for the complex over the next year including:

- New concession stand/restrooms and complete repaying of walkways
- Improved pedestrian lighting
- Replacing the playground
- Field 1 will also be converted with artificial turf next Summer

The City, and the Mountain Brook Board of Education, along with Goodwyn, Mills and Caywood, and the Morris-Shea Bridge Company have all worked together to provide these much needed improvements. Once everything is complete, we will have a brand new Athletic Complex!



Irondale Furnace Drinking Fountain

A new drinking fountain has been placed at the entrance to the Irondale Furnace Trail off of Stone River Road. The fountain was graciously donated by State Representative David Faulkner and includes a regular drinking spout, a bottle filler, and a dog bowl at the base. The Cherokee Rose Garden Club helped with the landscaping, so it blends in with the existing surroundings.





Leave the Leaves! Do Not Disturb! Pollinators Tucked In for the Winter!

Did you know that many pollinators hibernate in leaf litter and the hollow stems of dormant plants for the winter? Many of us are growing more sensitive to the plight of the pollinators, mindfully incorporating pollinator-friendly plants into our gardens in the spring and resisting the urge to use pesticides in our garden all summer. We are undoing our hard work and good intentions when we clear away the leaf litter and standing dead plant material in the fall!

The survival of queen bees, moths, butterflies, snails, spiders and many arthropods depend on nature's dormant ecosystem during the winter months. When we rake, mow, and blow away the leaf cover we are interrupting the lifecycle of these critters, as well as that of birds and other animals that rely on them for

sustenance.

Resist the urge to tidy up your dormant bee/butterfly habitat! Leave the tangled masses of dead plant stems standing all winter, and leave the leaf litter in the garden bed. Bees are nesting in those hollowed out dormant plant stems, and butterfly larvae are wintering the blanket of leaves.

Should I leave leaves on the lawn? Leaf litter may be the best mulch around, and a few inches of it is good for the planting beds along the perimeter of the lawn, but too much leaf buildup will damage your lawn; so if you must clear, please use a rake instead of a blower, and transfer the leaves to a planting bed or compost pile instead of bagging them and taking them to the curb.



To learn more about the importance of leaving the leaves go to: https://xerces.org/blog/leave-the-leaves

https://xerces.org/blog/leave-the-leaves
For more information on pollinators go to:
https://xerces.org/

Make yourself visible!

As we head into fall and winter, there is less available daylight to do all of the things that we enjoy outdoors. If you usually walk or exercise early in the morning or late afternoons please wear reflective clothing and/or carry a flashlight or flashing light. MBPD still has some blue flashing armbands available if you need one.

Remembering to wear reflective gear and/or a flashing light while running, walking, or bicycling at night or in early morning hours is very important. Reflective gear and/or a flashing light gives the runner a better sense of awareness, and it gives drivers a better view of him or her. It is not enough to just wear bright clothing; reflective outerwear is designed to reflect to a driver's eye when approaching you.

On cold nights, don't make the mistake of wearing your reflective vest under your jacket or sweatshirt. An alternative to reflective clothing could be reflective tape or bands that you can put on several parts of your body. The more body you cover with reflective material, the better off you are.

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. Always walk facing traffic!

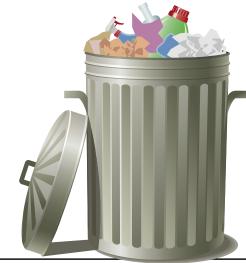
In addition, Mountain Brook City Ordinance requires individuals that walk, jog, or run in City streets during the hours of 4:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. wear either (a) reflective clothing between the waist and shoulders on the front and back with a coverage of at least fifty (50) square inches or (b) strobe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

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! 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.

Garbage Service Holidays

Waste Management will observe the following holidays. If your pickup falls on one of these dates, pickup will be delayed 1 day for the remainder of the week.

THANKSGIVING DAY –
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2020
CHRISTMAS DAY –
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2020
NEW YEAR'S DAY –
FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2021





Holiday Safety Tips

The Holiday season is fast approaching and with it an increase in crime. Here are a few tips to help protect you and your family:

WHEN SHOPPING:

- Situational awareness! Pay attention to your surroundings.... if someone seems to be watching you, they may be sizing you up for a crime.
- Try to park in well-lit areas. Always lock your car doors.
- Do not leave anything of value visible inside your car. Lock your car doors.
- Avoid placing valuable items in the trunk in public. Lock your car doors.
- Do not leave your purse in the shopping cart unattended...you are just making it easy for someone to steal or pilfer your purse.

AT HOME YOU SHOULD:

- Always lock your home and car doors even when at home.
- Have your key ready before you get to the door you are entering.
- Make sure your entrance area is well lighted.
- List only your last name and first initial on your mailbox.
- If a stranger wants to use your phone for any kind of call (from business to emergency),
 keep him outside and you make the call for them!
- WHEN IN DOUBT, CALL THE POLICE!
- If you arrive home and find your door open, DO NOT GO INSIDE! Call the police from a cell
 phone or neighbor's house.

CALL THE POLICE IF YOU SEE SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY:

- If you see someone or something suspicious in your yard or your neighbor's yard, call the Police immediately! If you see something, say something!
- Working together we can reduce and/or eliminate many of the crimes occurring in the City of Mountain Brook, but it all begins with the citizens of Mountain Brook calling in suspicious or criminal activity. Be active; get involved in helping make your community a safer place.
- Report any suspicious activity to the Mountain Brook Police Department (205) 879-0486 (non-emergency) or 911 (emergency). Program your cell phone with the (205) 879-0486 number. 911 calls from cell phones are sometimes routed to other agencies depending upon cell tower transmission.

Loose Leaf Collection

The hot days of summer have finally I moved along and the cooler days of fall have arrived. We have all enjoyed the beautiful fall foliage and now as the colors fade and the leaves begin to drop, it is time to begin the curbside removal of loose leaves. The City of Mountain Brook contracts with Waste Management for the pickup of loose leaves. The 2020 -2021 leaf collection will begin on November 2, 2020 and end on March 1, 2021. You can visit www.mtnbrook. org for the schedule. Please have your leaves at the curb prior to the beginning of your round. If leaves are not out prior to the date of your scheduled collection, then your service will take place during the next scheduled round for your area. Place only leaves at the curb for this collection, and do not include items such as branches, rocks, or bags within the leaf piles. Also, do not place your leaf piles in close proximity to the storm drains. If you choose to bag your leaves, then your bagged leaves will be serviced on your regularly scheduled trash collection day.

Street Light Out?

Alabama Power Company
maintains nearly 400 street lights
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 205-802-3800 or gastons@
mtnbrook.org so the City can coordinate its repair
with Alabama Power Company.



Important Leaf Collection Information 2020-2021 Leaf Collection Schedule

If your garbage collection day is:

Day of the week: Scheduled Leaf Collection Periods of:

Monday Nov. 2 - Nov. 5; Nov. 27 - Dec. 2;

Dec. 26 - Dec. 31; Feb. 1 - Feb. 4

Tuesday Nov. 6 – Nov. 10; Dec. 3 – Dec. 8;

Jan. 4 – Jan. 8; Feb. 5 – Feb.10

Wednesday Nov.11 – Nov. 14; Dec. 9 – Dec.14;

Jan. 11 - Jan. 15; Feb. 11 - Feb. 16

Thursday Nov. 16 – Nov.19; Dec.15 – Dec. 19;

Jan. 18- Jan. 22; Feb. 17 - Feb. 22

Friday Nov. 20 – Nov. 25; Dec. 20 – Dec. 24;

Jan. 25 - Jan. 29; Feb. 23 - March 1

Dear Mountain Brook Resident:

The schedule listed above will be your leaf collection schedule for the fall and winter of 2020-2021. The dates listed are the time frames that we will be in your area. Please have your leaves at the curb prior to the beginning of a round. Please only place leaves at the curb for this collection, and do not include items such as branches, rocks, or bags within the leaf piles. Also, please do not have your leaf piles staged in close proximity to the storm drains. If leaves are not out prior to the date of your scheduled collection, then your service will take place during the next scheduled round for your area. Leaves brought out after the beginning of the final round must be bagged for collection. If you choose to bag your leaves, then your bagged leaves will be serviced on your regularly scheduled trash collection day.

Thank you for your assistance with this program, and have a joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Steve Bubert District Manager II

Waste Management of Alabama Central

Sam S. Gaston City Manager

City of Mountain Brook

Sam Muston



O'Neal Library News

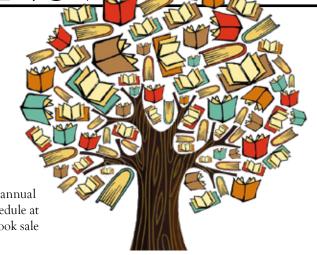
Update from the Friends of O'Heal Library

For over fifty years, the Friends of O'Neal Library have supported the library through their annual book sale. In 2020 the Friends raised \$35,000 during the book sale, which is used to support the library's Teen and Adult programs. Saturday, February 21st and 22nd from 10am-5pm and on Sunday, February 23rd from 1pm-4pm.



Is there going to be a book sale in 2021?

Due to Covid 19, we will not be able to hold our annual book sale in February, 2021. We hope to reschedule at a later date. Stay tuned for information about the book sale and other ways that you can support the library.



Can I still donate books?

.

Do you have books to donate? We know you've been cleaning out, and the Friends of the library still need your donations! We have started accepting donations one Saturday each month. Drop off is at the library on Oak Street across from the Fire Department - look for donation drop off signs. All books should be boxed in a container that you don't need to have returned.

The dates are as follows:

- Saturday, November 7 from 9am-4pm
- Saturday, December 5 from 9am-4pm

Please note: Like everyone, we are having to change the way that we do things, and our resources are limited. Please pay particular attention to our donation quidelines:

- In order to allow us to safely quarantine donations, all books should be boxed in a container that you don't need to have returned.
- Books must be in usable condition, not damaged by water, insects, or mold.
- We cannot accept encyclopedias or magazines.
- Donations are tax deductible. Receipt will be provided upon request.

We need your puzzles!

Puzzles have always been popular at the book sale, and during the pandemic, demand for puzzles has skyrocketed. Please consider donating your gently used puzzles (without any missing pieces, of course!) along with your book donations.

Questions? Check out our page on the library website at https://www.eolib. org/support-friends-3734 or contact Friends president Barbara Blair at barbaramblair@qmail.com



O'Neal Library News

ADULT NEWS

Every day presents new challenges and new opportunities that can make advance planning nigh on impossible! However, your friendly neighborhood librarians at the O'Neal Library have stayed on the lookout for entertaining and educational programs to offer during these stressful times. This winter is no different! Although we are not ready to offer in-person events, we currently host a varied online schedule including four book groups via Zoom, educational programming in cooperation with UAB, creative workshops for teens, and much more. As conditions and circumstances shift and change, the best way to keep up with what is on offer is the library's calendar; visit www.oneallibrary.org to register for events for adults, teens, and children. Download the O'Neal Library app for Apple and Android for even easier access!

Congratulations to our new Circulation Manager, Daniel Daughhetee!



Daniel has been with O'Neal Library circulation department for 12 years and is the smiling face you and your family have grown to associate with our front desk when you enter the Library. Daniel received his Bachelors Degree in History from the University of Montevallo, and later earned his Master's Degree in Library and Information Studies from the University of Alabama. The Circulation Department could not be in better hands as Daniel has been a tremendous asset to the department for many years. Join us in congratulating him on his exciting promotion. He is sure to flash that heart-warming smile your way.

Children's Department

Virtual Storytimes

Tune into our virtual preschool storytimes! "Storytime Train" with Ms. Courtney premieres each Wednesday morning and can be viewed on the O'Neal Library Facebook page, our @Kidsreads. ONL Instagram, or the library website at www.oneallibrary.org.





Another favorite with our patrons has been Ms. Rachael's "Sofa Stories" with a new episode each Thursday morning performed from the comfort of her sofa! "Sofa Stories" can be watched on the library's Facebook page or website. If you missed any of these entertaining educational episodes, you can still enjoy all the archived episodes on our social media platforms.

O'Neal Library News

Children's Department

Reader's Advisory



Have you checked out the new Reader's Advisory page on the O'Neal Library Kids Reads pages? We have provided several ways to help you find great books: online book lists, ready-to-go or made-to-order grab bags, and an online readers advisory questionnaire form.

Much like choosing a title on Netflix, you can scroll through rows of books categorized into age appropriate headings: Upper Elementary, Lower Elementary and Preschool. Each category also has sub-category lists such as: Spotlights on Board Books, Beginning Chapter Books, Mermaids and Pirates, Holidays, and Special Events. Clicking on a particular book automatically links you to the library catalog which provides a brief description of the book and its location and gives you the convenient option to immediately request the book.

The Children's Department has also initiated a Readers Advisory online form. With the answers to a few specific questions, the O'Neal Children's Librarians can find the perfect books for you! If we know your favorite genres, books, and authors, we can provide a special individualized recommended list of books that will be emailed back to you. Those recommendations can then be placed on hold online or by calling the Children's Department.

"Grab bags" have also been popular. Request a grab bag of board books, picture books, leveled readers and/or beginning chapter books. Librarians will select ten random books for a fun surprise for your child that can be picked up at the library during open hours or can be requested online or by phone. Email us at kidsreads.oneal@gmail.com to receive our monthly email of new books and activities





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THE VILLAGES OF MOUNTAIN BROOK

Holiday Open Houses in Mountain Brook















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

Platinum Level Investors:





Mark Your
Calendar for the
Mountain Brook
Annual

HOLIDAY PARADE

December 6th @ 3pm

Stay tuned for updates regarding possible changes







Now more than ever is the time to eat local and support our restaurants! So we are kicking off, Eat Out to Help Out!

Each week we are going to feature a different restaurant in the city! If you eat there (dine in or carry out), snap a pic of the food, or you with the food, and tag us @mtnbrookchamber on FB or @mountainbrookchamber on Instagram you will be entered to win a \$10 Village Gold and a t-shirt!

FRESH Fraser Fir Christmas Trees*
Wreaths & Garlands
Seasonal Greenery
Custom Mailbox Decorations
Seasonal Flowers & Plants
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*Delivery and Set-up Available





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Mobilizing the community for academic excellence.

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

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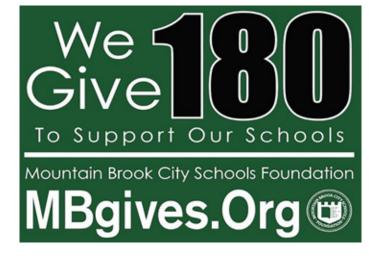
The Foundation exists to provide financial support to meet the academic needs that are beyond the current scope and means of the school system. The Foundation's work is based on the needs of the school system as a whole.

We Give \$180 To Support Our Schools

We Give \$180 To Honor Our Teachers

We know this has been a difficult period filled with uncertainties due to Covid-19. However, one thing has remained the same - the importance of quality education for our children. If there has ever been a time to work together for the good of our students, it is now. We invite you to join the Foundation's **Give 180 Campaign**. This fundraising effort allows the Foundation to help meet the needs of our schools during this challenging time.

This year's annual campaign is in honor of Mountain Brook's teachers and administrators who work tirelessly for our students. **Please give \$180**, which represents **\$1** for each day your child is learning through the school system. Your donation can be made at MBGives. org or by mailing a check to 32 Vine Street, 35213.



Every Dollar Counts!

Mountain Brook teachers give back to Mountain Brook Schools through the Every Dollar Counts Campaign.



Last year, more than 40% of teachers and administrators participated in this fundraising effort. The Foundation would like to thank the 2020-2021 Chairs: Brannon Aaron (Mountain Brook Elementary) and Holly Martin (Mountain Brook Junior High). We would also like to thank this year's committee: Alexandra Andrews (Cherokee Bend Elementary), Tami Genry (Mountain Brook Junior High), Matt Howard (Mountain Brook Junior High), Margaret Hudson (Mountain Brook Elementary), Catherine Lowe (Mountain Brook High School), Christine MacPherson (Cherokee Bend Elementary), Cynthia Maldonado (Mountain Brook Elementary), Katie Meyerpeter (Crestline Elementary), Heather Phillips (Crestline Elementary), Tanishia Sims (Brookwood Forest Elementary), Helena Stover (Mountain Brook Junior High), Leah Treadwell (Crestline Elementary) and Perry Wright (Brookwood Forest Elementary).

