

# Chamber CHATTER



"The Voice for Business & Community"

ESTABLISHED 1949

January 2024 | Vol. 23, No. 1

## Chamber News

### JACK'S GRAND REOPENING



Montevallo Jack's, 1032 Main Street



### JANUARY CHAMBER LUNCHEON

Wed. January 17th: "STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS"  
Guest Speaker: Mayor Rusty Nix  
Annual Chamber Business Meeting,  
Parnell Library with networking at  
11:30am . Lunch at noon \$15.00 ea.  
RSVP by Mon., Jan. 15 to  
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# January



1st, MONDAY  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

3rd WEDNESDAY  
**UM OPENS**

MONTEVALLO SCHOOLS  
**MES, MMS & MHS starts second semester**

6th SATURDAY  
**BOOK SIGNING**  
Russell Estes / 6pm / Montevallo First Baptist  
Refreshments / Presented by the MFC Youth

8th MONDAY  
**UM SPRING SEMESTER**  
Classes Start

9th TUESDAY  
**LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY**

13th SATURDAY  
**ALABAMA PET PANTRY**  
2-3PM / SEA Parking lot ./ 160 Shoshone Dr.

15th MONDAY  
**REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY**

**20th ANNUAL REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION MARCH** / Speaker: Ashley N. Bell, Attorney with A. Bell Law Firm / hosted by Shelby County N.A.A.C.P. / 10am Montevallo / lineup behind McDonald's, March to Montevallo High School / Program 11am at High School POC - (205)902-5137 or (205)915-0787

**MONTEVALLO SCHOOLS**  
MES, MMS & MHS / Schools & Offices Closed

**UNIVERSITY OF MONTEVALLO**  
Closed for MLK Day

17th WEDNESDAY  
**MONTEVALLO CHAMBER LUNCHEON**  
"STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS" Guest  
Speaker: Mayor Rusty Nix / Annual Chamber Business Meeting / Parnell Library / Networking 11:30am / Lunch - noon - \$15.00 ea / RSVP by Mon Jan 15 to 205-665-1519 or montevallochamber@gmail.com / Caterer- Southern Sweets / Luncheon Sponsor - Trustmark National Bank

19th FRIDAY  
**AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**  
1-6pm / Montevallo Community Drive  
Parnell Memorial Library Meeting Room  
RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass

20th SATURDAY  
**ANNUAL MEET & GREET**  
Montevallo Main Street Players  
2pm / Parnell Memorial Library

25th THURSDAY  
**FOOD BANK GIVEAWAY**  
Montevallo Boys & Girls Club, Vine St.  
Starts between 8:30 and 9am

27th SATURDAY  
**ANNUAL HEALTH WALK**  
Tribute to Dr. Jermaine Bruford Mitchell  
noon / from Montevallo Fire Station #1 to George Dailey Park  
The Encouragement Learning Foundation, Inc. / 205-728-4923

28th SUNDAY  
**FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF 2023 MONTEVALLO HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
2pm / Parnell Memorial Library

**PLATINUM LEVEL**  
CITY OF MONTEVALLO  
MONTEVALLO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**GOLD LEVEL**  
MONTEVALLO FAMILY DENTISTRY  
SLICE PIZZA & BREW  
TRUSTMARK BANK  
UNIVERSITY OF MONTEVALLO

**SILVER LEVEL**  
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DIXIE DECORATIONS  
HEALTH SERVICES, INC.  
REGIONS BANK  
ROCKCO FUNERAL HOME  
TEAM LEHMAN

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



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

Latham &  
Hendrick  
Druggists  
NEXT TO POST OFFICE

MONTEVALLO  
**Main Street**  
*Memories*

**MERCHANTS &  
PLANTERS BANK  
OF MONTEVALLO,  
ALABAMA**



Original photograph: courtesy of Karen Pendleton, Montevallo.

(Above) More than 100 members of the Men's Bible Study class of the Montevallo First Baptist Church gathered in their Sunday best for this impressive panoramic photo sometime in the 1920's in front of the same store buildings that are still standing near the corner of Main and Shelby Streets. Most of the Montevallo citizens in the photo haven't been identified, but we do know that

in the picture are: (1) Alabama College president, Oliver Cromwell Carmichael (1926 - 1935); (2) local jeweler, P.D.D. Pendleton; (3) mortician and businessman, F. W. Rogan; (4) prominent merchant George Kroell; (5) his son, Pat Kroell; youths (6) Earl McGaughy and (7) Stanley M. "Red" Mahan, Sr. Two unidentified ladies (8) & (9), possibly class administrative assistants, are also pictured.

**MAIN STREET PANORAMA**

by Clay Nordan  
Vice-president, Montevallo Historical Society

The historic group photo shown above from the mid-1920's is a treasure trove of Montevallo's most prominent male Baptists of that period. But it also provides us with considerable evidence to confirm which business houses occupied the buildings on the north side of Main Street. It seems obvious from the photo that the U.S. Post Office took up the entirety of its building between the drug store and the bank. By 1937, the P. O. had moved two blocks to the east to the elegant and much larger new structure that the Federal government saw fit to put up for the town in the middle of the depression. But there are multiple instances from the *Montevallo Times* that show a business known as "The Dollar Store" probably shared space for a time with the old Post Office before the big move. The Dollar Store claimed in their ads in the mid-1930's that they were next to the Post Office. Then, after the Post Office vacated their portion of the Main Street storefront, the Dollar Store began to include this line in their advertising: "Next to Alabama Power." If this is true, then a 1938 newspaper article confirms it announcing the move of Teamon McCulley's grocery from its location near the Southern Railway Depot and J.A. Brown Sr.'s ice house to the former Dollar Store next to Alabama Power.

Before Alabama Power, the previous occupant of the build-

ing on the corner was Latham & Hendrick's drug store. A close inspection of the exterior of the drug store at the far left of the photo reveals that Dr. Edgar Givhan maintained an office within the drug store where patients could seek professional treatment from him for sprains, broken bones, burns, cuts and scrapes, and whatever else might ail them.

At right, painted lettering reading "Merchants & Planters Bank" adorns the plate glass facade of that building. The bank, once known as Shelby County Bank, had operated from this location for many years and over time saw neighboring buildings spring up on either side. Adjacent to the bank, is Meroney's, soon to become Sam and Joe Klotzman's store.



(Above) The group of buildings on the north side of Main Street as they looked in the 1940's. Most are still in use and are easily recognizable today, 80 years later.



**JOIN TODAY!**  
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[montevallo1817@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.historicmontevallo.org) under "Local History".

# SAFETY-SPOT

## HEATING SAFETY FOR THE NEW YEAR

- Keep the heater at least 3 feet (1 metre) away from anything that can burn, including people.
- Make sure your heater has a tip sensor, an auto shut-off, to turn the heater off if it tips over.
- Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet.
  - Never use an extension cord or power strip.
- Have a three-foot (one metre) "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install heating equipment.
- Have chimneys cleaned and inspected every year.
- Fireplaces should have a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Install & maintain CO alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning.



## CELEBRATING MONTEVALLO CHAMBER TURNING 75

As the clock strikes midnight on January 1, 2024, the Montevallo Chamber of Commerce will be entering into its 75th year of existence.



The Montevallo Chamber of Commerce was established by a group of local business owners in 1949. Let's take a second, go back in time, to name a few of the Montevallo businesses from that era - Brown Service Insurance Company, M.L. Kendrick Coal, Sand & Gravel, Wilson Drug Company, W.C. Weems General Insurance, Times Printing Company, Alabama Power Company, Lovelady Home and Auto Supply, Wooten Motor Company, CHISM'S Clothing Store, TAXI with Gregg, Deluxe Cleaners, Merchants and Planters Bank, Montevallo Motors, Nordan Hardware Store, Derby Hotel and Restaurant, Shaw Motor Company, Modern Beauty Shop, and R.B. Galloway Waterproofing and Restoration.\* These and other businesses had the forethought to start and support a chamber to ensure business and community had representation.

The Montevallo Chamber of Commerce's mission is to increase community vitality through the recruitment and support of business. As 2024 progresses, the chamber will be running an article each month to showcase the chamber's history with informative facts while visiting the past.

\* *The Montevallo Times, January 1949*

*Happy New Year!*

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**LISTEN TO SOME BACH TONIGHT**

In Ed Robertson's music and his approach to others, he combined a warmth and humility with a deep intelligence, and instilled a love of music among generations of his students at the University of Montevallo. He was born in Richmond, Virginia, and showed his musical talent early on, singing in a pop group and playing bluegrass mandolin. But it was at the University of Richmond, singing Bach in the choir, where Ed discovered his deep love of serious music. He spent two years in the military, working in the Pentagon by day and by night going to a studio on a nearby college campus to play piano and compose.

Ed studied music at the University of Virginia and at Southern Baptist Seminary, where he met Ruth, the love of his life and his spouse for 46 years until her death in 2015. After earning his doctorate at Florida State, Ed began teaching composition and music theory at Montevallo, where he established a music technology lab and became a beloved member of the faculty. His students called him "Dr. Rob"—though he was just fine being called "Mr. Ed" – and many said his teaching changed their lives. They spoke of how he listened with uncommon empathy and was generous with praise and encouragement; in 2004, Ed was named Alabama Professor of the Year. In his 34 years of teaching and well into his retirement, he never stopped composing, writing works - for choir, solo voice, piano, cello and more - that have been performed around the world, including at Carnegie Hall. He composed musicals and an opera; set the poetry of Conrad Aiken, Sidney Lanier and Sara Teasdale to music; wrote experimental works inspired by John Cage and choral music that has been sung by countless school choirs in multiple countries. Ed could be just as excited discussing Igor Stravinsky or Stephen Sondheim, and he loved playing jazz standards on the piano, whether onstage in concert or at home, with Ruth singing along from the kitchen. He wrote numerous pieces for his children, Renee Corley and Cam, and flew kites with his grandchildren, Finley, Campbell, Henry, Ruth and Susannah.

Hundreds were in attendance at Ed's funeral service on Saturday, November 4, 2023 at University Baptist Church in Montevallo to share memories, play music, sing praises for a wonderful man and a life well lived. Memorial contributions, in memory of Edwin "Ed" Campbell Robertson, can be made to Meals on Wheels America, where he volunteered for years, by mail at P.O. Box 791568, Baltimore, MD 21279.

P.S. "Listen to some Bach Tonight"

"The Voice for Business & Community"

## MONTEVALLO ARBOR DAY 2024

On Saturday, February 24, 2024, the Montevallo Arbor and Beautification Board will hold Montevallo Arbor Day from 9:00am until 1:00pm at the Montevallo Recycling Center at 1120 Overland Road. (on the corner of Overland and Spring Creek Road) The format will be the same as last year.

As a part of the Montevallo Tree City Experience we will have tables set up outside, under tents if necessary, where you can pick up bare root tree seedlings. The trees will be available from 9:00am until 1:00pm or until supplies run out. As in the past, these trees will be free.

The seedlings available should include Red Maple, Buttonbush, Kousa Dogwood, Water Oak, American Elm, Fragrant Sumac, Nuttall Oak and Ashe Magnolia.

### AMERICAN PICKERS TO FILM IN ALABAMA

The *American Pickers* are excited to return to Alabama! They plan to film episodes of The History Channel hit television series throughout your area in February 2024.

*AMERICAN PICKERS* is a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique "picking" on The History Channel. The hit show follows skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques.

The *American Pickers TV Show* is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone you know has a unique item, story to tell, and is ready to sell... we would love to hear from you! Please note, the Pickers DO NOT pick stores, flea markets, malls, auction businesses, museums, or anything open to the public. If interested, please send us your name, phone number, location, and description of the collection with photos to: [americanpickers@cinetflix.com](mailto:americanpickers@cinetflix.com) or call (646) 493-2184 facebook: @GotAPick



## Montevallo Arbor Day

Sat. February 24  
9am - 1pm

Montevallo Recycling Center - 1120 Overland Rd  
Bare root tree seedlings will be available for adoption  
Sponsored by Montevallo Arbor and Beautification Board  
as part of the Montevallo Tree City Experience



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# Untold Stories

## OF BLACK MONTEVALLO



Vol 3, No. 1

*Ed. note: This is third in a series of Untold Stories that begin to remember the story of slavery in the Montevallo area. It is contributed by Melanie Morrison, author and social justice educator. A direct descendant of Edmund King, she is engaged in intensive research into her family history.*

### III. Sukey's Audacious Resistance and Resilience

Many untold stories lie waiting to be discovered on the shelves of the Shelby County Museum and Archives in Columbiana. In large clothbound deed books from the Antebellum era, there are fragments of intriguing narratives if you are patient enough to wade through legal jargon and unwavering in your effort to decipher the nineteenth century handwriting.

One of the most fascinating accounts I have come upon describes a highly unusual financial transaction.

On February 6, 1855, the wealthy Montevallo landowner, Edmund King, received \$1600 from a woman named Sukey, and one dollar from George Shortridge (married to King's daughter, Elizabeth). Deed books are rife with transactions between

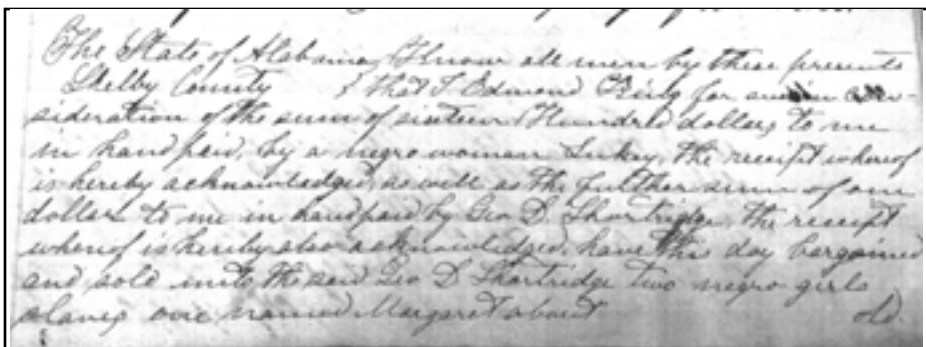
Montevallo enslavers like Edmund King and George Shortridge who were buying or selling land and property, including the people they enslaved. This deed is extraordinary because it says that \$1600 was given Edmund King not for an enslaved woman, but by a woman whom he enslaved. That woman was Sukey. (Deed Book L, 164-5).

At first glance, it might appear that Sukey was purchasing her freedom. But self-manumission was strictly prohibited in the Alabama Slave Codes. Closer inspection reveals that Sukey's intent with this payment was to keep her family intact. This deed recorded that Shortridge purchased Sukey's daughters, Margaret (22) and Ann (16), for one dollar and agreed to serve as their trustee. It also enumerated three conditions that placed strict limitations on Shortridge's ownership and protected Sukey's daughters: 1. He could not, under any circumstances, mortgage Margaret and Ann as collateral, or sell them to pay his debts; 2. Margaret and Ann were to have "the privilege of living with their mother," and; 3. If Shortridge should predecease Margaret or Ann, they were to have the privilege and power "to choose and select another Trustee."

Sukey's \$1600 purchased the guarantee that Margaret and Ann would not be sold away from her. That guarantee was a monumental achievement. Enslaved people lived with a

constant fear of being separated from the people they loved. When enslavers like King and Shortridge wanted to acquire more land, livestock, machinery, or slaves, they financed their purchases by using the slaves they already owned as collateral for loans. When they could not pay creditors, relinquishing those enslaved people was the means of settling the debt. Enslaved people were always at risk of being mortgaged or sold. Without warning, they could be separated from their family and community if their enslaver became overextended financially.

The restrictions on George Shortridge's ownership of Margaret and Ann proved prescient. In 1858, Shortridge was on the brink of insolvency. On May 4th of that year, he named nine of his enslaved people as collateral for "several debts...to various creditors" (Deed Book M, 802-1, 355). If he could not honor those debts, those nine people would be given to his creditors. Margaret and Ann may have overheard rumors about this indebtedness rumbling through the Shortridge household and insisted they be returned to the King Plantation—as was their right in the original deed of trust negotiated with Edmund King.



I Edmund King for . . . the sum of sixteen Hundred dollars, to me in hand paid, by a negro woman Sukey, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, as well as the further sum of one dollar to me in hand paid by Geo. D. Shortridge . . . have this day bargained and sold unto the said Geo. D. Shortridge two negro girls slaves, one named Margaret . . .

In January 1859, George Shortridge filed a quit claim deed, transferring title to Margaret, Ann, and a young child of Margaret's, back to Edmund King "at the instance and request of a Negro girl Sukey of copper color about fifty years of age and Margaret a girl of Mullato color about twenty six years of age & her

increase and Anny of Mullato color about twenty years of age." (Deed Book N, 109.)

Once again, it is striking to read how Sukey exercised her agency, joined this time by Margaret and Ann (Anny).

These three deeds provide fragments of a remarkable story in the decade preceding emancipation. In an oppressive system that fostered the sexual exploitation of enslaved women, and robbed them of "social standing, political power, economic means, or cultural currency" (Miles), Sukey summoned extraordinary strength and courage to prevent the fracturing of her family and move three generations further down the road to freedom.

*Sources: The phrase "audacious resistance and resilience" comes from Nikole Hannah-Jones, The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story (p. xxiii). The Deed Books are in the Shelby County Museum and Archives. Tiya Miles is quoted from All That She Carried, The Journey of Ashley's Sack, xiv. Submitted by Kathy King and Anita Stewart Sims on behalf of the Montevallo Legacy Project. Contact us at [MontevalloLegacy@gmail.com](mailto:MontevalloLegacy@gmail.com).*

**LEADERS OF TOMORROW EXCURSION**

Hey all, my name is Jennifer Landaverde-Lara. I am one of the lucky ducks to be a part of this great program at Montevallo Middle School called LOT – or Leaders of Tomorrow. This program chooses students who show leadership qualities among the seventh grade class and gives them the opportunity to learn further about leadership skills and community building.

In one of our recent field trips – our November field trip to be exact – we visited plenty of homegrown businesses up and down Main Street, such as the long-running Czeskleba TV Service, owned by the great Walt Czeskleba, who has run the business for fifty years, Bradford Real Estate Group LLC, a real estate company with a labradoodle mascot, and a newer much-needed business, Drayer Physical Therapy. Visiting these lovely businesses, we learned about the business leaders right here in Montevallo. Not only did we visit those businesses, we also had a quick stop at Lucky’s with a twenty-five dollar allowance per group to buy our niche of necessities. We then drove to the SEA, or Shelby Emergency Assistance, and donated our collected goods. Additionally, we were given the opportunity to assist with an advertising promotional video for Shop Small, and were given tote bags.

We visited the Presbyterian Church, and learned of their charity and advocacy, and were given the chance to cool off with a lunch kindly provided by Slice Pizza and the Montevallo Chamber of Commerce., a gentle thanks to them for putting up with us.

We were also given the chance to speak with the saints of the Montevallo Rotary Club, responsible for large charity events within the city. Last stop of the day was Regions. This trip further hammered in the qualities of truly great leaders like the ones in our community – generosity, integrity, fellowship – and taught us a long lesson that will follow us to adulthood.

We would like to thank all of these businesses and the Montevallo Chamber of Commerce for continuing to support the Leaders of Tomorrow program at Montevallo Middle School.



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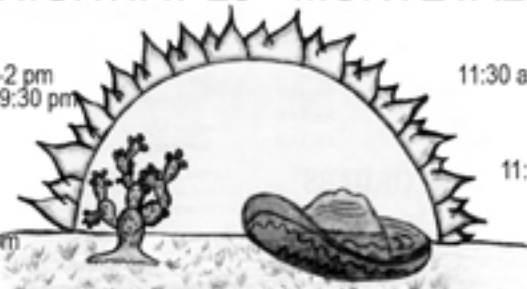
**HOURS:**

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Dinner 5 pm-9:30 pm

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11 am-2 pm  
Dinner  
5 pm-10:30 pm

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11:30 am-2 pm  
Dinner  
5 pm-9 pm



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*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  
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CITY OF MONTEVALLO NEWS

Mayor's Message...



RUSTY NIX, MAYOR

Hello Citizens of Montevallo!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and were able to spend quality time with family and friends. Another Christmas season is in the books but that doesn't mean that the Christmas spirit of giving must cease. Please remember to support local charities throughout the year.

A special shout out to Kirk Hamby's Street and Sanitation Crew for transforming downtown Montevallo with Christmas decorations for the parade and tree lighting last month. The parade was huge success again this year and lasted close to an hour. I was pleased that I was able to see my favorite camel again this year. I would like to thank all the organizations that participated in this year's festivities. There was an abundance of creative floats and other entries this year. I would also like to thank our downtown merchants that took the time out of their busy schedules to decorate their storefronts for the Montevallo Main Street Design Committee's 2023 Window Decorating Competition. Congratulations to all the winners! I would also like to mention that our Streets and Sanitation Department had all the trash picked up and town looked fresh again in less than 24 hours. The City of Montevallo was very busy this past year with events and activities. I'm already looking forward to what is scheduled for 2024.

Now, we turn the page to 2024!! I hope everyone has an exciting New Year. Make sure to eat plenty of black-eyed peas, collards, and hog jowl for good luck on New Year's Day. After eating all the food and being on football overload from all the bowl games, it will be time to make your New Year's resolutions. I kept one of my resolutions this year and lost over 50 pounds. It was tough. Cutting out all sweets, cutting way back on carbs and trying to get 10,000 steps in everyday seems to be working.

Don't forget that Monday, January 15th, 2024, is the 20th annual MLK march. The lineup will be in the parking lot behind McDonalds and the walk will end at Montevallo High School. Please make plans to attend.

GOOD NEWS... it's been 3 years in the making, but we have finally started the sidewalk project on highway 25. The completion of this project will make walking on Highway 25 safer and more pedestrian friendly. Also, in the coming months, look for some commercial development coming to the vacant lot across from the old Montevallo Animal Clinic. The Moore's Crossroads project is underway with about 60% of the drawing completed. The addition of turn lanes and new traffic signals should help with the flow of traffic.

We have started discussions with commercial developers on the 22 acres that was annexed into the city last year. This could be a game changer for the City of Montevallo. We will keep citizens posted as things develop.

In closing, I know during the holidays everyone gets tired of eating leftovers, so put them away and go out to eat at one of the many restaurants that we have in our town. I know the owners will appreciate your business. Remember to shop and dine Montevallo first. As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your mayor.

**20th Annual MLK Day Celebration March**  
 Monday Jan 15, 2024  
 Hosted by Shelby County N.A.A.C.P.



Lineup behind McDonald's starts at 9am  
**10am**  
 March to Montevallo High School with program - 11am at MHS  
 Speaker:  
**Ashley N. Bell**  
 Attorney with A. Bell Law Firm

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<p><b>Classic A</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Photographer</li> <li>• Up to 100 Edited Photos</li> <li>• Up to 3 Hours</li> </ul> <p><b>\$1000</b></p>	<p><b>Classic B</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Photographer</li> <li>• Up to 250 Edited Photos</li> <li>• Up to 7 Hours</li> </ul> <p><b>\$1200</b></p>	<p><b>Classic C</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Photographer</li> <li>• Up to 450 Edited Photos</li> <li>• Up to 12 Hours</li> </ul> <p><b>\$1400</b></p>

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# Montevallo Fire and Rescue Annual Awards



**The Bill Pendleton  
Firefighter of the  
Year Award**  
FF/EMT Kay Goke



**S.M. Mahan  
Dedicated Service  
Award & 21 Year  
Award**  
Asst Chief Lance Byrd



**Chief Bill Reid Award  
and Most Improved  
Explorer**  
FF Reggie Darden  
and Kit Shepherd



**Explorer of the Year**  
Amaryllis Shelby-  
Shirley



**20 Year Award**  
Fire Chief Brad Davis  
and  
FF Jordan Fletcher  
(not pictured)

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**LET'S ALL RESOLVE TO DO THINGS A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY THIS YEAR . . .**

Submitted by Susan Lehman

It's that time again, when folks are looking forward to a new year and eagerly setting out their goals (or resolutions) for the next twelve months. Of course, as we all know, those goals (or resolutions) often fade quickly into obscurity. However, at Team Lehman, we've found that by focusing on smaller goals with shorter time horizons – like the next 12 weeks – we are better able to stay on target and do those things necessary to actually achieve our goals. Plus, we are rewarded more quickly and more often for our efforts. This is a lesson we learned after reading *The 12 Week Year* by Brian P. Moran and Michael Lennington. This amazing book lays out a clear framework that enables you to focus on your most important objectives and strategies while still providing room for iteration. Here's how Moran and Lennington said it in the book:

“The farther you plan into the future, the less predictability you have. With long-term plans, assumptions are stacked upon earlier assumptions, which are stacked upon even earlier assumptions. The reality is that it is very difficult, if not impossible, to determine what your daily actions should be 11 or 12 months into the future.”

Moreover, Moran and Lennington post there are eight elements that are fundamental to high performance in any endeavor:

- “Vision: A compelling vision creates a clear picture of the future.
- Planning: An effective plan clarifies and focuses on the top priority initiatives and actions needed to achieve the vision.

- Process control: A set of tools and events that align your daily actions with the critical actions in your plan.
- Measurement: Lead and lag indicators that provide comprehensive feedback necessary for informed decision-making.
- Time use: Using your time with clear intention is a must.
- Accountability: Accountability is ultimately ownership. It is a character trait, a life stance, a willingness to own actions and results, regardless of the circumstances.
- Commitment: Keeping your promises to others build strong relationships, and keeping promises to yourself builds character, esteem, and success.
- Greatness in the moment: The results are not the attainment of greatness, but simply confirmation of it.”

As you would expect, 12-week goals are not based on our best guesses, hopes, dreams or aspirations. They are not reliant on some mysterious gift of prognostication. They are based on current data and, as such, offer you a more likely picture of what you should do and where you will be on day to day basis over the coming weeks.

Importantly, after the 12 weeks, we started the process over again, asking ourselves “how our situation has changed and what new opportunities have presented themselves, make necessary adjustments, and create new goals for the next 12-week period – essentially making four reasonable and highly achievable goals (or resolutions) each year instead of one that quickly goes nowhere.

To learn more about this truly revolutionary concept, we encourage you to order the 12-week Year at your favorite local bookseller. It will make your New Year truly a bright one.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



# Catch us at Home!



<b>OPPONENT</b>	<b>SPORT</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Christian Brothers	Women's Basketball	Jan. 2	5:30 p.m.
Christian Brothers	Men's Basketball	Jan. 2	7:30 p.m.
Delta State	M/W Swimming	Jan. 6	12 p.m.
West Alabama	Women's Basketball	Jan. 17	5:30 p.m.
West Alabama	Men's Basketball	Jan. 17	7:30 p.m.
Alabama-Huntsville	Women's Basketball	Jan. 24	5:30 p.m.
Alabama-Huntsville	Men's Basketball	Jan. 24	7:30 p.m.
Huntingdon College	Wrestling	Jan. 30	6 p.m.

# Thanks for your participation...

Thanks to all the wonderful Montevallo Businesses and Organizations for participating in the 8th Annual Chamber Christmas Open House! Blue Photo Gallery, Boho Tea Bar, Bradford Real Estate, Falcon Art Supply, Provenance Church, Save My Cell, Slice Montevallo, and Main Street Tavern.



Also thanks to Iron City Santa Claus for spreading Christmas cheer in Montevallo and JQ's One Man Swing Band plus one for filling the Montevallo Air with Christmas tunes .

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 March - November  
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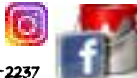


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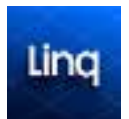
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**INDIGO BAR AND GRILL**

A California native, Chef Indigo was born into a large close knit family of artists, storytellers and lovers of good food. The importance of community and a sense of home were instilled in him from day one. Family gatherings year round, both planned and impromptu, where food, drink, music, merriment and stories were shared around the family table are his fondest and most cherished memories.



Having worked in restaurants since an early age, Indigo landed in San Francisco in 1993 to study at the prestigious California Culinary Academy. During his academic and practical studies he sought out, and had the opportunity to work under culinary giants such as Madeleine Kamman, Jeremiah Tower, and Gary Danko to name a few. His culinary mentor during this time was Chef Bo Friberg. Under Chef Bo's tutelage Indigo learned the techniques of classic preparation and presentation, as well as the foundations of accomplishing our ultimate objective; to satisfy the customer. Rooted in kindness, compassion, love, craft, and tradition.



As a graduate, Indigo returned to Hollywood and opened Three Sister's Kitchen; a craft & catering service working exclusively with production companies feeding cast and crew on location during the making of music videos and television commercials. Next he opened a second operation in San Francisco, catering primarily to the tech industry companies for large scale events.

In 2004, Indigo, his wife Jennifer, and their baby Bennett moved to Minneapolis where Jennifer was pursuing her Doctorate in Music at UofM. They spent the next 10 years there, where Indigo worked and consulted with various local restaurateurs in creating new restaurants as well as reshaping existing ones in need of retooling.



As a continuation of his life's journey and philosophy to help others, he became a nurse in 2013. Over the last 10 years he has worked in cancer care, organ transplant, internal medicine, and until recently worked as an inpatient psychiatric nurse at Children's Hospital of Alabama.

Indigo Cafe and Bar is his third act. Returning to his roots as a chef, entertainer, and storyteller; his embrace of history and the arts is evident in his creations. His goal, as taught by Chef Bo, is to not only satisfy every guest but to exceed their expectations. To welcome them. To nourish them. To inspire them. To provide a place of hospitality and comfort they will return to time and time again.



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Monday Wednesday Friday 10:00-5:00PM

Tuesday Thursday 10:00-8:00PM

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HOLIDAY**

Hello WINTER 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b> Library Closed	2 <b>Mini Music</b> 10:00 Poetry Club 9:30 Family Fun Night 6:00 Tombola Luncheon 12:00	3 Storytime 9:15	4 <b>Drama Class</b> 7th-12th grade 3:30-5:00 Script Readers Group 4:30-6:00	5 <b>Play Tumbling</b> 10:00-10:30	6
8 <b>HomeSchool</b> Hub 10:00	9 <b>Mini Music</b> 10:00 Mini Movie 10:15 Poetry Club 9:30	10 Storytime 9:15	11 <b>Chess Craft</b> 10:00-11:00 <b>Drama Class</b> 7th-12th grade 3:30-5:00 Script Readers Group 4:30-6:00	12 <b>Play Tumbling</b> 10:00-10:30	13
15 <b>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY</b> Library Closed	16 <b>Mini Music</b> 10:00 Mini Movie 10:15 Poetry Club 9:30	17 Storytime 9:15	18 <b>Drama Class</b> 7th-12th grade 3:30-5:00 Script Readers Group 4:30-6:00	19 <b>Play Tumbling</b> 10:00-10:30	20
22 <b>HomeSchool</b> Hub 10:00	23 <b>Mini Music</b> 10:00 Mini Movie 10:15 Poetry Club 9:30	24 Storytime 9:15	25 <b>Drama Class</b> 7th-12th grade 3:30-5:00 Circles & Coloring 3:00-4:30 Script Readers Group 4:30-6:00	26 <b>Play Tumbling</b> 10:00-10:30	27
29 <b>HomeSchool</b> Hub 10:00 Linda's Book Club 10:00-11:00 Red Cross Blood Drive 2:00-4:30	30 <b>Mini Music</b> 10:00 Mini Movie 10:15 Poetry Club 9:30	31 Storytime 9:15			

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Hello WINTER 2024

NI	NAI	CASARSE	RECOLECTAR	VIE	SE. SEXTA
1 <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b> Biblioteca cerrada	2 <b>Mini Musica</b> 10:00 Club Poemas 9:30 Noche de Memorias familiar 6:00	3 <b>Noche del cuento</b> 9:15	4 <b>Clase de teatro</b> 17 a 17 grado 3:30-5:00	5 <b>pequeña caída</b> 10:00-10:30	6
8 <b>Centro de educación en casa</b> 10:00	9 <b>Mini Musica</b> 10:00 Música para niños 10:15 Club Poemas 9:30	10 <b>Noche del cuento</b> 9:15	11 <b>Artesanía de Sábido</b> 10:00-11:00 Mesa de la información y una hora de apoyo 11:00-12:00	12 <b>pequeña caída</b> 10:00-10:30	13
15 <b>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY</b> Biblioteca cerrada	16 <b>Mini Musica</b> 10:00 Música para niños 10:15 Club Poemas 9:30	17 <b>Noche del cuento</b> 9:15	18 <b>Artesanía de Sábido</b> 10:00-11:00 Mesa de la información y una hora de apoyo 11:00-12:00	19 <b>pequeña caída</b> 10:00-10:30	20
22 <b>Centro de educación en casa</b> 10:00	23 <b>Mini Musica</b> 10:00 Club Poemas 9:30	24 <b>Noche del cuento</b> 9:15	25 <b>Clase de teatro</b> 17 a 17 grado 3:30-5:00 Círculo y coloración 5:30-6:00	26 <b>pequeña caída</b> 10:00-10:30	27
29 <b>Centro de educación en casa</b> 10:00 Club de lectura para niños 10:00-11:00 Red Cross Blood Drive 2:00-4:30	30 <b>Mini Musica</b> 10:00 Club Poemas 9:30	31 <b>Noche del cuento</b> 9:15			

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Los niños menores de 11 años deben estar con un adulto en la biblioteca en todo momento.

**CONGRATULATIONS, OFFICER JOHNSON!**



(lto) Captain Harrelson, Officer Johnson, and Chief Littleton

Officer Tristan Johnson has successfully graduated from the Northeast Alabama Law Enforcement Academy's 190th Basic Session this morning. The Montevallo Police Department extends their congratulations to him on this remarkable achievement. Officer Johnson's dedication and passion for law enforcement are reflected in his commitment to providing top-notch service to our community. His return to the city will undoubtedly reinforce the department's values of safety, integrity, and trust, which are integral to the community's success.

ANNUAL  
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SUBMITTED BY ARTHUR HERBERT

### YOUR BIKE IS A TOY

When was the last time you hopped on your bike and felt the wind rushing through your hair as you pedaled away? For many of us, cycling was an integral part of our childhood. A gateway to adventure and boundless fun – your bike was more than just a mode of transportation. As we grow older, bikes are often reserved for commuting or exercise; if used for commuting or to make money they become mere practical tools. Remember that your bike is still a toy, and it's time to rediscover the joy and excitement it can bring!

**Unplug** - In a world consumed by technology, cycling offers a refreshing escape. It allows you to reconnect with the simplicity of life and experience the exhilaration of movement. Many remember the thrill of riding downhill, hands off the handlebars, feeling a sense of freedom. That feeling doesn't have to be a distant memory. It's time to embrace your childhood and infuse your biking routine with a sense of playfulness.

**Explore** - One way to inject fun into your cycling adventures is by exploring new terrains. Seek out the trails and paths you've never taken before. Discovering uncharted territory not only keeps things interesting but also offers a chance to encounter surprising sights and experiences along the way. Montevallo offers several local waterfalls, including Davis Falls and Falling Rock Falls, that are within biking distance of town.

**Connect** - Another way to infuse joy into your biking routine is by involving friends and family. Make cycling a shared experience by joining a ValloCycle group ride or planning a family ride. The laughter, camaraderie, and shared memories will enhance the enjoyment of every pedal stroke. Check with your local bike shop for a list of local group rides.

**Playful Extras** – Don't be afraid to customize your bike. Add bright handlebar grip streamers, a classic bell that rings, or some bold stickers. Throw some glow lights on your bike and clip old playing cards to your seat stays! Let your bike reflect your personality and start collecting smiles and connections!

## Ride Bikes - Make Friends

Remember, your bike is a catalyst for happiness and well-being. Use it as a tool to discover new perspectives, nurture your adventurous spirit, and boost your physical and mental health. Cycling reduces stress, improves cardiovascular fitness and mood. Not only are you having fun, but you're also taking care of your wellbeing in the process. Stop thinking of your bike as just transportation and rekindle the wonder that cycling brings. Rediscover your excitement of exploring, the joy of speed, and the

simple pleasure of being on two wheels. Embrace the fun, and let your bike be a constant reminder that life is meant to be enjoyed. When you ride bikes, you make friends.

ValloCycle is Alabama's oldest citywide bike share. We welcome riders of all experience levels. For more information visit [vallocycle.org](http://vallocycle.org) or contact [vallocycle@gmail.com](mailto:vallocycle@gmail.com)

*Welcome 2024!*

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# MILITARY MOMENT

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



It's official; we did it! We made it through 2023, and we are here in 2024.

Did you survive in 2023 or did you thrive in 2023? I imagine before you can make plans or dream of what 2024 will hold, you must ask yourself what to do differently, or the same, as you did in 2023. What is the saying? Doing the same thing in hopes of a different result is the definition of insanity. As long as we are still breathing, there is time to mix it up, live a little happier, laugh more, and forgive others, as we hope others will forgive us. What will you change?

No doubt, the needs of our military will change this year and every year after. Veterans and their families live it every day, and every minute of that day. Things, situations, and lives change at the drop of a dime. Those in the military are trained to react to the life that is directly in front of us and to the many things that are unseen. As my husband always says, have a plan A, B, and C for when plans A and B don't work out. However, we all know a plan is just a place in which to deviate. For some, this thought will bring anxiety, but to those wearing the uniform, it can bring comfort. When you have to start over, it won't be with nothing because this time around you will have experience on your side.

We didn't expect or plan for many things in 2023, but we got through it. As you prepare for 2024, stay flexible and know that sometimes the journey is worth more than the destination.

This year, I would like your help in forming the "Military Moment." I am open to suggestions and promise to consider all ideas. Perhaps, there is a Montevallo Hometown Hero that you would like to know more about? So, Montevallo speak up! Email me at crenshawt@montevallo.edu and let me know what you would like to see in this type of article. I, and so many of my brothers and sisters, wore (and currently wear) the uniform with honor because we believe all voices deserve to be heard.

## HAPPY 2024 NEW YEAR!

**Colonial Life**  
INDEPENDENT AGENTS

<b>Joey Bruno</b>	
Agency Development Manager	Sierra Garrett
205.299.7000	ASR
joey.bruno@coloniallifesales.com	256.486.5807

## MONTEVALLO RECYCLING CENTER HOLIDAYS

New Year Closed Sat., Dec. 30th  
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MLK Day Closed Sat., Jan. 13th  
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## UNIVERSITY OF MONTEVALLO WINS HISTORIC INAUGURAL WRESTLING MATCH

In November the Montevallo community watched the Montevallo Falcons win their first ever home wrestling match over the Midway Eagles, 27-16.

"It's incredible," Montevallo coach Daniel Ownbey said. "Our guys wrestled tough, they wrestled hard and we beat a top 25 NAIA team who thought they were going to come in here and have a close match with us, and our guys went out there and they took it to them, and I'm so incredibly proud of them."

UM teammate Carson Freeman was proud to get a win in front of his friends and family cheering him on. "I've never experienced something like this," Freeman said. "It being this packed out, this loud, it was amazing."

Another teammate Derek Hussey used the friendly fans to his advantage. As the fans chanted his name down the stretch, he gutted out a hard-fight to win his match.

"You can see it getting close to the end of the second, end of the third," Ownbey said. "These guys were starting to break. They were starting to get tired, and our guys saw that and they knew to take advantage of it. The fact that they just went out there trusted the fact that they're not going to get tired and the other guy will just put everything that we've been working for right on display for the whole nation to see."

"I want to thank everyone who showed-up for our very first match and showed-out," Ownbey said. "It was an absolutely incredible crowd, an electrical crowd, and I could not have asked for more. The only thing I can now ask from the community is that they show back-up on January 30th for the home match against Huntingdon College with the same energy."

## 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

Aldrich Coal Mine Museum and Farrington Hall is OPEN  
from 10 a.m. until 4 pm

### EVERY THURSDAY

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

### 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 distributed to hundreds of locations each month. The Chamber reserves the right to restrict Chatter content. Advertising inquiries may be made by emailing [montevallochamber@gmail.com](mailto:montevallochamber@gmail.com)

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## 2023 SHELBY COUNTY DIAMOND AWARDS

The Shelby County Chamber recently honored multiple people and organizations who work to make the county a better place during its 2023 Shelby County Diamond Awards Luncheon. This event provided a chance for the nominees and recipients for “Non-Profit,” “Public Servant” and “Citizen of the Year” to be honored.

“Selflessness is the act or preoccupation without one’s own interest, the advancement or interest of others, the attentiveness to the needs of others (and) the act of being unselfish,” said Niki Mathews, branch manager for Alabama Credit Union and speaker for the luncheon. “The Diamond Awards were created to honor those who have displayed this characteristic in some form throughout the year and have ultimately made a positive impact on our county.”

Dr. Terry Sutton was recognized as the 2023 Citizen of the Year. Sutton led partnership over the city of Montevallo, the University of Montevallo and Montevallo First Baptist Church in collecting and distributing items to the hurricane victims of Alabama. He opened his church facilities as a warming station for the Montevallo community and provides annual storage for Feed the Hungry of Montevallo.

Helena Mayor Brian Puckett was recognized as the 2023 Public Servant of the Year. Puckett earned a professional designation of Advanced Certified Municipal Official from the Alabama League of Municipalities. He was just one of 35 municipal leaders to earn the designation in 2023.

Shelby Emergency Assistance was recognized as the 2023 Non-Profit of the Year. In 2022, 326 individuals were assisted by Shelby Emergency Assistance and 873 individuals were helped with utility assistance. In 2022, 125 dentist visits were provided and 105 individuals were assisted with medical needs. In 2018, Shelby Emergency Assistance opened shower facilities in Shelby County to help the homeless and the non-profit food pantry serves hundreds of people each month and during the holidays the organization provides Christmas to more than 200 children.

“Whether or not you are selected as the recipient of this year’s award, to be nominated in of itself is an honor because that says that you or your organization is making a lasting impact on someone’s life. So, I want to congratulate you all,” Mathews said.

The following individuals were recognized as 2023 Citizen of the Year nominees: Julie Evans, Danny Sample, Chris Strickland, and Dr. Terry Sutton. The following individuals were recognized as 2023 Public Servant of the Year nominees: Lindsey Allison, Matt Casey, Charissa Cole, Maurice Mercer, and Brian Puckett. The Following organizations were recognized as 2023 Non-Profit of the Year nominees: The ARC of Shelby County, Blanket Fort Hope, Chelsea Masonic Lodge No. 886, Hands and Feet of Jesus, Hargis Christian Camp, The Jimmie Hale Mission, King’s Home, Liberty Learning Foundation, Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging, Montevallo Main Street, SafeHouse of Shelby County, Sav-A-Life Shelby, Shelby County Arts Council, and Shelby Emergency Assistance.

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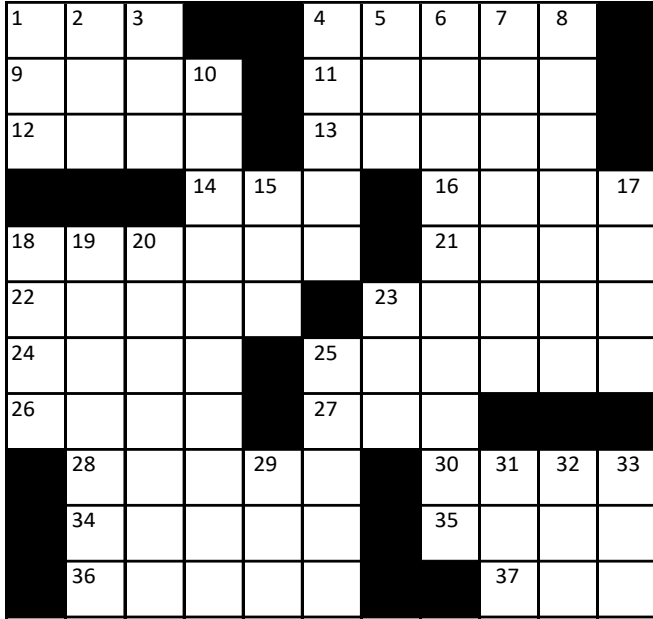
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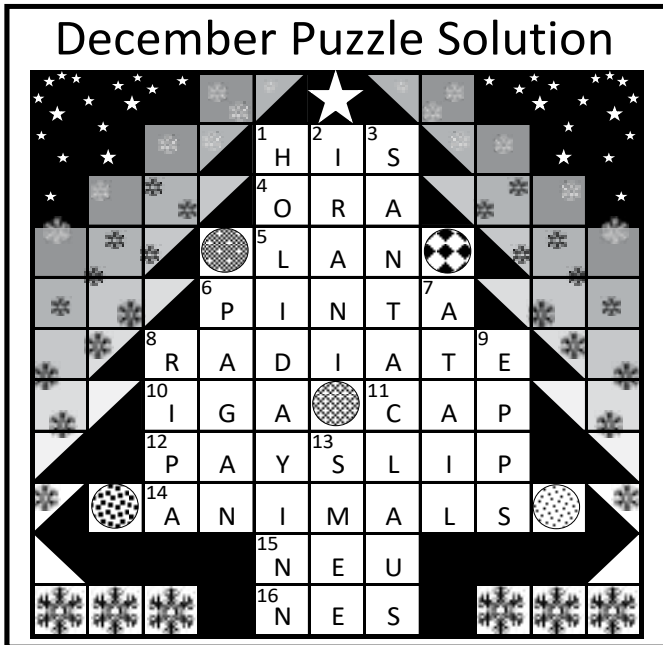
Created by Mike Hardig  
(tmhardig@gmail.com)

## ACROSS

1. Gambling parlor letters
4. Allow to pass
9. Alabama city where King wrote about "shallow understanding from people of good will," familiarly
11. Google competitor
12. Multinational currency unit
13. See 36-Across
14. Radio's PBS
16. Goad
18. First name in soul
21. "\_\_\_ 'Clock Jump": Harry James recording
22. Let (out), as rope
23. Metallic sound
24. "Go back" button abbr. on some remotes
25. They're smaller than minis
26. Actress Ward of "CSI: NY"
27. "Too-Ra-Loo-Ra-Loo-\_\_\_" (Irish lullaby)
28. Wine maker Ernest or Julio
30. Craving
34. Do \_\_\_ burn (seethe)
35. With 17-Down, Montevallo High School students, familiarly
36. With 13-Across, watercourse that flows through Orr Park
37. Male turkey

## DOWN

1. U.K. award
2. Calendar abbr.
3. Saloon
4. Stretchy fabric
5. Corn unit
6. Jim and Tammy's old television program
7. African conflict of 1899-1902
8. Some people think she was responsible for the breakup of the Beatles
10. Italian word meaning "The hill in the valley"
15. Prof's degree, often
17. See 35-Across
18. Smartphone downloads
19. Neon or argon
20. Mascara target
23. "Homeland" org.
25. Animated eyeglass-wearing Tootsie Pop eater in ads
29. Mauna \_\_\_ (Hawaiian volcano)
31. Dull routine
32. Day-\_\_\_ (fluorescent paint)
33. Tree that's a common street name



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