

# Chamber CHATTER



"The Voice for Business & Community"

• ESTABLISHED 1949 •

January 2023 | Vol. 22, No. 1

## Chamber News

### JANUARY CHAMBER LUNCHEON

Wed., January 18th:

#### "STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS"

Guest Speaker: Mayor Rusty Nix,  
Annual Chamber Business Meeting,  
Parnell Library, Networking 11:30am.  
Lunch at noon: \$15 ea.

RSVP by Mon., Jan 16 to  
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PaPa John's Montevallo, 3960 Hwy 25, (205) 476-0050

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# JANUARY



1st, SUNDAY  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

3rd TUESDAY  
**UM OPENS**

4th WEDNESDAY  
**MONTEVALLO SCHOOLS**  
MES, MMS & MHS starts second semester

9th MONDAY  
**LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY**

**UM SPRING SEMESTER**  
Classes Start

10th TUESDAY  
**IMPACT MONTEVALLO COALITION MEETING**  
9:00am / email- [impactmontevallo@gmail.com](mailto:impactmontevallo@gmail.com)

14th SATURDAY  
**ALABAMA PET PANTRY**  
2-3PM / SEA Parking lot ./ 160 Shoshone Dr.

16th MONDAY  
**REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY**

**19th ANNUAL REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION MARCH** / Speaker: Dr. Tracey Morant Adams, South Eastern Regional Director, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated / 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

18th, 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 ea / RSVP by Mon Jan 16 to 205-665-1519 or [montevallochamber@gmail.com](mailto:montevallochamber@gmail.com) / Caterer- Southern Sweets / Luncheon Sponsor - Trustmark National Bank


22nd SUNDAY  
**ANNUAL MEET & GREET GALA**  
Montevallo Main Street Players, 2pm / Parnell Memorial Library

26th THURSDAY  
**FOOD BANK GIVEAWAY**  
Montevallo Boys & Girls Club, Vine St., Starts between 8:30 and 9am

29th SUNDAY  
**FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF 2023 MONTEVALLO HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
2pm / Parnell Memorial Library

**19th Annual MLK Day Celebration March**  
Monday Jan 16, 2023  
Hosted by Shelby County N.A.A.C.P.

**10am**  
Lineup behind McDonald's March to Montevallo High School program 11am at MHS  
Speaker:  
**Dr. Tracey Morant Adams,**  
South Eastern Regional Director,  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.



POC - (205)902-5137  
or (205)915-0787

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



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## **PART ONE: THE 1839 SETTLEMENT OF THE ESTATE OF MRS. HANNAH WILSON FROST OF MONTEVALLO, ALABAMA**

Submitted by Marshel Roy Cunningham (GoneToAlabama@aol.com) for the Montevallo Historical Society.

Hannah Wilson Frost (1779-1839) was a widowed sister of Benjamin Wilson (1776-1852), her brother Jesse Wilson (1776-1820), first settler of Montevallo (Wilson's Hill), and sisters Elizabeth W. Lawler, Nancy W. Baker, Lucretia W. Hancock, and Mary Wilson, spinster.

She was twice a widow. First, she married Thomas Frost of Anderson County, Tennessee, who died about 1806 in Rutherford County, with whom she had two sons and two daughters. She then married another Frost relative, whose name is unknown, who died leaving her a widow with a third son named John Aaron Frost and at least two daughters. All that is really known about this elusive second husband is that he was deceased by 1820.

The settlement of her estate can be found in Will Book "1818-1846" in the vault of the Shelby County Archives in the 1854 courthouse in Columbiana. This courthouse was to be torn down, but the county historical society led the fight in the 1970's to save it, and won.

Hannah's estate papers begin on page 400 and end on page 409. She left no Last Will, as her son Jesse Frost is appointed "administrator" rather than "executor."

As Hannah was a widow, she actually held possession of her own property. Women at the time did not own anything; their husbands had full control as their legal guardians, as if the wife were a child.

The first item recorded is a bond for son Jesse Frost for ten thousand dollars, dated 4 December 1839. Jesse was bound to "honestly and fairly" divide his mother's estate among her heirs, or he and his securities, namely his uncle Benjamin Wilson and his first cousin's husband Joseph Cunningham, would be liable for the stated amount of the bond. The agreement remained legally binding until the estate was settled to the satisfaction of the court, that being the Orphans Court of Shelby County and Judge James Woodruff. Do not think that all estates were easily settled. There are many instances in Alabama in which heirs or other interested parties filed petitions when the estate was being "squandered" by those in charge. Law suits over estates were not uncommon and could go on for years.

Page 401 begins the next step in the normal process to settle an estate: the appraisal. Judge Woodruff appointed Joseph Cunningham, Samuel Bowden, and Barnabas McHenry to go to the farm and make a list of what Hannah owned at the time of her death. Those appointed were usually neighbors who were already familiar with the estate. This practice lessened the possibility that someone dishonest could take livestock, valuable farm equipment, or such, and cheat the heirs who might live in counties or states far away from their home place. Joseph Cunningham had married Hannah's niece Lucretia Wilson in 1836, and lived a short distance from her farm. Samuel Bowden (b. 1785) had married Sarah Welch, sister of Mr. Cunningham's first wife Elizabeth. Samuel's son Elbert Bowden would grow up to marry Hannah's granddaughter Margaret Frost in 1854, the oldest girl of Jesse Frost's eighteen children. Barnabas McHenry, the third appraiser, was the 33 year old son-in-law of



*Jesse Frost and his wife Catherine Harless*

Mr. Cunningham, and the son of Thomas D. McHenry ( born 1772) who had served both in the Virginia and Alabama state legislatures.

The inventory begins in the house. Hannah owns two very nice bedroom suites. She keeps her dishes in a cupboard, probably the open front type known as a pewter cupboard.

She owns crockeryware and a set of knives and forks. Forks were not so common on the frontier; many folks ate with knives only, using syrup or honey to help the peas and beans stick. Her kitchen also contains tin plates, bottles, sugar boxes, and "woodvessels" or dough bowls.

Listed separately are her coin silver spoons.

She owns smoothing irons to keep the clothes pressed, and a metal clock, known as a wag-on-the-wall. She owns a number of books, which indicates education and the ability to read. Hannah owns a trunk in which she stores her clothing. She also owns an "old bible." This would be her grandfather Methusalem Griffith's Welsh bible, entrusted to her as the youngest daughter, as it had been entrusted to her mother. The bible would have the water stains from the time her grandparents had survived the Great Flood in 1749 in Augusta County, Virginia. The bible records their marriage in Christ Church, Philadelphia, in 1730.

Other standard inventory entries include a loom for weaving, andirons for the fireplace, a grinding stone for corn meal, and crosscut saws to fell the trees for barn building and firewood. Her animals include a yoke of oxen, some cows, some hogs, some sheep, and some goats. The appraisers listed corn and fodder, a side saddle, but no horses. There is a wagon and a harness for travel, apparently by oxen.

The appraisers signed under oath that their report on the estate and their assessment of its value was true and correct, and they were "without partiality or sinister views." Also included in the papers was a list of loans made by Hannah to other people. One was to Abner J. Wells, the local militia leader, for \$600. Abner J. Wells was a native of Spartanburg, South Carolina, and a son-in-law of Joseph Cunningham. Mr. Wells ran a tavern on Main Street Montevallo. The tavern housed a large bell which was used to call locals to meetings or signify emergencies. This very bell has survived, and is now housed on Selma Street at one of Montevallo's oldest churches.

***In the February issue of the Chamber Chatter***, we will continue with the actual estate sale, the final settlement, and a short synopsis of what became of her children.



540 Shelby Street  
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[WWW.HISTORICMONTEVALLO.ORG](http://WWW.HISTORICMONTEVALLO.ORG)

# 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.



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### CONTACT US

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**WALKER IS ONE OF AL.COM'S "22 ALABAMIANS WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE IN 2022"**

After 27 years, Tom Walker retired this year as CEO of American Village in Montevallo.

Walker came up with the idea for American Village in the 1980s. The campus in Montevallo includes numerous historical replica buildings from the Revolutionary War period, staffed by actors in period costumes – portraying figures such as John and Abigail Adams, and George and Martha Washington – who entertain and inform visitors with historical interpretations.

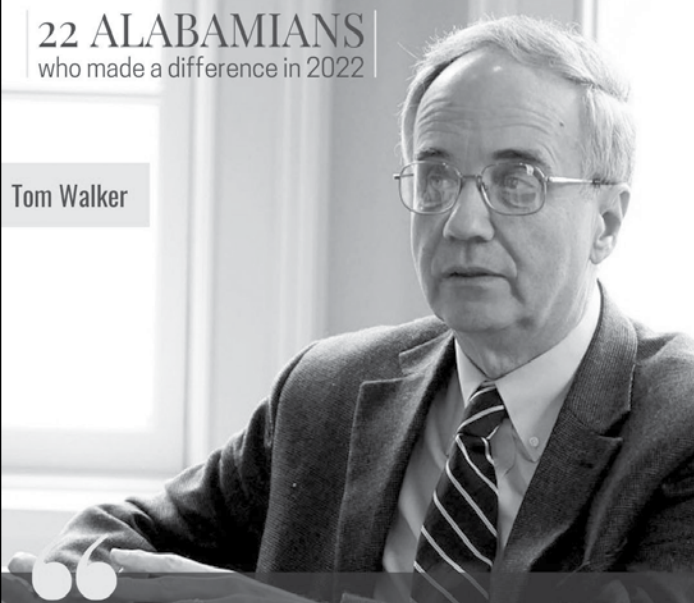
Walker is one of AL.com's "22 Alabamians who made a difference in 2022," highlighting people who have made our state a better place to live this year. Read more about Walker: <https://www.al.com/.../longtime-american-village-ceo...>

**FALCON SWIM SCHOOL**

The Falcon Swim School is open for registration for swim lessons. Spring lessons will run Jan. 9 through Feb. 1. Located at the pool in the McChesney Student Activity Center, the course offers four-week sessions consisting of eight semi-private to fully private lessons with two lessons per week. All instructors are collegiate swimmers properly trained and certified to conduct swim lessons. Lessons are open to ages four to adult. For more information, please contact Scott Griffith at [sgriffi7@montevallo.edu](mailto:sgriffi7@montevallo.edu) or 850-619-0782.

22 ALABAMIANS  
who made a difference in 2022

Tom Walker



I hope that long after all of us are gone, the place will be adapting to a continuing challenge and mission to prepare young and old to fully participate in the American experiment of self-government."

- Tom Walker, longtime American Village CEO who retired this year but continues to support the institution's mission

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### Congratulations!

Thank you to all the businesses and student groups who participated in MonteVallo Main Street Design Committee's 2022 Window Decorating Competition!

This year's winners are:

#### Merchants

- 1st Place: The Flower Shop
- 2nd Place: Trustmark Bank
- 3rd Place: Bradford Real Estate Group
- Mayor's Choice: Smitherman's Pharmacy
- People's Choice: JP Building Company

#### Student Groups

- 1st Place: UM American Sign Language Club
- 2nd Place: MonteVallo Presbyterian Church Youth
- 3rd Place: MonteVallo Junior City Council
- Junior Mayor's Choice: MHS Future Farmers of America
- People's Choice: Future Alumni of MonteVallo (FAM)

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# Untold Stories

OF BLACK MONTEVALLO



*Everybody's stories matter. It's not just a matter of nostalgia, it powers us into the present and the future.* -- Barack Obama  
Vol. 2 No. 4

## **"Not a problem, we got this": From Birmingham to Selma**

Everyone knows it began at Brown Chapel AME Church in Selma, that epic 54-mile march for voting rights in March 1965. The Selma to Montgomery march, recognized around the world as a turning point in America's struggle for civil rights, is now a designated national historic trail with interpretive centers operated by the National Park Service.

The march actually began in Birmingham, however. Marchers, perhaps 20 strong, walked to Alabaster for an overnight stay, picked up more folks there, passed through Montevallo and then Centerville and at last arrived in Selma, their numbers growing as they went. The grit and courage of the marchers, along with the love and resourcefulness of supporters along the way, are a story that needs to be told.

We can begin to piece together that story from a conversation recorded late last October with Elvie Schooley, best known to Montevallans as visionary founder of local nonprofit DRUM the Program. Elvie inherited her activism and boundless energy from her parents, Eloise and Rev. Jimmy R. Underwood, founding members (along with Robert Tolbert and Elizabeth Taylor) of the Alabaster Suburban League, a civil rights organization with a mission to expand local voting rights. When the League got wind of a major voting rights march being organized in Selma, its leaders, including Elvie's parents, got to work planning an overnight stop for marchers from Birmingham.

Elvie was too young to be directly involved, but her parents and one of her older sisters took part in the march. Their remembrances became the family stories which she has recently shared.

"The plan was, that when the marchers arrived, the Alabaster School, which was the Black school, right there on 31" -- site of the Shelby County Resource Center today -- "would be where they would host them. They had organized all the community members that would cook, prepare the food for them, and the bedding, and all that kind of stuff, all that stuff was set in motion." But things did not go as planned. "Daddy said that when it was time for the marchers to arrive, the city of Alabaster cut off the electricity and the water at the school." So there the marchers were, weary and footsore, obliged to shelter in a building with no heat, light, or water.

The response of the organizers? "Not a problem, we got this." Elvie explains: "You had this organization of people, especially women, who were already activated, already organized, and all it took was 'we got this.' So they brought in everything that they needed, candles, flashlights, water, food, bedding, and they fed and housed the marchers. They

didn't have any problems you know from Klans members at this point of time, at the school." The next morning they were off to Montevallo and then on to Centerville.

Did the marchers face problems at other sheltering sites? None that Elvie heard about, although there have been unconfirmed reports of stomach sickness, perhaps food poisoning, connected with stops in Montevallo and Centerville. Others with memories of the march from Montevallo onwards may be able to help us fill out the story.



Asked why so few have heard about the march from Birmingham, Elvie was unhesitating and to the point. The "heavy hitters" were in Selma: "then it became a thing." But people need to know that civil rights activism was taking place outside Birmingham, outside Selma and Montgomery: "People were doing it at their own local level." Knowing this "adds so much value to our small towns."

It was "people along the way" who created "the momentum and the energy" that fed events in Selma. For young people especially voting rights and the civil rights struggle were basic to who they were, to the changes they knew had to come. The struggle was "what you did back then. . . , it was huge, it was part of the movement, it was in the music, it was in the social scene, you know" and you had to use "whatever tools you had to add to the conversation around it."

The story of the voting rights march of 1965 offers more than the expected scenes of brutality and evil at Pettus Bridge; of suffering and sacrifice in the Black community. The marchers who made their way through Alabaster and Montevallo attracted no reporters, no television cameras, none of the cruelty publicized by the national media. Family stories like Elvie's create a different legacy. They bring into view the acts of kindness of everyday folks who joined forces for the freedom to vote. They illuminate the get-it-doneness of ordinary people in small towns who offered candles, bedding, and flashlights when the electricity was turned off. "We got this."

*Image from the digital collection of Alabama Department of Archives and History. We are grateful to Elvie Schooley for sharing this story. Submitted by Kathy King & Anitka Stewart Sims. Contact us at [Movaltrail@gmail.com](mailto:Movaltrail@gmail.com). We want to hear your stories and welcome correction of any errors of fact or interpretation.*

## CENTRALA CLUB NEWS

After taking a break in December, the Centrala Garden Club will meet on January 3, 2023. However, though the club did not have a business meeting in December, it was a busy month.

Members sold tickets for a drawing on a handmade quilt by Jean Murray. The drawing took place at Bradford Real Estate on December 8, and the winning ticket belonged to Erin Cullop of Palo Cedro, CA. The fundraiser was a great success and the money raised will go to the various local organizations that the club supports.

On the evening of December 6th, members gathered at the home of Jeannie Meigs for a Christmas party.

The club paid for five wreaths from Wreaths Across America to decorate the graves of veterans in the Montevallo City Cemetery.

Anne Thomas, Jan McKinnon, and Colleen Bourne prepared bags filled with delicious treats for the annual City Workers Breakfast on December 8.

So while Centrala did not have a regular meeting in December, club members stayed busy.

The speaker for the January 3, 2023 meeting will be Susan Godwin of the Montevallo Historical Society.





For information about the Centrala Garden Club email [deeleenbaker@aol.com](mailto:deeleenbaker@aol.com)

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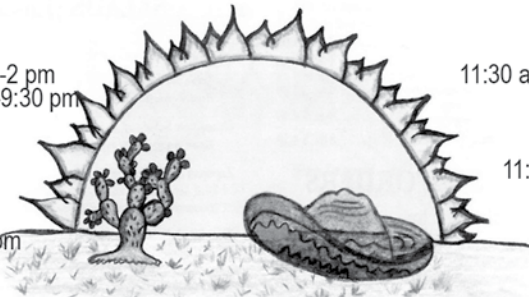
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Friday:  
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*Margarita Special from 5 to 9 pm*  
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**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**  
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CITY OF MONTEVALLO NEWS

Mayor's Message...

January 2023 Chamber Chatter

**Hello, citizens of Montevallo!**

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and is well. Another Christmas season is in the books but that doesn't mean that the Christmas Spirit of giving has to cease. Please remember to support our local charities.



RUSTY NIX, MAYOR

Kirk Hamby's Streets and Sanitation crew knocked it out of the park again this year by getting all the Christmas lights, decorations, and Christmas tree up in time for Montevallo's annual Christmas Parade. The parade was a huge success again this year and lasted about 50 minutes. Special thanks go to all the organizations that participated in this year's festivities. There were a lot of creative floats and other entries this year. It was nice seeing all the children smiling and having so much fun. In some areas, the crowd was 4 to 5 people deep. I would like to thank our downtown merchants who took time out of their busy schedules to spruce up their storefronts for the Montevallo Main Street Design Committee's 2022 Window Decorating Competition! Choosing a winner for the contest was tough again this year! Congratulations to The Flower Shop for winning this year's challenge. After all of the festivities had ended, I would also like to mention that our Streets and Sanitation Department had all of the trash picked up and the town looked fresh again in less than 24 hours.

Don't forget that, if you have not filled out the survey for the Parks & Recreation/Community Center, please do so. The City needs the surveys so we can apply for certain types of grants to help with the funding of this potential project. Our town desperately needs this type of facility for our citizens. While city officials are making plans for a new community center, make sure to find the time to spend in one of Montevallo's beautiful parks.

Yes, things are on the move in Montevallo. I'm looking forward to all the great events that we have ahead of us in 2023. Shout out to all of the city "movers and shakers" that make things happen and get things done in our city. Our city workers and volunteers are the best.

I hope everyone has a safe New Year's Eve. Now, we turn the page and bring on 2023. Make sure you eat black-eyed peas, collards, and hog jowl for luck on New Year's Day! After eating all of the food, and being on a football overload



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from all the bowl games, it will be time to make your New Year's resolutions. I know I have my list of resolutions ready, what will yours be?

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 in Montevallo first. As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your mayor.

 <p><b>W&amp;S Lawn Care</b>  <small>William Smith, Owner and CEO</small></p> <p>CALL OR TEXT:        (205) 914-3047 or (205) 913-0200</p> <p><b>Fulfilling All of Your        Lawn Care Needs!</b></p>	 <p><b>W&amp;S        CLEANERS</b></p> <p>Montevallo • 4559 Hwy 119</p> <p><b>205.476.8353</b></p> <p>Pick-up and Drop Off Service        Same Day Service</p>
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**Nine questions, big results!**

## ALPHA PI CELEBRATES NATIONAL SERVICE DAY

Hat's off to Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Incorporated Alpha Pi Chapter of Montevallo, Alabama for impacting lives, giving, sharing, and uplifting others!!!! For National Service Day October 2022, Alpha Pi donated a truck load of items to the Edmundite Boutique in Selma, Alabama. The boutique is a "shop for free" store that helps people in need. Alpha Pi donated 20 bags of items to the senior facility in Madison, Alabama. Alpha Pi also donated coats, socks, scarves, and hats to The Hanger in Columbiana, Alabama. Alpha Pi Chapter expressed gratitude and appreciation to the University of Montevallo's Veterans Department. The chapter sent a lap quilt to Veterans Mr. Frederick Lilly, former Wilsonville, Alabama resident now resides in Montgomery, Alabama and Mrs. LaTonya Robinson in Madison, Alabama. Alpha Pi strives to make a difference in our communities and youth. We demonstrate the importance of love, peace and harmony so others know we care for all mankind.

# Happy New Year!

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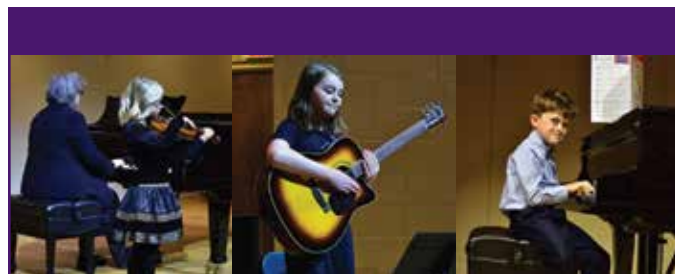
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<b>CHERYL WHITE</b> 205-503-2913 <a href="mailto:white@team-lehman.com">white@team-lehman.com</a>	<b>SHEENA WOLFE</b> 205-918-3875 <a href="mailto:sheena@team-lehman.com">sheena@team-lehman.com</a>



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[montevallo.edu/csm](http://montevallo.edu/csm)

Contact Pamela Smith, Community School of Music, at [umcsm@montevallo.edu](mailto:umcsm@montevallo.edu) or 205-665-6678.



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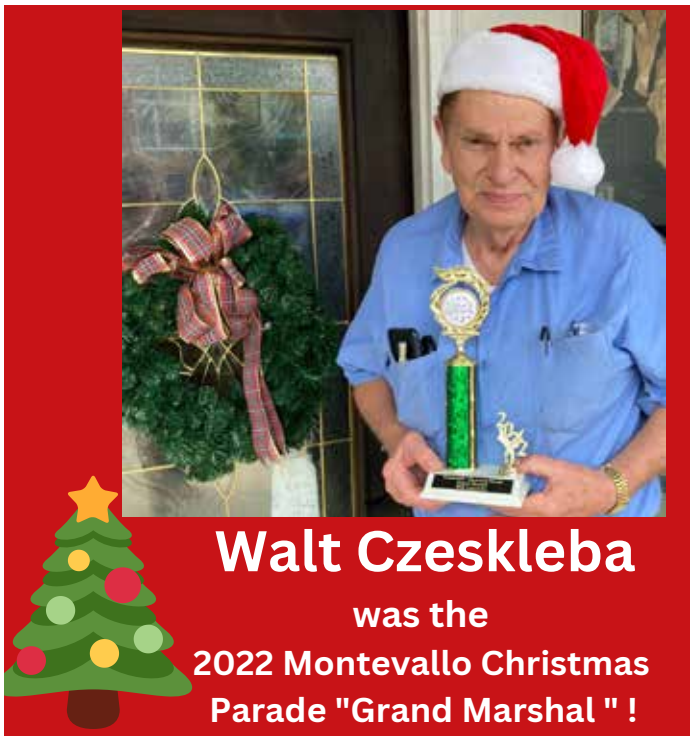
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Thanks Stan and Jo Dawson of Montevallo Auto Repair for lighting our Christmas Tree this year !



**Walt Czeskleba** was the 2022 Montevallo Christmas Parade "Grand Marshal" !

# Christmas Parade Winners



**Most Creative - Moore Brothers Automotive**



**Most Christmas Spirit - Alabama Public Television**



**Best Theme - MHS Wrestling Team**



**Best Overall - St. Thomas Catholic Church**



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Friday & Saturday  
 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Kitchen / 11 p.m. Bar



# Thanks for your participation...

Thanks to all the wonderful Montevallo Businesses and Organizations for participating in the 7th Annual Chamber Christmas Open House!

Blue Phrog Gallery, Bradford Real Estate, DreFit, Hair & Healing, Montevallo Nutrition, Provenance Church, Save My Cell, Slice Montevallo, Soul Spot Wings, Strand Coffeehouse & Main Street Tavern.



*Also thanks to JQ's One Man Swing Band for filling the Montevallo Air with Christmas tunes.*



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# NEW YEAR

*Happy*



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# Happy New Year!

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2023

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**MONTEVALLO ARBOR DAY 2023**

On Saturday, February 25, 2023, the Montevallo Arbor and Beautification Board will hold Arbor Day at the Montevallo Recycling Center at 1120 Overland Road.. The format this year 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 9am until 1pm or until supplies run out. As in the past, these trees will be free.

The seedlings available should include Riverbirch, Pecan, Fringetree, Silky dogwood, Ashe magnolia, White oak, Fragrant Sumac, and Bald Cypress.



**Montevallo  
Arbor Day**  
Sat. February 25

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

**The Dogs of  
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Main Street  
coloring book**

Purchase yours today for \$5 each while supplies last!  
Available at Falcon Art Supply, Regions Bank, Bradford  
Real Estate Group, and City Hall.



Funds support Montevallo Main St. Sponsored by Impact Montevallo.

**APPLICATION TO APPLY FOR THE 2023  
MONTEVALLO ARTSFEST IS OPEN!**

Montevallo ArtsFest 2023 will take place Saturday, April 15, from 10am to 5pm at Orr Park in Montevallo, AL Deadline to enter March 30, 2023. to apply link to <https://www.zapplication.org/event-info.php?ID=10752> , visit the Montevallo Arts Collaborative Facebook page or email [montevalloarts@gmail.com](mailto:montevalloarts@gmail.com)





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**Exhibit Opening and Reception:  
Sunday January 29, Noon to 2 pm**

**NEW ART  
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PATRICK  
MAYTON**



**Nance Metz Gallery  
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Church  
510 Shelby Street**

**MONTEVALLO RECEIVES AWARDS AT THE 2022 TEACHER OF THE YEAR BANQUET**

Shelby County Schools have announced the 2022 Teacher of the Year Award winners.

The recipients of the award were recognized at a banquet December 3, 2022

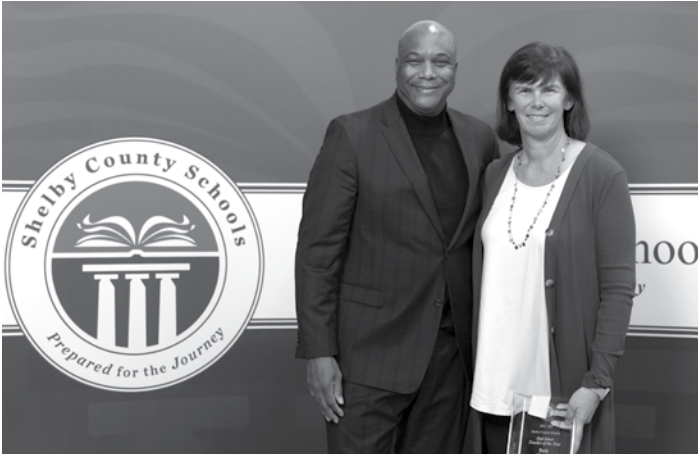
Among this year’s winners, Beth House from Montevallo High School was recognized as the 2022 High School Teacher of the Year.

One student described Beth House of MHS as a positive, uplifting person. Another student described her as very compassionate.

“Beth House, she’s one of those people that’s always real optimistic, positive attitude, loves what she does,” MHS Principal Steve Bromley said. “There’s several things that she does here and we’re very grateful to have her.”

Each major recipient also was highlighted in a video with comments from their fellow colleagues and students. Check out Beth House's video by linking to <https://www.facebook.com/shelbyschools/videos/674189727706765>

Also recognized was Miss Rachel Jordan as Montevallo Elementary Teacher of the Year and Coach Brandon Horton as Montevallo Middle Teacher of the Year.



*Beth House, Montevallo High School*




*Brandon Horton, Montevallo Middle School*





*Miss Rachel Jordan, Montevallo Elementary*

**January 9**



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**HERE'S WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE LIBRARY FOR JANUARY, 2023**

**Library CLOSED** Monday, Jan. 2 for New Years Day, observed

Tuesdays at 10am **Mini Music**

Wednesdays at 9:15am **Storytime with Mr. Mac**

Thursdays at 6 pm, starting 1/12: **ESOL English Class**

**Family Fun Night:** Blow Paint Art; Tuesday, Jan. 3, 5 – 7 pm

**Adult Craft Kit:** Snowflake Art; Monday, Jan. 9, available while supplies last

**Kid Craft Kit:** Marshmallow Snowmen; Tuesday, Jan. 10, available while supplies last

**Toddler Craft Kit:** Owls; Wednesday, Jan. 11, available while supplies last

**Library CLOSED** for MLK Jr., Saturday, Jan. 14 – Monday, Jan. 16

**Afterschool Kid's Movie:** Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 3:30 pm. Call library for title or visit [parnellmemoriallibrary.org/events](http://parnellmemoriallibrary.org/events)

**Sweets & Eats Kit:** Whipped Kool-Aid Blast; Tuesday, Jan. 17, available while supplies last

**Teen Craft Kit:** Folded Paper Icicles; Thursday, Jan. 19, available while supplies last

**Classic Movie Monday;** Monday, Jan. 23 at 2 pm. Call library for title or visit [parnellmemoriallibrary.org/events](http://parnellmemoriallibrary.org/events)

**PARNELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

# Family Fun Night

Tuesday, Jan. 3  
between 5 - 7 pm

This month: blow paint art!

*Happy New Year!*

*Sweets & Eats*

Parnell Memorial Library

## WHIPPED KOOL-AID BLASTS

Tuesday, Jan. 17

While supplies last!

# AFTER SCHOOL SNACK PANTRY

Help Yourself!

Donate healthy shelf-stable snacks and we'll waive your Parnell Library fines!

# MOVIE NIGHT KITS

Includes:

- popcorn
- juice boxes
- candy
- activity sheets
- up to 5 movies

Check out with a Montevallo library card!

## CELEBRATING 45 YEARS OF SERVICE

Alan Blackmon, Battalion Chief of the Montevallo Fire Department, is celebrating 45 years of service.

Chief Blackmon has saved lives. Thirty five years ago, he was known for his bravery and courage when he pulled a woman from the explosion at Bubba's gas station.

Since then, he went on to serve as chief of the department and is currently serving as battalion chief.

He's a role model to many and the Montevallo Fire Department recently celebrated his accomplishments.

"Over 50 of our personnel through the years have gone on to career departments in central Alabama," said Kay Goke, Montevallo FD PIO. "There is no doubt that Chief Blackmon has helped educate and train many of the finest that we are seeing in the fire service today."

The Montevallo Fire Department is all volunteer and Chief Blackmon has dedicated countless time and energy into protecting his community.





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HOLIDAY CALENDAR  
CLOSING  
Thanksgiving 11/24-11/28  
Christmas 12/23-12/26  
New Year 12/31-1/2.





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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF CENTRAL ALABAMA

**Montevallo Boys and Girls Club**

# AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS  
3 PM TO 6 PM  
AGES 6 AND UP

CONTACT US TO GET REGISTERED:  
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Registration is open now!  
*Limited slots available*

For students of Montevallo and Calera schools, beginning on January 4th!

Limited to 3 available spots on the Calera Elementary, Intermediate, Middle van.

- Semester Fee (If paid before end of January): \$350/child
- Early Bird Rate: \$300/child (if paid in full by January 4th)
- Monthly Payments: \$75/child



Weddings, Quinceañeras, & Much More!

Event Videography

# Pricing Guide





VIP A	VIP B	VIP C
• 3 Cameras	• 3 Cameras	• 3 Cameras
• Up to 3 Hours	• Up to 7 Hours	• Up to 12 Hours
\$1200	\$1400	\$1600
Classic A	Classic B	Classic C
• 2 Cameras	• 2 Cameras	• 2 Cameras
• Up to 3 Hours	• Up to 7 Hours	• Up to 12 Hours
\$1100	\$1300	\$1500

All packages include a 20-60 minute film. We also make a 1-5 minute recap for our social media that you and your family are more than welcome to share!

[whiterosefilmphoto@gmail.com](mailto:whiterosefilmphoto@gmail.com)  
205-830-9047

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## MMSP GETS INTO THE "SPIRIT"

The Montevallo Main Street Players got into the Christmas Spirit in December with the production of Renee Calarco's "The 12 Days of Christmas."

The Main Street Players presented the holiday-themed comedy at the Parnell Memorial Library Theatre

"The show was very family-friendly," said Gwendolyn Treptow, director and president of the board. "While I was reading it the first time, I bursted into laughter, like full-on belly laugh stitches. It was a great fun experience for anyone that came out to see it."

Produced by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois, "The 12 Days of Christmas" follows the main character Shirley Partridge as she attempts to carry out the annual tradition of gathering participants to sing the popular Christmas carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

Cast member Mike Schiermann plays Henri, a French rooster, in the production.

"It came together really well," Schiermann said. "It was a really cute and funny little piece of Christmas fluff. It was perfect for the whole family. Gosh, we've got a really talented cast too."

The Montevallo Main Street Players are the oldest active community theatre group in Shelby County, established in 1972. They are also a nonprofit organization.

"We all do it out of the love for theatre and the joy of bringing a live theatre experience to the Montevallo community," Treptow said. "That is our mission and our passion. We do three shows a year. We are back in our little theatre."

To learn more about the MMSP visit their Facebook page or link : <https://montevallo-main-street-players.square.site/>



Front row left to right: Sophia Kivette, Keyshon Parrish, Atticus Plott, Carson Lovett  
Back row left to right: Xander Wheeler, Delores Adkins, Ingrid McGraw, Mary Schiermann, Jennifer Weed, Mercy White AmyBeth Weed, Lynn Moon, Lauryn Horton, Mike Schiermann, Tracy Webster, Susan Baggett

## ACE HARDWARE COMING TO MONTEVALLO SPRING 2023



**Support Local - Shop Local – Buy Local**, those are great marketing slogans for some companies but for one company those are words that they live by each day. Ace Hardware's history dates back to 1923 when 5 small hardware store owners in Chicago joined together to create a purchasing group to secure better buying power for the owners and adopted the iconic "Ace" name. An interesting fact about the company was that it was named after the "Ace" fighter pilots of World War I. Those pilots were able to overcome incredible hurdles to achieve their mission.

### ***Now those "Helpful Hardware Folks" are coming to Montevallo!***

Montevallo Ace Hardware will be owned by Donna and Larry Grantham, who have been store owners since 2010 when they purchased Warrior Ace Hardware from Donna's family. The Russell family (Donna) have roots dating back to the late 1800's in Hayden, AL.

Warrior Ace Hardware was formerly owned by Donna's father who opened the store in the early 70's. Donna grew up learning "The Ace Way" of doing business which is: 1) Give great customer service all the time, every time. 2) Provide outstanding products at the fairest price possible. 3) Hire quality employees who look forward to sharing their DIY knowledge with their customers, so their customers can complete their projects to the highest standard that each customer requires. 4) Work with our fellow small business owners to improve their businesses through our Business-2-Business program which allows business owners to have access to one of the largest supply outlets in the United States.

Donna and Larry have instilled the Ace Ways of Success to their children, which is why they have selected their son, Jerrod Cato to assume the role of Store Manager for the Montevallo Ace Hardware. Growing up in Warrior, AL Jerrod learned all those small-town values of "doing the right thing all the time". Jerrod graduated from Mortimer Jordan HS and is the father of two children. Jerrod has been working for Warrior Ace Hardware since 2010 and has been a member of Warrior Church since 2013 where he is a member of the audio/visual team. Assisting Jerrod will be Dakota (Kody) Jochums, who will be moving into the role as Assistant Manager. Kody has been with Warrior Ace Hardware since 2020 and is an Honorably discharged veteran of the USAF with tours into the middle east.

As soon as the Montevallo ACE Hardware is open at 4004 Hwy 25 Jerrod and Kody both invite every member of the Montevallo community to stop in, say hi, and maybe even have a cup of coffee with them. **Ace is the Place.**

**2023 REAL ESTATE PREDICTIONS**  
**BY TEAM LEHMAN**

Last year at this time, Team Lehman shared our predictions about the coming market with you. We are proud to say that we've been shown to be right by the development since then.

This year, here's what we see on the horizon. Check out the real estate landscape and call us when you want to dip your toe in the water!

**House prices will start to fall, but not so much in Alabama...**

Home prices will fall across the country but Alabama won't be hit as hard due to job growth and immigration

**Mortgage Rates will start to drop, but...** they won't return to the historic lows of 2021. Mortgage rates will likely be down to 5.75% by the end of the year.

**Inventory will start to increase but...** it will still remain low for the immediate future.

**The market is shifting to favor buyers...** Homebuyers will get more choices and more time to choose.

**Rental rates will continue to go up...** So buying a home continues to be your best choice.

**iBuyer programs will continue to decline...**Last year, most others predicted that agentless house-buying would surge. We didn't think that was true, and here's what has happened:

Redfin shuttered its iBuying arm, RedfinNow, in November. Opendoor, the largest iBuyer, announced \$1 billion in losses

in the third quarter. Susan Lehman and the Team FlyHomes reduced its workforce by nearly 40%. Zillow Offers, another giant in the iBuyer space, closed in 2021.

Whether you're buying or selling, it's still a good idea to use a real estate agent...

It's easier than ever to search for homes on-line. But you need to remember that here is much more to buying and selling a home than you can access by clicking through a web site. Whether you're buying a home, selling a home or both, it's an emotional rollercoaster. By connecting you to all the people you'll need to complete the process, lenders, contractors, lawyers, and inspectors, a Team Lehman Member help you avoid the stress and guide you to your perfect outcome.

**SO, SHOULD I BUY?**

Only you can answer this question, but it might be helpful to consider the 30/30/3 rule of thumb:

- Your monthly payments shouldn't exceed 30% of your income
- You should get a 30-year mortgage
- You should shoot for a rate around 3%

Team Lehman will help you protect your interests and insure that only qualified buyers are seriously considering your home.

For all these reasons and many others, Team Lehman is the choice for you!

Stay healthy and Have a Happy New Year!



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SUBMITTED BY ARTHUR HERBERT

### RIDING THE BRICKS

You may have noticed some awesome infrastructure upgrades around Montevallo recently, including a lot of newly paved roads. Riding your bicycle on fresh asphalt provides a smooth ride comparable to floating on a cloud. Unfortunately, riding on clay bricks provides a mostly unpleasant experience that most cyclists avoid. Brick pavers have been part of Montevallo since 1896 and avoiding brick roads on campus isn't always practical. Follow these tips to learn how to ride on brick pavers:

**Route choice** – plan your route to avoid the worst sections of road. There are many newly paved sections of campus such as Bloch and Vine Streets that have smoother bricks for riding. As tempting as it is to ride on the sidewalk, remember that in Alabama it is not lawful to do so.

**Scan Ahead** – keep an eye out ahead for bad sections of road so you don't wait until the last moment to react to a large bump in the road. A predictable cyclist is a safe cyclist. Bunny hop – use the standard bunny hop to avoid an unforeseen obstacle. The same move you used as a kid can be practiced and used as an emergency measure when needed.

**Ride on the saddle** – although it is tempting to stand on your pedals to take the shake out of your backside, you need weight on the back wheel to maintain traction and stability.

**Bend your arms** – do not lock your arms straight while riding on bricks; doing so can transfer the bumps directly to your head and spine. Keeping your arms bent allows them to become shock absorbers when riding.

**Relax** – staying relaxed and flexible on the bike will help you avoid pain. Tensing your muscles amplifies the knocks of an uneven surface.

**Grip** – Finding the balance between a firm and light grip on your handlebars will take some practice. The right balance will assist in navigating the pavers.

**Tires** – consider wider tires that allow for lower pressures. While you don't want to allow your tire pressure to dip below the recommended range (this could create a pinch flat that will lead to a flat tire), higher pressures bring an intimate meeting with every road bump.

By using these tips, you can easily navigate the uneven roads in our community. Practice these strategies the next time you are riding around town – the more cyclists in town, the safer the streets are for riders!

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

**RECYCLING CENTER 2023 HOLIDAY HOURS:**  
**New Year**  
 Closed  
 Sat., Dec. 31st & Mon., Jan. 2nd  
**MLK Day**  
 Sat., Jan. 14th & Mon., Jan. 16th

Questions, comments, or concerns are welcome via email:  
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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 2022, and we are here in 2023.

Did you survive in 2022 or did you thrive in 2022? I imagine before you can make plans or dream of what 2023 will hold, you must ask yourself what to do differently, or the same, as you did in 2022. 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 that. 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. A plan is just a place in which to deviate. For some, this thought will bring anxiety. To those wearing the uniform, it brings comfort. When you have to start over, it won't be with nothing. This time around, you will have experience on your side.

We didn't expect or plan for many things in 2022, but we got through it. As you prepare for 2023, 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.

**FREE English class at Parnell Library,  
every Thursday at 6pm**



## Catch us at Home!



OPPONENT	SPORT	DATE	TIME
Valdosta State	Women's Basketball	Jan. 2	2 p.m.
Valdosta State	Men's Basketball	Jan. 2	4 p.m.
Delta State	Women and Men Swim	Jan. 4	12 p.m.
Ouachita Baptist	Women and Men Swim	Jan. 5	5 p.m.
Ouachita Baptist	Women and Men Swim	Jan. 6	10 a.m.
AUM	Women's Basketball	Jan. 7	2 p.m.
AUM	Men's Basketball	Jan. 7	4 p.m.
West Georgia	Women's Basketball	Jan. 14	2 p.m.
West Georgia	Men's Basketball	Jan. 14	4 p.m.
Lee	Women's Basketball	Jan. 21	2 p.m.
Lee	Men's Basketball	Jan. 21	4 p.m.
Life (Exh.)	Women's Lacrosse	Jan. 28	1 p.m.



## UM FISHING TEAM WINS ANOTHER BACK-TO-BACK SCHOOL OF THE YEAR TITLE

*Contributed by Shelby County Reporter*

For the second year back-to-back, the University of Montevallo fishing team was named the Major League Fishing (MLF) National School of the Year.

UM Head Fishing Coach William Crawford said the fishing team, which is part of the UM President's Outdoor Scholars Program, beat out 176 schools to win the coveted honor.

"We're the only school in MLF college history to win it back-to-back years," he said.

The achievement is even more significant considering that the fishing team was named School of the Year for the second consecutive time in May after scoring more points than 200 other collegiate fishing teams in the Bass Pro Shops 2022 BoatUS Collegiate Bass Fishing Championship tournament.

Of the three different fishing circuits the team competes in—MFL, Bassmaster and Collegiate Bass—Montevallo is the back-to-back National School of the Year in two of them.

"Any time you can win a championship it's always a great accomplishment," Crawford said. "We got a great group of guys and a very talented roster. I'm very happy that their hard work has paid off."

The team earned the title by scoring a total of 2,312 points for the season, which consisted of four tournaments—three regional events and one open. UM edged out the second-highest-scoring team, McKendree University, by four points.

The award for earning the title was a check for \$10,000 provided by QuickTrip, which sponsored the MLF fishing tournament.

Crawford said the money will be used to cover expenses for next year's season.



The University of Montevallo fishing team was named the Major League Fishing National School of the Year for the second year in a row. They are the only school in MLF college history to win the title back-to-back. (Contributed)

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**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, 6:0 p.m., City Hall

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

**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

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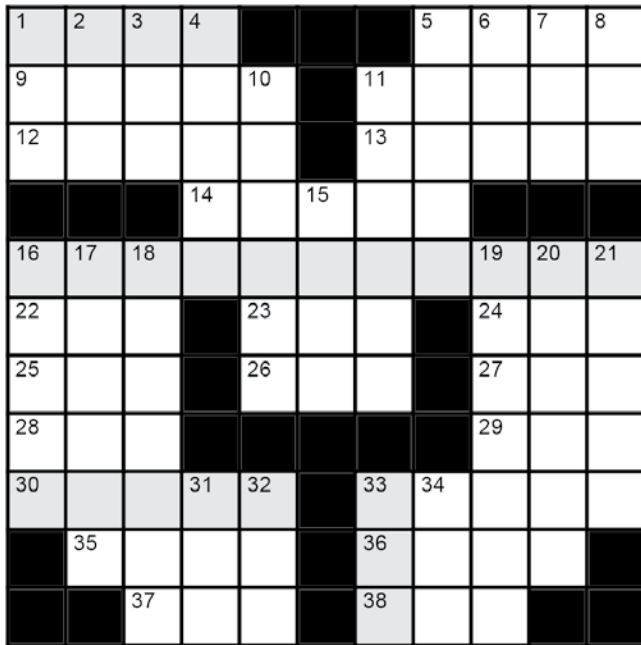
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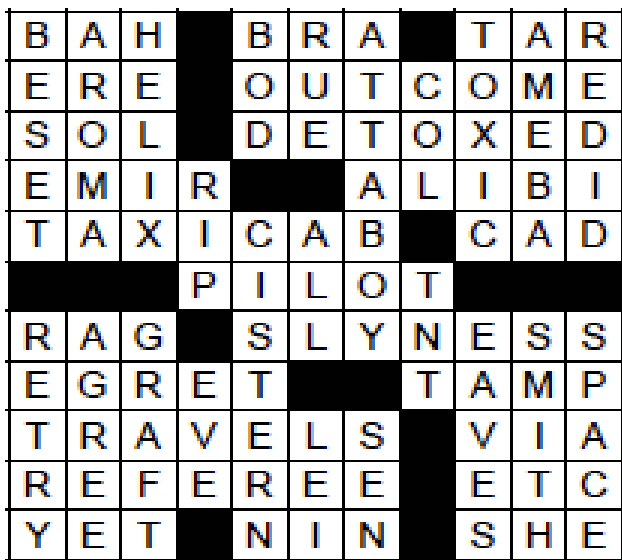
# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

## He Had A Dream...



Created by Stefan Forrester

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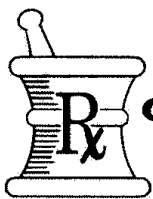


#### Across

1. Famous work by 33-Down "Letter from Birmingham\_\_\_"
5. Shed item
9. Right hands
11. De-ices?
12. Type of single in baseball
13. Miffed
14. 31-Down x 10
16. Philosophy embraced by 33-Down
22. Pub order
23. Birmingham to Atlanta dir.
24. Website locator
25. Driver's licenses, e.g.
26. What someone who is 31-Down sees
27. #26 of 26
28. Illuminated
29. Zig's partner
30. The 1965 march to Montgomery led by 33-Down started here
33. Word before way or quartz
35. Cook a steak
36. Prevaricates
37. Banned insecticide
38. Goat's offspring

#### Down

1. The "one" in a one-two
2. Feel not-so-hot
3. Promising words
4. 9th century Pope
5. See 34-Down
6. Acorn parent
7. See red?
8. Trip planner?
10. More active (said of an older person)
11. Named
15. Top of the line
16. Hits the mark precisely
17. These are often 'golden' as well
18. Snuggled in
19. Eskimo-kissed, e.g.
20. Oil can targets
21. Funerary ode
31. Upset
32. What you don't know when you know what you like?
33. January Honoree
34. Sundial reading for 5-Down



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