





"The Voice for Business & Community"

May 2024 | Vol. 23, No. 5

#### -Chamber News

#### Shelby Emergency (Assistance receives the 2024 Montevallo Community Grant

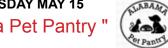


On April 10, Shelby Emergency Assistance was awarded the 2024 Montevallo Community Grant by the Montevallo Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Every year the Montevallo Chamber hosts the Montevallo Onion Sale in the Spring and the Montevallo Pecan Sale in the Fall to raise funds for the Montevallo Community Grant. Shelby Emergency Assistance used the grant to upgrade to a much needed commercial refrigerator. Thank you SEA for all the great work you do in Shelby County. Photo (I-r) Brandon Lovelady, Obie Moore, Adele Nelson, Jarvis Davis, Candace Jarvis, Brooke McKinley, Alison Baggett, Susan Fulmer, and Wesley Hallman.

#### MONTEVALLO CHAMBER LUNCHEON

**WEDNESDAY MAY 15** 

"Alabama Pet Pantry "



Guest Speaker - Sheila Ray Montgomery, founder of Alabama Pet Pantry / Parnell Library with networking at 11:30am & lunch at noon \$15. ea.

RSVP by Friday May 10 to 205-665-1519 or montevallochamber@gmail.com -- You can donate pet food online: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/9RD7OZL2VT6L PayPal: paypal.me/alabamapetpantry Venmo @alabamapetpantry

#### **WELCOME NEW CHAMBER MEMBER -**

N'awlins On Wheels, 786-629-5467



#### SPONSORED BY LUCKY'S FOODLAND



2nd THURSDAY
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER BREAKFAST

8am / Speaker - Sherri Burgess / \$30. ea./ American Village / Reservation email patriotgiftshop@americannvillage.org or call 205-665-3535 x1031

4th SATURDAY UM COMMENCEMENT

9am / Class of 2024 / Flowerhill Lawn

**FARM DAY** 

10am - 4pm / Orr Park

**BRIERFIELD MARKET DAYS** 

9am - 3pm / Brierfield Ironworks State Park

5th SUNDAY CINCO DE MAYO

9th THURSDAY

MONTEVALLO ONION PICK-UP (tentative)

curbside for pre-orders / 3-6pm. Montevallo Recycling Center, to make other pick-up arrangements please call 205-665-1519

11th SATURDAY

3rd Annual TEAM LEHMAN - SEA DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT

9am & 1pm / UM Disc Golf Course / info: 205-746-8721 benefits - Shelby Emergency Assistance

LIONS SIGHT MOBILE EYE CLINIC

9am -1pm / SEA parking lot

12th SUNDAY MOTHER'S DAY

15th WEDNESDAY

MONTEVALLO CHAMBER LUNCHEON

"ALABAMA PET PANTRY"

Guest Speaker - Sheila Ray Montgomery, founder of Alabama Pet Pantry. Parnell Library with networking at 11:30am and lunch at noon \$15. ea. RSVP by Friday May 10th to 205-665-1519 or montevallochamber@gmail.com

**FUNNIES FOR OUR FURBABIES / Stand-up Comedy Night** featuring Chase Mote, Sheila Ray, & Beth Tucker / 10 slots for 5 mins open mic / 7-9PM / No Cover but donations are greatly appreciated - 16 lb bag or larger dry dog food, any size dry cat food or cash donations / The Dive Bar / 19 or older benefits - Alabama Pet Pantry

18th SATURDAY
ALABAMA PET PANTRY
2pm to 3pm / SEA - 160 Shoshone Dr

20th MONDAY

MONTEVALLO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

7pm / UM Student Activity Center limited tickets will be available

21st TUESDAY IMPACT MEETING, 9 a.m.

22th WEDNESDAY

2024 SHELBY COUNTY SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS

11:30am - 1pm / Pelham Civic Complex / \$25. ea. / RSVP by noon on 5/17

23rd THURSDAY

**COMMUNITY FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION** 

8:30am / Boys & Girls Club parking lot , 420 Vine St.

27th MONDAY **MEMORIAL DAY** 

**MEMORIAL DAY AT AMERICAN VILLAGE** 

10am - 4pm / 11am Chapel Service / Free Admission / Family Friendly Activities / www.americanvillage.org

16th ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

9 am / Alabama National Cemetery hosted by the SCALNC

31st FRIDAY

FRIDAY NIGHTS AT THE COVE

Owl's Cove Park / 6:30pm

**PLATINUM LEVEL** 

CITY OF MONTEVALLO MONTEVALLO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**GOLD LEVEL** 

DIXIE DECORATIONS
MONTEVALLO FAMILY DENTISTRY
SLICE PIZZA & BREW
TRUSTMARK BANK
UNIVERSITY OF MONTEVALLO

SILVER LEVEL

ALABAMA POWER

ALFA - SHAWN PAYNE / MONTEVALLO

BRADFORD REAL ESTATE GROUP

HEALTH SERVICES, INC.

REGIONS BANK

ROCKCO FUNERAL HOME

For additional information about how to become a Chamber Business Partner contact Chamber Director Adele Nelson (205) 665-1519

Mark your calendar because the annual Tinglewood Festival will be held at Orr Park on Saturday, Sept. 7, 2024 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.





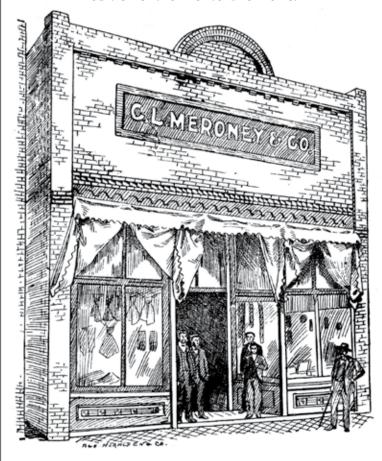
HIGHWAY 25 | MONTEVALLO, AL 35115 | 205-665-5124

# Main Street Memories

#### C.L. Meroney & Co.

by Clay Nordan Montevallo Historical Society

An advertisement from a December 1898 edition of the Montevallo News.



The poorly printed text from the ad above reads:

#### THE HOUSE THAT STARTED GREATER MONTEVALLO.

The house that wants your cotton and your trade.

They carry every thing in high-grade. Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, Hardware and Groceries at price to fit 4½ cent cotton, see us before you buy.

C.L. Meroney & Co.

Most people who lived in Montevallo in the mid-20th century remember the handsome retail building next to the bank as Klotzman's store. But plenty of documentation indicates that this was previously the home of C.L. Meroney & Co., a classic dry-

goods business, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. They sold just about anything their customers could possibly need. Clothing, groceries, confections, toys, shoes, farm implements – Meroney's was a one-stop shopping experience, 100 years before anyone ever thought about something like Wal-Mart.



The Meroney family was among the earliest settlers of Montevallo, having arrived some time before 1820. As C.L. Meroney grew and thrived in his home town, he became one of the area's most prominent businessmen. In addition to his bustling mercantile business, he was president of Merchants & Planters Bank and served one term as mayor from 1909 – 1910.

C.L. Meroney's daughter, Eloise Meroney, taught in the English department at Alabama College for many years and also wrote a valuable history of the town of Montevallo (available online at www.historicmontevallo.org under Local History) that remains a dependable source for historians. The Meroney family home on Middle Street, just across from the west gate leading into the University of Montevallo is now owned by the University and is used for offices for the school.



# Montevallo Historical Society

#### **JOIN TODAY!**

Download Application at www.historicmontevallo.org

P.O. Box 411 • Montevallo, AL 35115

montevallo1817@gmail.com

MONTEVALLO MAIN STREET MEMORIES is adapted from the series, THROWBACK THURSDAY, a **Montevallo Historical Society** and **Montevallo Main Street** partnership started in 2018. Each installment revisits commercial and residential life on Main Street and in the downtown area in the early to mid-twentieth century. The series remains available online and may be viewed at **www.historicmontevallo.org** under "Local History".

#### SAFETY-SPOT

#### FIRE SAFETY TIPS WHILE ON VACATION

- Working smoke alarm in every sleeping room
- Portable fire extinguishers
- Working carbon monoxide alarms
- · Look for posted floor plan for escape routes
- Know the address in case you need to call 9-1-1
- Identify two ways out of every room
- •All doors and windows can be opened
- Identity an outdoor meeting place
- All pathways are free from tipping hazards
- · Electrical outlets are not overloaded
- Stovetop is clear





#### CELEBRATING MONTEVALLO CHAMBER TURNING 75

During the year of 1949 when the Montevallo Chamber of Commerce was established, ...that the price of a '49 FORD Tudor Sedan is only delivered in Montevallo at Wooten Motor Company for \$1,564.25;



EST. 1949

Montevallo Cabinet Shop maker of screens, cabinets, lawn furniture, window and door frames, and venetian blinds "installation at no cost"; 1 Extra Year of Beauty Sherwin-Williams Paints available at Nordan Hardware; and More Chevrolet Trucks in use than any other, brags Montevallo Motors. Come bring the family to "Dollar Days in Montevallo" Friday and Saturday Chamber event that states, GIANT VALUES, midget prices! All Montevallo Merchants are cooperating in the biggest value-giving event ever offered to the people of this section. Street Concerts by the High School Band. The Town of Montevallo has employed Mr. Howard McGaughy to look after upkeep of the Montevallo Cemetery. I, W. M. Wyatt, Mayor of the Town of Montevallo, hereby proclaims Saturday, May 28, to be Poppy Day in the Town of Montevallo, and urges that all citizens observe the day by wearing the memorial poppy. Check out the comic strip The Human Race weekly in The Montevallo Times. Sir Laurence Olivier's superb film version of Shakespeare's most celebrated drama "Hamlet", will play an exclusive two-day engagement at the Strand Theatre in Montevallo with two performances daily at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. All seats are reserved. Matinee prices will be \$1.20, \$1.50 and \$1.79 for matinees; \$1.20, \$1.79 and \$2.40 for evenings, tax included. A. special school rate of \$1.00 will prevail for the 3:00 p.m. matinee shows. In 1949, Hamlet won Best Picture of the Year and Best Actor of the Year. Mother's Day special skirts \$1.45 to \$2.95 at Chism's Clothing Store.

Insert *This in Rural Alabama* is titled Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World with typical activities in and around the homes of Alabama home demonstration club members.

The above ads and articles from \* The Montevallo Times, May 1949 edition, illustrates an example of how the Montevallo Chamber used the local paper to share news to increase community vitality through the recruitment and support of business.

# Christopher R. Smitherman, LLC

Licensed to practice in Alabama and Mississippi

725 West Street • Montevallo, Alabama 35115 Email: crsmithermanllc@bellsouth.net Phone: (205) 665-4357 • Fax: (205) 665-4061

# BARBERSHOP BARBERSHOP Barbería Edward Patrick Appointments through Booksy.app

#### Charlotte S. Conwell

Certified Public Accountant

655 Main Street • P.O. Box 468 Montevallo, AL 35115 205-665-1842 • Fax 205-665-1744 cs\_conwell@yahoo.com





#### Valedictorian:

Glenn, Aiden Hardy  $\star \pi \Delta$ 

#### Salutatorian:

Herring, Allie Brooke ★π**S**Δ

#### **Monor Graduates:**

Almora-Sosa, Aylin ★π**\$**Δ Baker, Lorraine Gail  $\star \pi \Delta$ Burns, Destiny Jurnee  $\star \pi \Delta$ Colbert, Devin Ray ★π**S**Δ Dang, Haley Thao My ★πSΔ King, Braxton Ray  $\star \pi S \Delta$ King, Dalton Walker ★ King, Peyton Lucas  $\star \pi S \Delta$ Locks, Benjamin Jay ★π**S**Δ 🖟 McCrary, Kayleigh Danielle  $\star_{\pi} s_{\Delta}$  Flores Estrada, Rafael Morales, Stephanie  $\star \pi S \Delta$ Ozley, Jacob Parker ★△ Ramirez, Isabella Marie ★π**S**Δ Thompson, Tyler James  $\star \pi S \Delta$ Thornthwaite, Ella Jane  $\star \pi$ 

ૹઌ૾ઌ૾ઌ૾ઌ૾ઌ૾ઌ૾ઌ૾ઌ૾ઌ૾ઌ૾ઌ૾ઌ૾ Adams, Charles W Adams, Trey Pierson Altamirez Roque, Jasmine Anderson, Jayla Simone Angel Galvan, Derek Horacio Avilez-Cantero, Lisbeth Barone, Logan Christopher Benton, Wailyn Trent Blevins, Lester Bendale 🗗 Brantley, Hailey Reigh

Bryant, Abbigail Nicole ★π Calderon Luna, Ada Karina S Carranza-Lopez, Osvaldo Cartwell, Malachi Alaric-Kahsai Chapman, Geno Roosevelt Anthony Childress, Jacob Chism, Ja'Von Deonta' Craig, La'Teria Tralia Cummings, Jaydon Brock Davis, Stephen Lakyn De La Cruz, Andy Douglas, Braden Ryan Dukes, Erin Kennedi Espinoza, Didvanni ★ \$ /2 Esquivel Jimenez, Meneli Fitts, Jacob Chavez Gaines, Jordan Dewanye Garcia Mendoza, Axel Emmanuel Gentry, Te'Von Letray Gentry, Tre'Von Levay Gentry, Tyler O'Bryan 🗗 Goodwin, Jamison Lyle Hamrick, Bailey Alison Hernandez-Maldonado, Emilyano 🖈 Holmes, Ashton Reid 🗗 Honeycutt, Zander Patrick Hudson, Brianna Elise Inabinett, William Emmory Ingram, Ryan Alexander Jalomo, Breanna Elizabeth **4** Jimenez Casillas, Magaly

Jimenez Quiroz, Andrew

Kemp, Esmeralda Mae

Lawley, Carter Burgin \* 5 Lilly, Mercadees Samoya Lisner, Vincent Milo Lopez Palma, Jerry Giovanny Lopez-Arguello, Lesly Ixel ★ Lucas, Tyler Anthony Lutz, Hunter Franklin Magdaleno, Cristian Leon Magdaleno, Jonathan Leon Martinez, Luis Alberto Medina, Nancy Itzel Mejia Avelar, Brizeida Charlene Montano Serrano, Edgar Moore, Devarious D Morton, Elfreeman Carnold Nelson, Scout Isabelle Ocampo Mojica, Vidal Ricardo O'Dell, Piper Josephine \* Olivo Garcia, Dulce Flor Paracca, Charles Brandon Patterson, Gracie Taylor Pennington, Emily Nevaeh ★△ Peraza Pena, Jeimy Lizeth Perez Garcia, Shayr Peters, Madison Marie \*π Posey, Cheyenne Grace Purnell, Kamardre Kejuan Rodriguez, Oscar Noel ★ △ Rodriguez Ochoa, Rodrigo Rogers, Javon Charles Romero-Sanchez, Angel Gabriel \*

Ross, Anthony Demond

Sanchez, Junior Israel Sanchez Nunez, Anakaren Sanders, Kelvin Anthony ★ Sanders, Trevor Grady △ Shaner, Devan Wyatt Simson, Savannah Brooke Stoutermire, Tristan Brianna Tafoya Ayala, America Michelle Thomas, Jamarcus Treyvon Thomas, Keiala Cher'ee Tinajero-Posadas, Edgar Tolbert, Christian Antonio Valencia Patino, Brandon Daniel 🖈 Villegas, Ivan Carlos Wade, Takiya Monay Webb, Ava Kenzley White, Quiyana Gabrielle \* Williams, Jordan Isaiah Zavala, Izabella 🖈 S

- ★ National Honor Society
- π Mu Alpha Theta
- **S**Spanish Honor Society
- ▲ Receiving Advanced Diploma
- ₽ Joining the Military





#### 2024 ANNUAL SEA DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT SET FOR MAY 11

Team Lehman is honored to continue our tradition of hosting the Annual Shelby Emergency Assistance (SEA) PDGA C-tier Disc Golf Tournament at the University of Montevallo. Round One starts on Saturday, May 11 at 9 am, with Round Two teeing off at 1 pm. Thanks to the support of our local community and allied partners this event was able to raise over \$10,000 to support SEA last year. With your help, we hope to raise even more for SEA this year. So far, our sponsorships include Spring Creek Investments, University of Montevallo, Alabama Professional Services, AC Legg, Montevallo Chamber of Commerce; Montevallo Main Street; Keys to the City Community Coaching, Steve Condrey and Sam Webb, McLeod and Associates and Dr. Bobby Shunnarah. In addition, we have a limited number of team player spots still available, so reserve your spot today!

As we all know, SEA does so many wonderful things to serve those in our community who need help the most. That's why we and our sponsors are so proud to continue this annual event, as well as support other efforts on their behalf. You play an important part too! Your business and your continued referrals are the main reasons we are able to support SEA and other organizations in our community. Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you on May 11.



# Spring Creek Cumberland Presbyterian Church





Please join us on

Sunday, May 5, 2024 to celebrate

#### **HOMECOMING**

and 150 years of Ministry

Morning Worship at 11:00am.

All-Share Bring-A-Meal Lunch on the grounds will follow Morning Worship.

Bluegrass music will follow meal.

(If inclement weather, meal & music will move indoors.)

3411 Spring Creek Road Montevallo, AL 35115 (205) 665-4184



4074 Highway 25 - Montevallo, AL 35115

Joe Mangina, Owner

o. 205.337.0725 c. 205.966.2229

10% discount for ALL VETERANS & FIRST RESPONDERS

\* PICK-UP & DELIVERY AVAILABLE \*



#### JAMES TOLBERT, BELOVED WBYE RADIO HOST: A DAUGHTER REMEMBERS

"It was who he was. He was WBYE."

-- Angela Denise Nathan

If it's facts you want, they're in the obituary. James Tolbert passed away, age 75, in January 2014. He was a member of The Harvest Place Christian Church, Columbiana, a member of the Deacon's Ministry, a US Army Veteran, a lab technician at Blue Circle Cement Company, Calera.



James 'Brother J. T' Tolbert

Today he is widely remembered and still beloved as Brother J. T., for forty-two years the voice of the central Alabama Black community at WBYE 1370 AM broadcasting from its Calera studio on Highway 25.

Earlier this year we recorded the remembrances of the oldest of his eight children, Angela Denise Nathan.

He was devoted to the radio station, she recalls. "It was exciting to him to be behind that desk at the radio station. It was just amazing to watch him in his element because the radio station was his element. It was who he was. He was WBYE."

Others testify to his impact. Dennis Mitchell, a former radio host himself, now a musician and choir member at New Hope Baptist Church in Randolph, recalls that Tolbert had a daily morning show with a large and loyal audience of listeners. They were glued to their radios when he was on the air. Cooks and housekeepers who worked at UM used to bring their radios to work so they could listen to the WBYE gospel music show while they went about their jobs.

Joyce Jones remembers listening to him on Saturday mornings from the time she got up, around 9 ("or whenever") through lunchtime. She recalls a mix of music, sermons, Christian education, and Bible lessons, as well as discussion of local political interests. Anitka Stewart Sims remembers a regular call-in hour when people would call in with problems or just feeling blue. He would know exactly the right song to play, his knowledge of gospel music was that extensive. Joyce Brown Lewis, a church pianist for over forty years, remembers him as a great promoter of gospel music and gospel groups. (Some groups performed live on WBYE, crowded into a sound booth.) Lewis admired Tolbert. He was humble and loved what he did. He used radio to touch the lives of people in Shelby but also Bibb, Chilton, and Jefferson counties.

And James Tolbert the father? His daughter remembers him as a "real tall man. Real strong. He believed in his faith." For young Angela he was the source of endless encouragement — of her mind, spirit, musicality, and individuality. On the radio,

and off, he was "always giving encouraging words." "All you gotta do is take that first step forward and God will take care of the rest." Her first memory of him? This tall, strong man beaming with joy that his four-year-old daughter decided to join the church.

At a time when many frowned on the idea of preaching women, he supported Angela's calling to preach. He was the first person she told, and she did so at the radio station. He looked up from his writing pad and said, "I'm not surprised. I want you to preach what God tell you to preach. . . I want you to be an original of yourself."

He was an adamant advocate for the education of his children. She tells the story of her senior year when she and another friend, both outstanding students and both Black, were barred from Montevallo HS's Honor Society. Tolbert, along with other activist members of the community, including Ethel Mae Thompson, consulted attorneys in Birmingham to see that the girls got the recognition they deserved. Angela laughs. "We weren't concerned about wearing gold ropes around our neck. We wanted our diploma." But Tolbert was insistent: "No, they're not going to keep you off the honor roll." That was the man. He fought for the dignity of all members of his family. If it meant making trouble, so be it.



Dari-Delite during the segregation era. Notice the two whitesonly windows on the front. Photo courtesy of Clay Nordan.

His demand for respect was unwavering, even during the Jim Crow days. Angela recalled an incident at the Dari-Delite on Main Street, near where Taco Bell is today, when Black people weren't allowed through the front door. One Sunday he refused to take his family around back. Little Angela was dismayed. She could think of nothing but the hamburger she was counting on. What did it matter what door they went through? "No, never again here at DQ." Why? "Because you deserve to go through the front door." Angela, very much a child, not understanding: "Just give me my burger." His response was totally in character: "No, you all are better than that, and you're going to have to realize that."

Now, these many decades later, Angela deeply appreciates the lesson. Tolbert and other members of his generation "taught us how to respect ourselves." She misses her father. Her whole family does. "But my brothers and sisters and I have a legacy to carry on for the rest of our life."

The James Tolbert story continues next month. Do you have remembrances to share? Contact us at MontevalloLegacy@gmail.com. An expanded version of this story, including a gallery of photos, is at themontevallolegacyproject.com. Submitted by Kathy King and Anitka Stewart Sims on behalf of the MLP.

#### **CONCERTS TO CELEBRATE DR. ED ROBERTSON**

Two concerts in May will celebrate the life and works of Montevallo composer Edwin C. Robertson, who passed away on October 14, 2023. On Tuesday, April 30 at 7:30pm, the Montevallo Community Chorale under the direction of Allen Bankston will present a program of works for chorus by Robertson. The concert will be held at LeBaron Recital Hall on the UM campus. Dr. Robertson served as a board member of the Chorale.

The Birmingham Art Music Alliance is a nonprofit collaborative based in Birmingham made up of composers, performers and new music enthusiasts dedicated primarily to the presentation of new works by Alabama composers. Dr. Robertson was a charter member of the alliance and his guiding influence, as well as a string of remarkable new compositions he composed were greatly admired and appreciated. On Sunday, May 5 at 4 pm, BAMA will present a program of Robertson's works at First United Methodist Church, downtown Birmingham. Both events are free to the public.



2024 VBS June 3rd—7th

6:00—8:30pm



Exciting Bible adventures, awesome crafts, tasty treats, cool songs, and amazing games.

The fun begins soon, so come dive into the Scriptures.

Bring your friends and join us for the fun.

Ages 4yr-6th grade

For more info see us on facebook

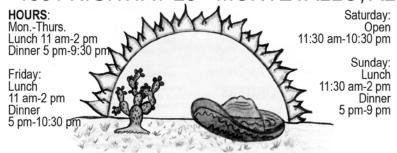
Spring Creek
Cumberland Presbyterian Church

3411 Spring Creek Road—Montevallo, AL 35115 205-665-4184

# ZAPOPAN

# — Authentic — MEXICAN RESTAURANT

4551 HIGHWAY 25 • MONTEVALLO, A



#### BUY TWO ADULT ENTRÉES GET A SMALL CHEESE DIP FREE!

(1 coupon per table, per visit) • Expires 5/31/24 Valid at the Montevallo Restaurant Only

•••••

#### **WEEKLY SPECIALS**

MONDAY NIGHTS (Dine-In Only) Buy One Dinner A thru L or #16-66 Get 2nd One 1/2 Price!

TUESDAY NIGHTS

Margarita Special from 5 to 9 pm Regular or Strawberry Margarita Small 16 oz. \$3.50 Medium 28 oz. \$5.50

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
Buy One Dinner A thru L Combination

Get 2nd Dinner for \$2.50 (NO SUBSTITUTIONS! DINE-IN ONLY)

THURSDAY NIGHTS from 5 to 9 pm All Domestic Beer, American or Mexican \$2.25 EACH

TO-GO ORDERS!

"The Voice for Business & Community"

#### CITY OF MONTEVALLO NEWS

#### Mayor's Message...

#### Hello, citizens of Montevallo

I hope all of you are well and enjoying the warmer weather and the beautiful landscapes it brings. Along with seasonal temperatures, Spring brings the beginning of tornado season in our state. The City of Montevallo is



**RUSTY NIX, MAYOR** 

weather prepared with two tornado shelters available to the community. Each storm shelter will open if our area goes under a tornado watch and will remain open until the threat of bad weather is over. Shelter #1 is located at Stephens Park and Shelter #2 is located off Island St. beside the MHS football stadium. Both facilities are ADA compliant and have the capacity to accommodate 92 people.

Spring baseball/softball tournaments are in full swing at our city ballparks. These tournaments attract many visitors to our city and help to grow revenue. In addition, there will also be high school and University of Montevallo baseball/softball games to attend. Please plan to come out and support the Bulldogs and Falcons.

The new ADA compliant restrooms at Orr Park are open! The continued growth of activities and the popularity of the park created a necessity to upgrade these facilities. When the restrooms were built in 2004, the park only included a walking track. Now, major events are held in the park plus 12 soccer teams that use the park for practice and games. While the city is proud of Orr Park and welcomes everyone to enjoy its beauty, I would like to remind everyone that the rocks along the creekbank in the park are purposely placed there to help slow/stop erosion. Removing or repositioning the rocks is prohibited. Please respect the city's efforts to provide a beautiful and functional park for its citizens to enjoy.

The old adage says "good things come to those who wait" so I'm very happy to report that the wait is almost over and the ADA compliant sidewalk project on Highway 25 is nearly completed. This project has taken nearly 3 ½ years to complete but the city will soon be able to reap its benefits. The new sidewalks will make it possible to safely walk from Lucky's Foodland to Pic 'n Sav.

The Moore's Crossroads improvement project is coming along with most of the surveys completed. The reconfiguring of this area of town will beautify the gateway from the north coming into the city. I can't wait to get this 2.1-million-dollar project started. The city's funding match on this grant is coming from the MDCD. The proposed shopping development of the 22 acres in that area is still under negotiation but, hopefully, we will know more about the progress within the next few weeks. This development will be a gamechanger for the City of Montevallo. Look for more exciting things coming to Montevallo soon!

Friday Nights at the Cove cranked up on April 26th and will take place the last Friday of the monththrough July.

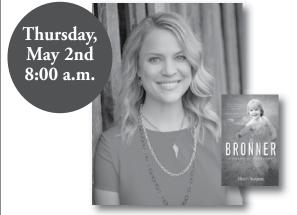
Montevallo Main Street is the sponsor of this event series and invites everyone for an evening of live musical performances at Owl's Cove Park (737 Main Street). Each event will feature a different musician. This family-friendly, free admission, event is the perfect way to kick off your weekend.

Bring a chair or picnic blanket, grab dinner to go from your favorite downtown restaurant and make yourself at home on Main Street. Live music starts at 6:30 p.m. on May 31st, June 28th and July 26th. Hope to see you there!

Memorial Day will be observed on Monday, May 27th. Please plan to visit the Alabama National Cemetery for the 16th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at 9am to honor the men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice so we may enjoy the privileges of the freedoms that come with living in the United States of America. Also, in observance of the upcoming holiday, please take notice of the veteran banners that will fly in and around town. Thank a veteran for their service to our Country.

Stay tuned for information on the many events that will be occurring in the city this summer. It is important to remember to shop and dine in Montevallo first. Business owners in our community and sales tax revenue depend on you. As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your mayor.

## National Day of Prayer Breakfast at American Village



This year's speaker is **Sherri Burgess.** Her story is one of hope and stands as an example of the joy we can all have in Christ even in the aftermath of the most tumultuous of storms. Hers came on January 19, 2008, when she found her youngest son, Bronner, drowned in their family's backyard swimming pool. He was only two. She and her husband, Rick Burgess, of the "Rick and Bubba Show," wanted to know why, "Why does God allow such calamity, such heartbreak, such sadness in our world?" God answered them. It took five years, but Sherri is now ready to reveal all she learned about suffering in those quiet moments alone with God.

#### Tickets are \$30 per person.

To make a reservation, please email patriotgiftshop@americanvillage.org or call (205) 665-3535 x 1031





www.americanvillage.org



#### **FUNDS FOR FCCLA**

MHS has five students who competed on the state level at FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America) and have qualified to compete at the national level this summer. These students battled against many other groups from all over the state of Alabama and are the first group from Montevallo High School as well as the only Shelby County school traveling to Seattle for the National Leaders' Conference in June.

They have several fundraisers planned for this spring and are seeking sponsorships to help cover the cost of this trip. If you are interested in contributing or being a sponsor, please contact Kaycee Tyson-Goetz at ktysongoetz@shelbyed.org



Located: 609 Main Street Montevallo, AL

205-476-8650



Les recordamos que en su panaderia, estamos abiertos los 7 días de la semana de 7 am a 9 pm.
Visitanos y encontrarás una amplia variedad en panes artesanales, repostería, piñatas, pasteles y postres.

We remind you that in your bakery, we are open 7 days of the week from 7 AM TO 9 PM. Visit us and you will find a wide variety of handmade breads, pastry, piñatas, cakes and desserts.



Montevallo Police Department NOTICE: Lost & Found Property

We are committed to reuniting lost items with their rightful owners.

If you suspect that you have lost an item and it could be in our Lost & Found Property Room, Please contact the Montevallo Police Department- Records Office at (205)665-1264.

You will need to provide detailed information about the property, including a comprehensive description of the item, proof of ownership, and the approximate date of loss.

Our team is ready to assist you and reunite you with your lost property as soon as possible.





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DAY LIGHT SAVING TIME NEW HOURS
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#### **MEMORIAL DAY AT THE AMERICAN VILLAGE**

The American Village will offer free admission on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27. Family-friendly activities and salutes to veterans will take place from 10am to 4pm. Food trucks, including Hey Bebe, C's Cakes and Coffee, Cousins Maine Lobster, Kona Ice, and The Frozen Rooster will be on-hand for lunch and snacks.

#### MONTEVALLO METHODIST MEN'S CLUB MEMORIAL DAY FUND RAISER

The Montevallo First United Methodist Church Men's Club will be smoking Boston Butts and Baby Back Ribs on Thursday, May 23rd for pickup on Friday, May 24th between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. at the Methodist Church.

These Boston Butts and ribs will be great to serve on Memorial Day or put in the freezer for future use.

Prices are: Boston Butts (approx. weight 8-10 lbs) \$40, and Baby Back Ribs (one rack) \$30.

Orders must be received <u>no later than</u> 5 pm on Thursday, May 16th.

To order, please call the Men's Club cellphone, 205-476-3005 before the May 16th deadline. NOTE: When you place your order, please leave your name and contact phone number - either home, office or cell number, so you can be contacted in case there is a question regarding your order.

# EBENEZER'S EXPLORERS SUMMER CAMP Ebenezer's Explorers Summer Day Camp is a week-long adventure, filled with fun STEAM curriculum. Keep your child engaged in hands-on discovery and exploring the natural world this summer at UM! Kinder Kestrels (rising K-2) Vild Wetlanders (rising 3-5) Vild Wetlanders (rising 6-8) Activities Include: Nature Nauts (rising 6-8) Vilderness Skills Field Trips and Guest Speakers Registration: montevallo.edu/eeprograms Contact: eeprograms@montevallo.edu

#### **MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT AT MONTEVALLO ACE**

The first 50 children to stop by Montevallo ACE on Sat,. May 4th from 10am to 1pm can participate in a Make & Take craft for Mom. ACE will provide the flower pot and paint so children can decorate the pot and give it to Mom for Mother's Day!



#### HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024





#### "MAINSTREETERS"

Submitted by Team Lehman

Team Lehman is a proud sponsor of Montevallo Main Street. We are grateful for everything Montevallo Main Street's supporters, staff and volunteers do to make our downtown vibrant, and our city a place where all of us can enjoy a truly amazing quality of life. Likewise, we want to give a shout out to the folks at Main Street Alabama for all they do to assist Montevallo's program, as well as those programs in our fellow designated communities across our state.

As pointed out in Main Street's 10 Year Progress Report, it is conservatively estimated that the sales tax paid in 2023 by net new businesses in Alabama Main Street Communities was more than \$18 million. As you would expect, those tax dollars have huge implications for both state and local governments. Notably, as the report details, between 2013 and 2023, the State of Alabama alone invested about \$1.3 million in the Main Street Alabama program. Importantly, for every dollar of funding the State contributed, \$13.36 was paid back to them in sales taxes. The same sort of positive return was realized on a local level, as well.

As additional evidence of Main Street's economic benefits, May 5-9 the national 2024 Main Street NOW Conference will be held in downtown Birmingham. 1,500 or more "Mainstreeters" from across the nation will descend upon the Magic City to enjoy insightful education sessions, unique special events, immersive mobile workshops, and other truly memorable experiences. In fact, thanks to the

tireless efforts of our local director, Courtney Bennett, and our board members, that Sunday, one of the conference's mobile workshops will visit Tinglewood, the UM Performing Arts Center, Owl's Cove and other notable Montevallo destinations. So, if you're downtown that day and see a bunch of wide-eyed strangers milling about, be sure to give them an especially warm Montevallo welcome.



#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Memorial Day Graveside
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chairman.scalnc@gmail.com



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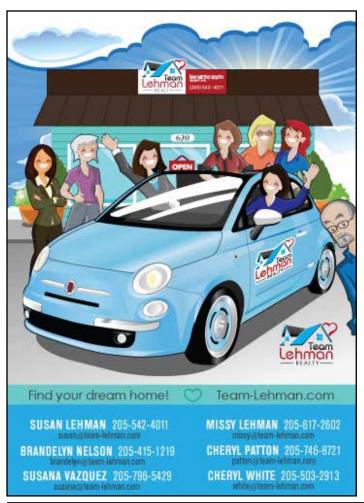
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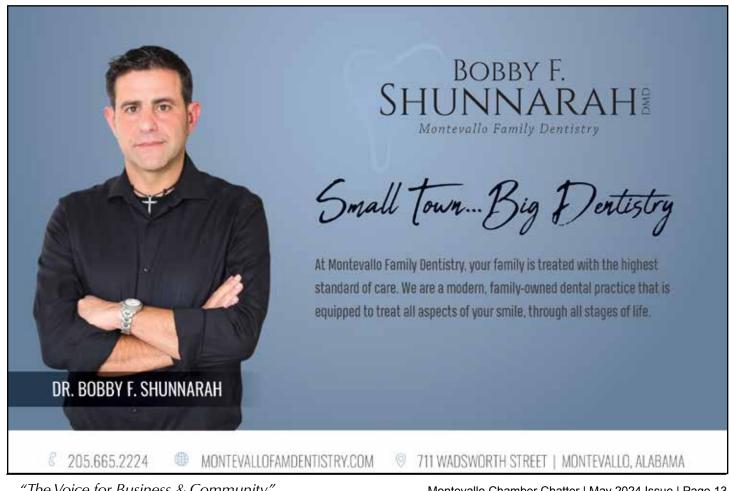


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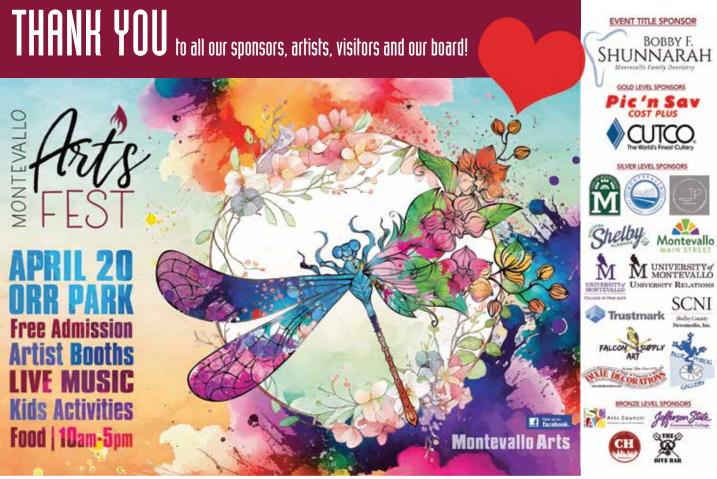




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# Pre-Order Mother's Day Bouquets



\$25/22\* mason jar \$45/42\* premium

#### 8 Week Subscription

May 11th - June 29th Mason Jar \$176/160\* Premium \$320/300\*

\*Second amount is for multiples
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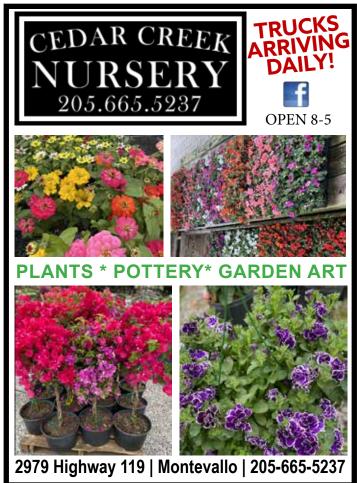








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4 sessions, June 9 - 30

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Montevallo Main Street Presents:



Featuring: Common Ground May 31 at 6:30 PM 737 Main Street

Sponsored by



June 28



**DreamCatcher** 





#### **2024 Summer Semester**

**Private Music Lessons** All ages and skill levels

8 Weekly Lessons June through July

Piano, Voice, Guitar and More **Lessons held on the UM campus** 

montevallo.edu/csm

Contact Julia Jackson. Community School of Music, at umcsm@montevallo.edu or 205-665-6678.

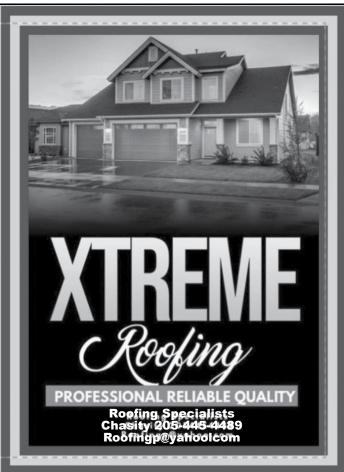


#### **NEIGHBOR NEWS**

The Town of Wilton, would like to Thank American Legion Post 138 in Alabaster for meeting with The Town and informing us of their program and some of their projects. We look forward to future communication with them for the good of all Veterans.













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#### Parnell Memorial Library

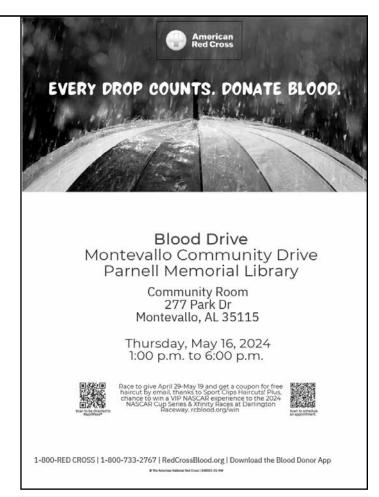
Open Mon., Wed., Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues., Thurs. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

277 Park Drive, Montevallo, AL 35115 205-667-3052 www.parnellmemoriallibrary.org



277 Park Drive Montevallo, AL 35115[(205)667-3052[www.parnellmemoriallibrary.org Children 11 years and under must be with an adult in the library at all times.





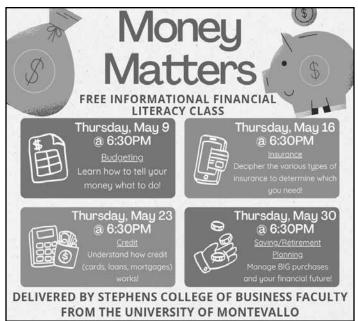
#### **COMING IN JUNE**

Adventure Begins at your Library

Summer Reading Kick-Off Celebration

June 7th, 2024 11am- 2pm

Pecan Grove, Island Street



#### LITTLE FREE PANTRY IS WELL USED

"Take what you need, leave what you can." That simple thought stands behind the Little Free Pantry at the corner of Oak and Plowman (in front of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and across from Montevallo High School). If you or your family are hungry, help yourself. If you have spare food, think about sharing. The Little Free Pantry, which looks like a miniature church, is always open.

Little Free Pantries have sprung up across the country as part of a grassroots movement that seeks to address hunger and food insecurity. The LFP movement describes itself as neighbors helping neighbors, offering a community solution to an immediate and local need.

Supplies are always welcome. Leave non-perishable food items (canned goods, dried milk, cereal, crackers boxed pasta, and so on) Hungry? Just help yourself.

The Little Free Pantry is sponsored by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and supported by the people of Montevallo.





You know it's Summer when ACE pulls out the grill! On Saturday May 25 from 11am to 2pm, the Montevallo ACE Hardware will host their first grilling demo for 2024. ACE welcomes everyone to come hangout while enjoying some samples. Will also have activities and as always it is a FREE event.

#### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PLEASE CONTACT INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR UPDATES. Thank You!

**EVERY 2ND & 4TH MONDAY** 

City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m., City Hall, 5:30 p.m. Work Session

**EVERY 2ND MONDAY**MDCD Montevallo Development Cooperative District 1 p.m., Meets at City Hall

**EVERY 2ND TUESDAY** 

Historical Commission, 6:00 p.m., City Hall

**EVERY TUESDAY** 

Ladies Bible Study - Community Wide 10:00-11:00 am, Montevallo First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

**EVERY TUESDAY** 

Montevallo Community Chorale 7:00 - 8:30pm, UM Davis Hall

**EVERY WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY**To schedule a tour for Aldrich Coal Mine Museum and Farrington Hall call 205-665-2886

**EVERY THURSDAY** 

Rotary Meeting, noon, Elder Justice Center, 4804 Hwy 25, Montévallo

**EVERY 3RD THURSDAY** Planning & Zoning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall

**EVERY 2ND WEDNESDAY** 

Montevallo Water & Sewer Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m.

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY MORNING** 

Clothes Giveaway, St. Andrews Episcopal Parish Hall 925 Plowman Street, Montevallo, 8 am-noon

Chamber Chatter is published monthly by the Montevallo Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 270 Montevallo, AL 35115. The Chamber Chatter is free and disturbed to hundreds of locations each month. The Chamber reserves the right to restrict Chatter content. Advertising inquires may be made by emailing montevallochamber@gmail.com



June 5, 10, 12, and 17 from 6:30-8:00pm

**Bovs & Girls Club** 

420 Vine Street, Montevallo, AL

Designed for families with children ages 3-6 years old to work together and have fun!

This workshop uses creative play and exploration to help kids and grown-ups learn to solve problems, express themselves and accomplish task.

> Families that participate in all 4 sessions will receive \$100 worth of local gift cards.

Dinner is provided each night. Space is limited, please register early.

This is a FREE Workshop.







#### **Drop n Go Dumpster**

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- rental home cleanouts
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- remodel jobs
- yard clean up
- large amounts of household garbage



#### IMPROVING COMMUNITY BIKEABILITY: INTERSECTIONS

Community bikeability (how suitable/fit for biking an area can be) is scored in a number of ways. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) asks six questions that help us assess neighborhood bikeability. This month we will focus on the third question— How are the intersections in your community?

According to a 2012 NHTSA publication, roughly 58 percent of bicycle injury crashes occurred at intersections. Rebecca Davies, PeopleForBikes' bicycle networks data manager, noted that "2020 was an especially deadly year for road users, including people on bikes, illustrating an urgent need to make our streets and intersections safer for people using all modes of transportation."

Take a moment to reflect on your last bike ride. Issues you may have encountered include: a long wait to cross the intersection, couldn't see traffic, a signal that didn't give you enough time to cross, a signal that didn't change for your bicycle, or you were unsure of how to ride through the intersection.

**Immediate solutions** to these intersection challenges:

- · Pick another route for now
- Tell Public Works department about specific problems
- Take a class to improve your riding confidence and skills

#### **Long-term solutions** to these intersection challenges:

- Ask the Public Works department to look at the timing of the specific traffic signals
- Ask the Public Works department to install loop-detectors that detect bicvclists
- Suggest improvements to sightlines that include cutting back vegetation; building out the path crossing; and moving parked cars that obstruct your view
- Organize community-wide, on-bike training on how to safely ride through intersections

After reviewing both short and long-term solutions, commit to seeing at least one solution through to the end. Getting involved is as easy as contacting the local government and your representative. Visit cityofmontevallo.com for a list of department heads, committee members, and your local municipal representative.

Bicycling, whether for transportation or recreation, is a great way to get physical activity into your day. Riding should be something you enjoy doing. Choose routes that match your skill level – start slowly and build your potential.

We welcome riders of all experience levels. ValloCycle is Alabama's oldest citywide bike share and your local bicycle advocacy group. For more information visit vallocycle.org or contact vallocycle@gmail.com





#### **MILITARY MOMENT**

Submitted by Traci Crenshaw, Director, UM Office of Veteran & Military Affairs



YAY, it's May! May is Military Appreciation month and we also honor Memorial Day this month.

#### **Military Appreciation Month**

Military.com says "May, marked officially as Military Appreciation Month, is a special month for both those in and out of the military. Not only do we pause on Memorial Day to remember the sacrifice and service of those who gave all, but the month also holds several other military anniversaries and events, including Military Spouse Appreciation Day and Armed Forces day."

Congress designated May as National Military Appreciation Month in 1999 to ensure the nation was given the chance to publicly show their appreciation for troops past and present. Each year the president makes a proclamation, reminding Americans of the important role the U.S. Armed Forces have played in the history and development of our country. In 1940, Winston Churchill said "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

#### **Memorial Day**

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. At first, Memorial Day was known as Decoration Day. According to history.com "It originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season." It is always a great day to remember the many who sacrificed for our freedoms.

Former President Barack Obama said "Our nation owes a debt to its fallen heroes that we can never fully repay, but we can honor their sacrifice." Memorial Day 2024 will occur on Monday, May 27th.





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#### FROM MYSTERY TO LEGACY: THE STORY OF TINGLEWOOD IN ORR PARK

WVTM13 Project CommUNITY. Community Champion:

Comm UNITY

"People making an impact in their community, using their talents, their skills, and their hope for a brighter future'

In the heart of Montevallo lies Orr Park and a unique spot known as Tinglewood, a gallery of intricately carved cedar trees that have captured the imaginations of locals and tourists alike. But what's the story behind these captivating creations?

It all began in the early 1990s when a former coal miner named Tim Tingle took it upon himself to breathe new life into storm-damaged cedar trees scattered across Orr Park.

At first, nobody knew the man behind the chisel. The mysterious artist worked under the cover of darkness, transforming ordinary trees into extraordinary masterpieces. It was an operation that left people intrigued and curious, wondering who was behind the magical creations that seemed to spring up overnight.

Despite his reluctance for recognition, Tingle's talent couldn't stay hidden for long. As word of his remarkable creations spread, visitors flocked to Orr Park to witness the aweinspiring spectacle for themselves. People marveled at the intricacy of the carvings, each one telling a unique story etched into the very fabric of the forest.

Over the years, Tinglewood grew, both in stature and renown. Tingle's dedication to his craft and his love for his community shone through in every carving, enriching the lives of all who encountered them. His creations became symbols of hope and inspiration, reminding us of the transformative power of art and nature.

Today, Tinglewood stands as a testament to Tingle's enduring legacy. Though the man himself remains humble and unassuming, his impact on Montevallo is undeniable. With each new face carved into the ancient cedar trees, Tingle leaves a piece of himself behind, ensuring that his spirit will forever be intertwined with the magic of Orr Park.



#### **GAMMA PHI DELTA SORORITY, INC.**

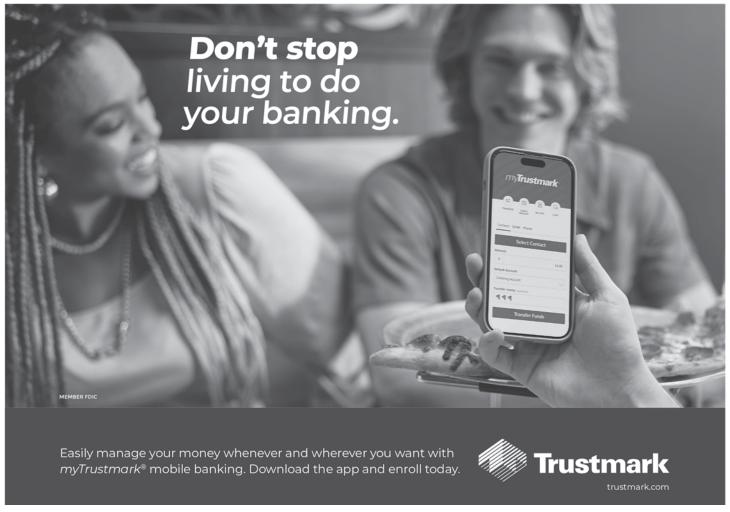
Alpha Pi Chapter Montevallo, celebrated Month of Kindness during the month of March with three projects. Month of Kindness is an annual event in which we recognize Senior Citizens in the area as well as organizations that provide assistance to Senior citizens.

Our first project was an Easter basket containing laundry detergents, household cleaning supplies, toiletries, and other items. These items were donated to restock the pantry at an area Senior Citizen apartment complex. The chapter also donated several packages of incontinence supplies, wipes, etc. to the Elder Justice Center in Montevallo. Lastly, we recognized our five chapter's members aged 85 years & up with a "Thinking of You" card and a meal ticket for lunch at an area eatery.



Montevallo
Recycling Center
will be CLOSED
Sat. May 25
& Mon. May 27





# In Loving Memory



William Joseph "Joe" Smitherman of Montevallo passed away on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, after a valiant battle with cancer. Joe was born on December 20, 1951, to Bill Smitherman and Catherine Smitherman Legg, and was preceded in death by both his parents. He is survived by his brothers, Tom (Glenda), Scott (Dedra), and Clay (Stephanie) Smitherman, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Joe was an avid fisherman who never missed a chance to go to the lake. He devoted most of his time in his later years to serving as the primary caregiver for his mother, prior to her passing a year ago.

It was his wish that no funeral service be held, and that his burial would be private.



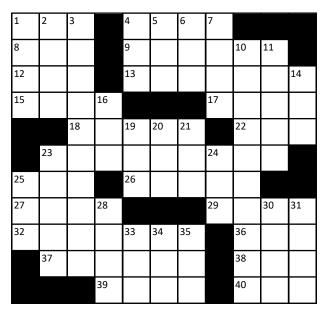


# Catch us at Home!



OPPONENT	SPORT	DATE	TIME	
GSC Outdoor Championship	Men's Track and Field	Thursday, May 2	All Day	
GSC Outdoor Championships	Women's Track and Field	Thursday, May 2	All Day	
GSC Outdoor Championships	Men's Track and Field	Friday, May 3	All Day	
GSC Outdoor Championships	Women's Track and Field	Friday, May 3	All Day	
PBC Championship Tournament	Men's Lacrosse	Friday, May 3	4:00 PM/7:00 PM	
GSC Outdoor Championships	Men's Track and Field	Saturday, May 4	All Day	
GSC Outdoor Championships	Women's Track and Field	Saturday, May 4	All Day	
PBC Championship Tournament	Men's Lacrosse	Sunday, May 5	1:00 PM	

#### **CROSSWORD PUZZLE**



Created by Mike Hardig (tmhardig@gmail.com)

April Puzzle Solution											
	¹ C	2 R	3 E	4 E	5 K			6 E	7 R	8 G	
9 S	Р	U	Т	N	1	10 K		11 A	Е	R	
12 M	Α	N	Α	С	L	Е		13 S	Н	Е	
14 U	S	Е			15 O	N	16 A	Т	Е	Е	
			17 E	18 A	S	Υ	R	Е	Α	D	
	19 L	20 	D	S		21 A	Α	R	Р		
22 K	_	N	G	К	23 O	N	G				
24 P	L	Α	Υ	1	N			25 R	26 C	27 S	
28 E	ı	Ν		29 <b>N</b>	Α	30 M	31 E	Т	Α	G	
32 R	Е	Е		33 G	1	L	В	Е	R	Т	
34 S	S	R			35 R	Α	В	Ι	D		

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Boxing legend
- 4. Jessica, who starred in "Fantastic Four"
- 8. Restrict
- 9. First European-American settler in what would become Montevallo Jesse
- 12. Holiday that marks the end of Ramadan
- 13. Learning conference
- 15. One less than a quartet
- 17. Prefix with sphere
- 18. Persona non \_\_\_\_\_ (unwelcome one)
- 22. Call for attention
- 23. Obvious choice
- 25. Biological pouch
- 26. Type of bulb sold at the American Village each March
- 27. Aliases, for short
- 29. Poke
- 32. Take the air out of
- 36. Valuable rock
- 37. Casino worker
- 38. Itty-bitty
- 39. Bartlett or Bosc
- 40. Cut off

#### **DOWN**

- 1. Aid in crime
- Animal house
- 3. Newly opened restaurant on Montevallo's Main St.
- 4. Reactions to cuteness
- 5. Falsehood
- 6. Racial justice movement since 2013, in brief
- 7. Most populous continent
- 10. Like Montevallo PD patrol officers
- 11. Finger-pointer
- 14. Cowboy Rogers
- 16. Scepter topper
- 19. Museum display
- 20. Greek "T"
- 21. Feel poorly
- 23. Ready to skinny-dip
- 24. Quick drink
- 25. Blue
- 28. Hit with an open hand
- 30. Black-and-white cookie
- 31. Difficult to fathom
- 33. Hoppy brew option at the Main Street Tavern
- 34. Afternoon affair
- 35. Goof



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