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APRIL 20 ORR PARK

"The Voice for Business & Community"

ESTABLISHED 1949

April 2024 | Vol. 23, No. 4

Chamber News

Celebrating 5th Business Anniversary



THE DIVE BAR, 721 Middle Street, 205-476-8222

MONTEVALLO CHAMBER LUNCHEON WED. APRIL 17 **Get Ready... "Main Street America is Coming to Alabama"**

Guest Speaker - Mary Helmer Wirth, Main Street Alabama President & State Coordinator
Montevallo First Baptist Fellowship Hall with networking at
11:30am and lunch at noon \$15. ea

RSVP by Friday, April 12 to 205-665-1519 or montevallochamber@gmail.com

Luncheon Sponsors - Calera Main Street, Main Street Columbiana, and Montevallo Main Street



MONTEVALLO CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT THURSDAY APRIL 18, 2024



Registration and Lunch 11am Shotgun 12:30pm

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SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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APRIL

1st MONDAY
APRIL FOOL'S DAY

MONTEVALLO METHODIST PRESCHOOL
Registration begins / info call 205-665-1256 or email
mmpreschool@yahoo.com

2nd TUESDAY
IMPACT MONTEVALLO COALITION VIRTUAL MEETING /
9:00am / email- impactmontevallo@gmail.com

4th THURSDAY
WASHINGTON UPDATE LUNCHEON
Speaker - Congressman Gary Palmer / 11:30am - 1pm /
Lunch at 11:30am- \$35.each / RSVP by March 30
205-665-1519 or montevallochamber@gmail.com

6th SATURDAY
BRIERFIELD MARKET DAYS
9am - 3pm / Brierfield Ironworks State Park

13th SATURDAY
5K RUN & COOKOFF
10:30am - 1:30pm / \$5.00 ea. / McChesney Student
Activity Center, 61 College Dr.
For ticket and event info to go montevallo.edu/dash-and-dine benefits
Montevallo Boys & Girls Club and ARC of
Shelby County

LIONS SIGHT MOBILE EYE CLINIC
9am - 1pm / SEA parking lot

16th TUESDAY
MONTEVALLO ONION SALE
Order deadline April 16th / call 205-665-1519 or email
montevallochamber@gmail.com

17th WEDNESDAY
MONTEVALLO CHAMBER LUNCHEON
"Main Street America is coming to Alabama"
Guest Speaker - Mary Helmer Wirth, Main Street Alabama
President & State Coordinator
Montevallo First Baptist Fellowship Hall with networking at
11:30am and lunch at noon \$15. ea. RSVP by Friday April
12th to 205-665-1519 or montevallochamber@gmail.com

18th THURSDAY
MONTEVALLO CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT
Cahaba Falls Country Club, call 205-665-1519 for
sponsorship or registration

EARTH FEST
3-6pm / UM Main Quad / live music, food trucks,
environmental organizations from all over the state and
Earth-friendly craft activities / open to the community / info
or questions email scaplow@montevallo.edu

20th SATURDAY
MONTEVALLO ARTS FEST
10am - 5pm / Orr Park

22nd MONDAY
EARTH DAY

25th THURSDAY
COMMUNITY FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION
8:30am / Boys & Girls Club parking lot, 420 Vine St.

26th FRIDAY
FRIDAY NIGHTS AT THE COVE
Owl's Cove Park / 6:30pm

27th SATURDAY
3rd ANNUAL SPRING FLING FAMILY FOOD TRUCK FEST
noon - 6pm / Free Family Activities, music & more / Pecan
Grove, Island St., Montevallo

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Partner contact Chamber Director Adele Nelson (205) 665-1519



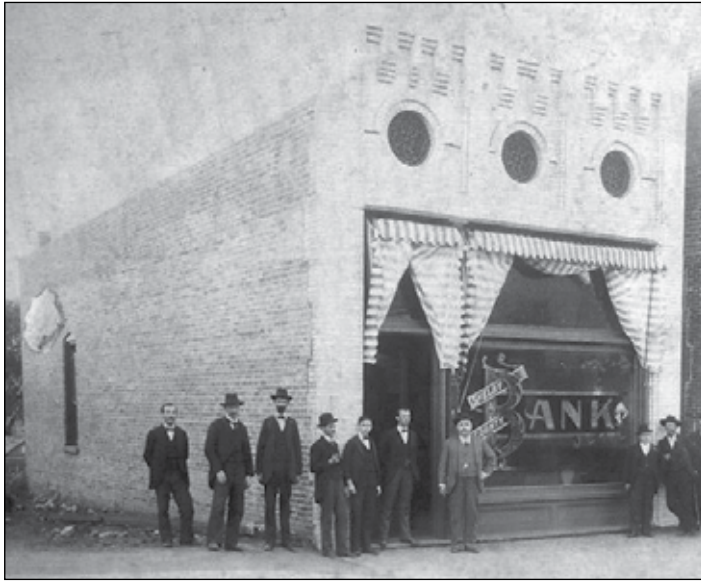
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MONTEVALLO
Main Street
Memories

Merchants & Planters Bank

by Clay Nordan
 Montevallo Historical Society



THE SHELBY COUNTY BANK ON MAIN STREET – CIRCA 1896

In 2018, the old Merchants & Planters Bank building became Montevallo’s source for a different kind of “dough” when La Conchita Bakery and Pastry moved in, giving the town its first bakery since the old Montevallo Cafe and Bakery was a going concern on Middle Street in the 1940’s. Before the arrival of the bakery on Main Street, the bank building had been most recently occupied by Bob Butterworth’s State Farm Insurance agency. Prior to Butterworth’s tenure in the space, the building was owned by the Weston/Mixon partnership and Bill Weston ran the State Farm agency that Butterworth later took over.

There has been a bank in this space going back to before 1900. The Shelby County Bank, which is pictured here, was advertising in the Montevallo News in 1896. Its successor in the building, the Merchants and Planters Bank

had an ad in the 1907 Alabama Girls Industrial School yearbook, the “Chiaroscuro”. In the mid-20th century, Merchants and Planters was operated by J. P. Kelly. His wife served as cashier and their bank was the community’s primary banking resource for many years. Their sons, Agee and Pat Kelly followed them as president and vice-president, respectively, and ran the bank for a number of years themselves. During their tenure at M&P the bank moved two blocks east when a new building was completed in the 1960’s. That building is the location for Trustmark Bank today.

It is not known by this writer when the elegant brick and stone facade of the M&P building was added to the building, but a perceptive and informed observer could easily conclude that the architectural features that are still very

evident and well maintained were probably inspired by the architectural boom going on a few blocks away on the Alabama College campus. Beginning in 1915, buildings such as Bloch Hall, Wills Hall, Ramsey Hall, Anna Irvin Dining Hall and Calkins Hall were constructed in rapid succession. The noted Birmingham architectural firm, Warren, Knight, and Davis produced the designs for these buildings, all with handsome Palladian windows showcasing a consistent style. The windows, stone, and brick used on Merchants and Planters are direct



echoes of the look being established on campus, so it would not be surprising to learn that Warren, Knight, and Davis were involved or their work at least served as an inspiration for this building on Main Street.

Significantly, architects employed by the City of Montevallo have continued the use of the Palladian style of window in the design of both the Parnell Library and the new City Hall building. As such, it has become something of a graphic icon for the community.

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

SAFETY-SPOT

"COOKING SAFETY"

Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.

Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food.

Use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

Keep anything that can catch on fire away from the stovetop.

If you have any doubt in fighting a small fire...
JUST GET OUT!

When you leave close the door behind you to help contain the fire.



**Call 9-1-1
from outside
the home.**



CELEBRATING MONTEVALLO CHAMBER TURNING 75



During the year of 1949 when the Montevallo Chamber of Commerce was established, the University of Alabama "Million Dollar Band" performed at Palmer Hall to raise funds to go towards new Montevallo High School band uniforms. Montevallo Rotary "Rotary Crafts" will be located in the former Montevallo Lumber Company office on Main St. The crafts will be hand-made things such as crochet work, embroidery patch quilts, carvings, novelties, aprons, metal trays, what-nots, baby clothes, doll dresses, pottery, walking sticks, lamps, lamp shades, towel racks, salad bowls, mail boxes, knitted articles, hook rugs, ect. Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company introduced the extension so a telephone can be located in any room of your home, Wooten Motor Company has over 139 truck models available from half-tonners to 21,500 Pounders (GVW), they are all bonus built. Chism Clothing Store is now offering a Mother's Day Special since Alabama just, this month, proclaimed to join the nation in observing Mother's Day every May. Gov. James E. Folsom has issued a proclamation that Alabamians renew their driver's license every year rather than every other year.

Funeral Announcements - Mrs. Sarah Francis Collier Kroell funeral was held at Montevallo Methodist Church. A Double Funeral at Montevallo Baptist Church was held for Mr. and Mrs. William A. Harvey, who were married 62 years and died within days of each other.

Insert *This in Rural Alabama* is providing information about farms, dairies, turkeys, planting charts, sheep, timber, hogs, grazing, pests, poultry, and fishing.

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

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AMERICAN VILLAGE IN MONTEVALLO ONE OF ONLY 7 PLACES IN AMERICA CHOSEN AS A SITE FOR AMERICA'S FIELD TRIP

America250, the official entity charged by Congress with planning the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding, has launched "America's Field Trip," — a nationwide scholastic contest with awardees receiving once-in-a-lifetime, behind-the-scenes access to iconic American historical and cultural sites. America's Field Trip invites elementary, middle, and high school students to submit artwork, and essays reflecting on what America means to them.

75 winners and their chaperone will be provided free travel, lodging, and access to exclusive, once-in-a-lifetime field trip experiences at select historical and cultural sites across the country.

- Costumed role-playing experience at American Village in Alabama
- Private tour of the crown of the Statue of Liberty
- Behind-the-scenes tour and hike at Yellowstone National Park
- Weekend with National Park Rangers at Rocky Mountain National Park
- Behind-the-scenes tours at the National Archives, National Museum of American History, the Library of Congress, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, or the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC
- Special tour of the USS Constitution Museum in Boston & sunset boat cruise
- Candlelight tour at Fort Point at the base of the Golden Gate Bridge

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"America's Field Trip is one of the most ambitious education engagement campaigns ever attempted because it's more than a contest — it's an extraordinary opportunity to bring students across the country together in celebrating and commemorating our nation's 250th anniversary by exploring our past and allowing them to express their dreams for the future," said America250 Chair, Rosie Rios.

"Alabama is excited to participate in America's Field Trip with America250, offering students a unique educational journey to explore America's founding," said Alan Miller, President and CEO of American Village. "Through this initiative, America's founding history will be on display, providing young learners with invaluable insights into moments that brought forth a new nation."

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN AMERICA'S FIELD TRIP

Students must submit individually and must work with either teachers or parents to submit entries on their behalf. Submissions across all age groups would respond to the question, "What does America mean to you?" Students and teachers can find more information, including resources, contest rules, release forms, and toolkit materials to integrate the competition into classroom activities at america250.org/FieldTrip.

The contest has different submission requirements and is available to any student in elementary school (third to fifth grade), middle school (sixth to eighth grade), and high school (ninth to twelfth grade) who aligns with age-appropriate skills. The contest will remain open until May 17, 2024. Award recipients will be announced in June 2024, and field trips will start in mid-July.

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GAMMA PHI DELTA SORORITY, INC

Alpha Pi Chapter Montevallo, celebrated Luthermae E. Adams Day (GPD - organizer of youth auxiliaries) by donating selected books to Grades 4 thru 8 at Montevallo Elementary School and Montevallo Middle School. With this project, our goal is to assist in challenging students to increase their reading time. In honor of Black History all donated books were written by Black Authors. Also on February 1, 2024 the Chapter celebrated "Go Red" for National Heart Month.

EARTH FEST TO BE HELD AT UNIVERSITY OF MONTEVALLO ON APRIL 18

The Environmental Club and Environment & Sustainability at the University of Montevallo will host their annual Earth Fest on Thursday, April 18, from 3 to 6 p.m. on Main Quad on UM's campus. We will have live music, food trucks, representatives from environmental organizations from all over the state and Earth-friendly craft activities. This event is open to the entire community and is a great opportunity to celebrate your love for nature!



UNIVERSITY OF MONTEVALLO
SUSTAINABILITY
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Earth Fest will be part of an entire week of Earth celebrations, including an Eco-Swap (April 15, 4 to 6p.m.), a University Lake Clean-Up (April 16, 4 to 6 p.m.) and a UM Organic Community Garden work day (April 19, 3 to 5 p.m.), so make sure to follow UM Environmental Club or Sustainability on social media so you can see the full schedule once it's published. Questions? Contact Susan Caplow at scaplow@montevallo.edu.



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Untold Stories

OF BLACK MONTEVALLO



Vol 3, No. 4

The Ghosts of King House III: Uncle Frank, Edmund King, and a "signifyin'" peach tree

Ed. note: This is the last in a three-part series about ghost stories told by formerly enslaved African Americans to a pair of college students in 1913. The young women went out into Montevallo's Black community seeking tales about "hants, ghostes, en sperrits." The interviews, printed in a college publication two decades before the FWP's Slave Narrative project, 1936-1938, preserved stories handed down by word of mouth from members of the first-freed generation and their descendants. They offer a rare opportunity to hear the distinctive voices of individuals too easily lumped together as "elderly negroes" or "ex-slaves." Quoted material retains the original dialectic spellings and contains language some may consider offensive today.

We saved "Uncle Frank" for last. Uncle Frank had been enslaved by Edmund King and, after Edmund died in 1863, was claimed as property by his youngest son Frank. ("I guess yer knows I usen' ter 'blong ter Massa Frank King.") Uncle Frank worked in King House and had first-hand experience of the mysterious sights and sounds that haunted its precincts. His ghost stories provide an insider's view of life and work within "thet ole house."

Frank does not doubt the existence of ghosts. He was born to see them: "I knows I'se bawn to see 'em casin I been seein' 'em er good many years." He is certain that the source of mysterious goings on at King House is none other than the hant of "old Marse King." Edmund King has "been hanging' roun' ever sence he fell out of thet peach tree en diseased to lib."

We will return to that fall from a peach tree.

Why is "Ole Marse" still hanging around as late as 1913? "He is scart somebody'll git the money he's got hid 'roun' thet old house." Fifty years after his death Edmund's spirit is still troubled by the dread of losing the ill-gained wealth he amassed while alive.

Let us pause to relish the irony here. Uncle Frank himself is part of the wealth gained and then lost by the King family when Emancipation wiped out half the White financial assets in the South.

Obsession with lost wealth is conspicuous in Uncle Frank's recollection of a spectral man counting money in a second-floor bedroom. (The detail of an old gentleman spied through an upstairs window counting money is often retold today, seldom with appreciation of its coded implications.) Frank recalls hearing a noise from above, a "clink-clink-clink-ity-clink" sounding to his ears very like the counting of metal coins. He investigates, lamp in hand, but sees no one. The clink-ity-clink continues. The scoffing mistress brushes his impressions aside. She is sure the sound is nothing but the banging of the shutters. Frank knows better: "I guess I knows ther diffunce 'twixt bangin' shutters en clinkin' dollars, ef I ain't nothin but an old black nigger."

Uncle Frank knew something about the sound of money. In 1863, he along with his wife and some of their children, was sold to Frank King for \$3570. That's \$87,385 in today's dollars.



King House about 1908. "The story goes that one day while attending to one of his trees, Mr. King climbed to a decayed limb, and the fall caused his death." – Lilla Elliott, "The Infirmary," *Technala* 1913. Photo courtesy of UM Archives.

Greed, acquisitiveness, obsession with lost wealth: these are recurring themes of stories told about former masters. They may seem to be entertaining tales of the supernatural -- who doesn't enjoy a good ghost story? -- but for those who can hear, they deliver a coded judgment on the moral and human failings of the South's enslaving social order. They conjure a greed so deadly that it persists beyond the grave, heard in the clink of coins from dark parts of the plantation's "big house."

The sense of injustice encoded in these stories get a more comical treatment in stories of stumbling, tripping, and falling masters -- white men who fall off their horses, for example. Or in the case of King, fall out of one of their own peach trees.

The family account has him in declining health for years before his death, dying of digestive failure in 1863. But the men and women who had been held in bondage by King -- people once described in mainstream accounts as old or faithful "servants" -- had a different story to tell. "Old Marse King," they said, fell out of a tree.

Did he fall? Perhaps not. But the story is true in a "signifyin'" sense. If we listen with ears attuned to African American griefs and hardships, to the songs of people in bondage longing to be free, we may hear something deeper.

We may hear wish-fulfilment in the fantasy of a master's comeuppance in his own orchard. We may hear intimations of an appetite for wealth so overpowering that it fueled terrible treatment of people with dark skins. We may even find justice in the thought that the master tumbled to his death from a tree tended by slave labor.

The ghost stories of Uncle Ben, Aunt Julia, and Uncle Frank are legacies to be cherished. They teach us the "signifyin'" power of storytelling when freed people of African descent get control of the narrative. We honor them now, these men and women who used bits and pieces of ghost tales to express their own inner experience, in stories told their own way.

Sources: Uncle Frank is quoted from "Hant' Philosophy" by Orrie Stitt and Evelyn Beasley in Technala (1913, 142-45), available online in UM's Milner Archives Digital Collection. Submitted by Kathy King and Anita Stewart Sims on behalf of the Montevallo Legacy Project. We have benefited from Paul Mahaffey's wide knowledge of African American storytelling traditions. Visit MLP at the montevallolegacyproject.com and, if you want to learn more, sign up for our newsletter. Photo courtesy of UM Archives.

Volume 2 of Untold Stories of Black Montevallo, beautifully printed, is available at the circulation desk at UM's Carmichael Library and at Montevallo's Parnell Library. Suggested donation of \$5.



(l-r seated) Linda Simmons & Tina Simmons (l-r standing) Maggie Hall, Adele Nelson, Joe Williams, Kaitlin Simmons, Brittanni Parten, & BJ Posey

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB YOUTH OF THE YEAR BANQUET

Youth of the Year is the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Alabama premier youth leadership program, honoring extraordinary young people and their achievements in leadership, service, academic excellence, and dedication to living a healthy lifestyle. The Youth of the Year title is the most prestigious honor bestowed upon a young person, representing the voice of Boys & Girls Club youth across Central Alabama. Youth of the Year participants are also awarded scholarships to help them further their education Kaitlin Simmons was the 2024 Montevallo Clubhouse Finalist.



**Montevallo Police Department
NOTICE: Lost & Found Property**

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

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

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

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

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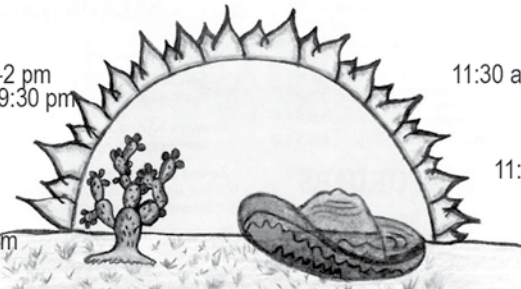
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CITY OF MONTEVALLO NEWS

Mayor's Message...



Hello Citizens of Montevallo!

Hello Citizens of Montevallo! I hope everyone is well and ready for better weather and a season full of local events. Spring is finally here and it is time to get flower beds and gardens ready for plantings. A nice-looking flower garden is one way to beautify your home or yard. Also, by planting flowers, pollen for butterflies, honey bees, and hummingbirds is provided and having an abundance of pollinators is crucial to our environment.

RUSTY NIX, MAYOR

Speaking of bees, I would like to give a shout out to my Montevallo High School Agricultural Science teacher, Mr. Tony Berry, for developing the interest of over half the Ag classes at MHS, including myself, in raising bees. So, if you see a swarm of bees, please don't spray them with poison but, instead, contact a local beekeeper to come catch and relocate them.

I would like to encourage everyone to take advantage of the Big Event that will take place on April 6, 2024. The Big Event is a service project hosted by the University of Montevallo SGA that allows students the opportunity to donate 3-4 hours to community service. Athletic teams, fraternities, sororities, and other student organizations will come to your home or place of business to perform yard work, painting, pick-up trash or just about any activity to spruce up our community. Please take advantage of this opportunity. Work forms can be picked up on the 2nd floor of Farmer Hall on the UM Campus.

I had the pleasure of speaking with the 7th grade civics classes at Montevallo Middle school a few weeks ago to discuss my role as mayor and what the council member roles are in relation to the operations of the city. We discussed ordinances, resolutions and the importance of the council working together on issues. We also discussed projects that the current administration has in the works. The students were eager to learn, and were well behaved in the classroom and during the changing of classes. The faculty/staff were also very courteous and kind. Thanks to Mr. Wesley Howard for letting me speak to his classes.

Don't forget that March 30th is free dump day! Montevallo residents can take items directly to the Shelby County Landfill OR drop off at the city recycling center. Hours of operation for the recycling center to drop off is 7:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. On that same day the city will host our annual Easter Egg Hunt at Orr Park. The event will start at 10:00 a.m. with the egg hunt at 11a.m. Come out and enjoy!

April 20th, 2024 will bring the Annual Montevallo Arts Fest back to Orr Park. This event alone will draw approximately 6,000 visitors to our town. Last year's event was the largest Arts Fest attendance on record. There were 160 artists along with about 8 food trucks. I look for this year to be even bigger and better!

The Montevallo Chamber of Commerce will host their annual Golf tournament on April 18th at Cahaba Falls Country Club. Please come out and support the Mary Lou Williams Memorial Scholarship Fund with a round of golf.

April 26th, 2024 will kick off Friday Nights at the Cove with music at Owl's Cove Park and will run throughout the summer. Plan to bring your lawn chair or a blanket and come out for some great family friendly entertainment. Please plan to eat at one of our local restaurants or bring your dinner with you. I hope to see you there!

Spring is a busy time of year in Montevallo with baseball/softball tournaments commencing at city ballparks. Tournaments attract visitors to the city which grows revenue. In addition, high school baseball/softball and University baseball/softball will be in full swing (no pun intended). Come out and catch a game and enjoy a day of Spring weather!

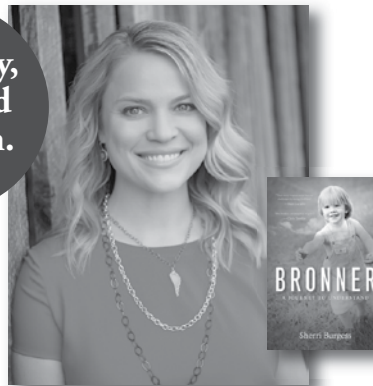
I would like to recognize and send congratulations to UM wrestler Gabe Hixenbaugh on winning the NCAA Division II National Championship title in the 133-pound division. Go Falcons!!

Local business owners have made an investment in our city so please remember to shop Montevallo first! Sales tax dollars depend on you. As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your mayor.

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Thursday, May 2nd 8:00 a.m.



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

Tickets are \$30 per person. To make a reservation, please email patriotgiftshop@americanvillage.org or call (205) 665-3535 x 1031

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UM HOLDS RIBBON CUTTING FOR HOME OF NEW NURSING PROGRAM

Shelby County Reporter

The University of Montevallo has expanded its educational offerings even further, now in a new direction with its proposed nursing program which will be housed in Myrick Hall. The University of Montevallo held a ribbon cutting ceremony for its new nursing facilities on campus at Myrick Hall on Friday, Feb. 16. Guests gathered around the front steps of the health sciences building, which has recently undergone renovations to house the proposed nursing program.

"We're super grateful for all the support that nursing at UM has received," UM President Dr. John W. Stewart III said. The new program will further expand the university's list of degree options and, according to Stewart, the program will have a distinctively different perspective at UM. "When a graduate at Montevallo finishes with a degree in nursing, they're going to know the depth of human suffering from reading (Fyodor) Dostoevsky (and) they're going to know the history of healthcare," he said. "They're going to know the political science of it and they're going to get a fantastic background in the sciences that we've had for a long time."

Holly Dean, CEO of Shelby Baptist Medical Center attended the ribbon cutting and shared her thoughts on the importance of the program and its connection with the services at the hospital. "For us at Shelby Baptist, this is a really exciting day," she said. "We're bringing a new nursing program into the backyard of not only Shelby County, but the surrounding communities." Dean also spoke on how the proposed program would directly benefit the nursing workforce in Shelby County and elsewhere. "We are always struggling with nursing shortages and it's not just Shelby, it's every organization, it's really challenging," she said. "And so, having a program like this is going to help educate and really escalate the workforce and healthcare (industry). We want to be proud supporters of this program." Dean spoke positively of the amenities and technological offerings in the new facilities for the nursing program at Myrick Hall. "They've got beautiful simulation labs here set up," she said. "It's really going to make it feel just like you're in a hospital. And so, we're going to have great students come out of this program and we're excited at Shelby to be a potential clinical site for these students and to help them in their educational journey."

The ribbon cutting also served as an introduction for Dr. Crystal Bennett, who will serve as the inaugural dean of the nursing program. Bennett joins UM from the University of West Florida, where she has served as the director of the School of Nursing since July 2021 and as an assistant professor of clinical practice since May 2020. Bennett shared that her son is currently a Montevallo student, and that she was impressed by the University when he first came for a visit. She expressed her desire to come to a place that is "uniquely small," a trait that she says the university should be proud of. "Nursing is absolutely rooted in the arts," Bennett said. "We are part of a caring science profession. You can have all the skills in the world, but you have to care. You have to truly have a heart to give to others and meet them where they are, at the beginning of life and



at the end of life. It's truly an honor to be in a profession where we can experience both."

Dr. Courtney Bentley, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, shared that she was happy to hand over the reins of the new nursing program to Bennett. "She was an integral part of our phase two submission to the board of nursing, which we have submitted and we will await their response," Bentley said. Bentley also recognized Dr. Constance Smith Hendricks for her contributions to the proposed nursing program. Hendricks, known internationally as an exemplary nurse, scholar and leader, has helped develop numerous quality nursing programs at universities across the southeast. "Without her support, we would not be where we are today," Bentley said. Former Montgomery mayor and UM Board of Trustees Chair Todd Strange spoke during the ribbon cutting and spoke on the bridge between the nursing program and liberal arts. "We are known as a liberal arts university and nursing is nothing more than liberal arts—taking care of the entire person," he said. "This is but the beginning of something that will end up in the total allied health curriculum because our job is to educate those individuals that can get a job in the future."

Following the ribbon cutting, guests were allowed to tour the facilities and enjoy a reception. Myrick Hall now features a variety of amenities for students and staff to utilize for the program, including the Simulation and Skills Lab, two patient simulation rooms, two observation rooms, two classrooms and a nurses' station which were completed as part of renovations in the building in August 2023. Additional renovations are planned to be completed by July 2024. UM is finalizing the Step II application to the Alabama Board of Nursing. If approved by the board at the May meeting, UM will launch its nursing program in August 2024. Once final approval is received, specific details regarding nursing program admission requirements will be made available.



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CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF DR. ED ROBERTSON

Montevallo Community Chorale will be celebrating the life and music of Dr. Ed Robertson at their Spring Concert on Tuesday, April 30. Dr. Robertson, a board member of the Chorale, spent many years teaching in the Music Department at the University of Montevallo.



The concert will be at 7:30pm in the LaBaron Recital Hall, located in the Davis Hall at the University of Montevallo. The community is welcomed to attend.




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THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

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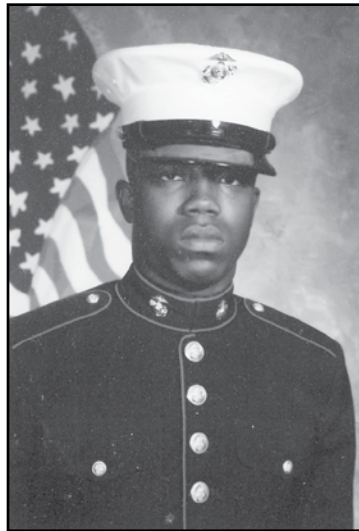
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MONTEVALLO PAYS FINAL RESPECTS TO DERRICK A. LILLY

Residents along Montevallo's Main Street took part in a display of condolences, respect and honor as they bid farewell to one of their own, Derrick A. Lilly, on the afternoon of Wednesday, Feb. 28. Lilly, who had long been a member of the community, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 20.

At the request of Lilly's fellow postal workers at the Montevallo Post Office and with advanced notice delivered on social media by the city of Montevallo and the Montevallo Chamber of Commerce, city residents stood along Main Street to pay their respects as Lilly's funeral procession travelled through town. Some saluted and stood at attention while others placed hands over their hearts as they watched the procession depart from the Good Shepherd Funeral Home and travel through Montevallo en route to the Alabama National Cemetery, where he was buried with military honors.

Lilly, who was born at Shelby Memorial in Alabaster in 1975, joined the United States Marine Corps straight after graduation from the Bibb County School system and served in the fifth Battalion of the 10th Marine Sierra Battery 5/10. During those years, Lilly operated as a field artillery cannoner and was also designated as a rifleman sharp shooter. "In 1996, he was honorably discharged as a lance corporal with a National Defense Service Medal, a good conduct medal, a Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and a letter of appreciation," read Lilly's obituary. Following his military service, Lilly would pursue a career with the United States Postal Service, where he began work as a sales service distribution associate at Montevallo's



DERRICK A. LILLY

post office on Oct. 20, 2001. Over the next 22 years, Lilly became a familiar face in the community who was liked and respected among his coworkers, friends and those frequenting the post office.

Lilly, who was 48 years old, will see his legacy furthered through his wife of nearly 30 years, five sons, two daughters, one granddaughter and a large extended family. He will also be remembered in kind by a long list of Marine Corps brothers and friends who have expressed their

gratitude for the display of support from the community.

On Monday March 11 at the Montevallo City Council meeting, Mayor Rusty Nix and council presented the Lilly family with a proclamation honoring Derrick for his contribution to Montevallo and our country while proclaiming, recognizing and celebrating his service.

Lilly will also have a banner displayed within the Montevallo Veterans Banner Program in May.

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AMERICAN VILLAGE ACQUIRES KARL C. HARRISON MUSEUM OF GEORGE WASHINGTON
Karl C. Harrison Museum of George Washington in Columbiana to be relocated to American Village East Wing of Independence Hall in Montevallo

Founded in 1982 by Karl C. Harrison, a Columbiana banker and philanthropist, the Karl C. Harrison Museum of George Washington provided an important forum for learning about America's first First Family. Through the foresighted efforts and encouragement of Martha Washington's granddaughter, Eliza Parke Custis, family heirlooms have been lovingly passed down through generations. In the early 1980s, Shelby County resident Charlotte Smith-Weaver, a sixth generation granddaughter of Martha Washington, decided to share her legacy with the public, providing the basis of the museum.

The Karl C. Harrison Museum of George Washington collection focuses on art and artifacts from the colonial period through 1865. The collection contains paintings, letters, furniture, porcelain, glassware, silver, jewelry, busts and more. Martha Washington's prayer book printed in New York in 1783, an original 1787 Samuel Vaughn sketch of Mt. Vernon grounds, writing instruments and tools from George Washington's survey case, and an original tintype depicting Robert E. Lee in his uniform for the last time are just a few collection highlights.

The beauty and craftsmanship of 18th and 19th century furniture is evidenced by a number of carefully preserved pieces from the estates of the Washington family and their descendants. Coin-silver utensils used at Mount Vernon, a 207-piece set of Minton porcelain and an exquisite pair of Sevres vases, circa 1785, from the estate of Augustine Washington, half-brother of George, highlight the display. One highly regarded piece is a walnut games table with tulip and rosewood inlay (circa 1805). The beautiful table belonged to Bushrod Washington, a direct descendant, who inherited Mount Vernon upon Martha's death. The oldest item in the Museum is the handwritten will of Colonel Daniel Parke, dated 1710. His grandson, Daniel Parke Custis, married Martha Dandridge. After his death Martha married George Washington.

"We are very excited to have this amazing collection coming to American Village. The addition of the Karl C. Harrison Museum of George Washington to the American Village campus will expand our opportunities to allow students and citizens to engage in the study and appreciation of America's founding history."

Col. Alan B. Miller, President and CEO, American Village

"The Karl C. Harrison Museum is an extraordinary collection of George Washington memorabilia. Shelby County has been honored to be home of this collection since its inception and thanks to the Harrison family it will remain in Shelby County in a new home at the American Village. We all anticipate a bright future for the museum as it serves an even greater audience."

Tom Walker, American Village Founder and President Emeritus

"I am extremely pleased to have this collection of Washington family heirlooms, which my family has lovingly passed from one generation to the next, find a new home at American



Village. Our family's wish was that the collection stay here in Shelby County, and we cannot think of a better steward of these items than American Village."

Helen Harrison Phillips, Daughter of Karl C. Harrison

The Karl C. Harrison Museum of George Washington collection is estimated to be the largest collection of George and Martha Washington artifacts and memorabilia outside of their famous home site, Historic Mount Vernon. It will be housed in the East Wing of Independence Hall, soon to be under construction at American Village. The West Wing of Independence Hall at American Village opened in 2022, and the central portion of is slated to open in 2025. The East Wing, the third and final phase of the Independence Hall project, will be completed by July 4, 2026 – America's 250th Birthday.

American Village celebrates its own 25th anniversary this year, and is currently planning activities and events to mark the anniversary.



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8 Homeschool Hub 10:30 Topic: Gardening	9 Mini Music 10:00 Pokemon Club 3:30 Sweetie's Eat! Spring Flower Cookies *take home craft while supplies last	10 Storytime 9:15 Young Writers Workshop 3:30-4:30 kids and teens welcome National Encourage a Young Writer Day	11	12 Tiny Tumbling 10:30-11:00 Flower Pot Craft *take home craft while supplies last	13
15 Homeschool Hub 10:30 Topic: Gardening Girl's Book Club *3rd, 4th, 5th grades 3:30-4:30 Boy's Club *boys of all ages 3:30-4:30	16 Mini Music 10:00 Pokemon Club 3:30 Dinosaur Craft *take home craft while supplies last	17 Storytime 9:15 Medicare 101 3:30	18 Montevallo Poetry Slam & Open Mic Night *18 and over, FREE, Parnell Theatre 5:00-8:00	19 Tiny Tumbling 10:30-11:00	20
22 Homeschool Hub 10:30 Topic: Gardening Kids movie 2:00 Kid's Seed Starter Kit *take home craft while supplies last	23 Mini Music 10:00 Pokemon Club 3:30 Summer Garden Prep with Master Gardener Kate Vogel 6:00 PM	24 Storytime 9:15	25 Arbor Day Craft *take home craft while supplies last Script Readers Group *highschoolers-adults 6:30-8:00	26 Tiny Tumbling 10:30-11:00 Mini Movie 11:15 *Annie Dore Corp	27
29 Homeschool Hub 10:30 Topic: Gardening Girl's Book Club *3rd, 4th, 5th grades 3:30-4:30 Boy's Club *boys of all ages 3:30-4:30	30 Mini Music 10:00 Pokemon Club 3:30	Spring			

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PLEASE CONTACT INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR UPDATES.
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EVERY 2ND & 4TH MONDAY

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

EVERY 2ND MONDAY

MDCD Montevallo Development Cooperative District
1 p.m., Meets at City Hall

EVERY 2ND TUESDAY

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

EVERY TUESDAY

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

EVERY TUESDAY

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY

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

EVERY THURSDAY

Rotary Meeting, noon, Elder Justice Center, 4804 Hwy 25,
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
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IMPROVING COMMUNITY BIKEABILITY: SURFACES

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

Consider the surface of your last bike ride – did you encounter any problems? Issues can include potholes, cracked or broken pavement, debris (e.g. broken glass, sand, gravel, etc.), dangerous drain grates (utility covers or metal plates), uneven surface or gaps, slippery surfaces when wet (e.g. bridge decks, construction plates, road markings), bumpy or angled railroad tracks, or rumble strips.

Immediate solutions to these roadway challenges:

- Report problems immediately to the public works department
 - Keep your eye on the road/path
 - Pick another route until the problem is fixed (and check to see that the problems are fixed)
 - Organize a community effort to clean up the path
- Long-term solutions to these roadway challenges:
- Work with Public Works and Parks department to develop a pothole or hazard report card or online link to warn the agency of potential hazards
 - Ask the Public Works department to gradually replace all dangerous drainage grates with more bicycle friendly designs, and improve railroad crossings so cyclists can cross them at 90 degrees
 - Petition ALDOT to adopt a bicycle-friendly rumble-strip policy

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

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

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

Team Lehman
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MILITARY MOMENT

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



April is the month of the military child. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger was responsible for establishing it in 1986, and the Department of Defense has honored his initiative ever since.

The month of April is an important one for children who have one or both parents serving in uniform; since its conception there have been an increasing number of awareness campaigns aimed at recognizing the needs of military children in all areas from coping with the deployment of parents to war zones to education of military dependents.

According to a report by the Department of Defense:

- Approximately 2 million military children have experienced a parental deployment since 9/11.
- Nearly 80% of military children attend public schools throughout the United States.
- The average military family moves three times more often than their civilian counterpart.

The military lifestyle is not easy and not just for the person wearing the uniform. We tend to thank the Veterans, but

he or she is likely to have a spouse, children, parents, and siblings that are all affected by the needs of the United States Armed Forces. Children have no alternative but to go along with choices their parents have made. Next time you see a Veteran with their family, especially their children, please don't hesitate to thank them for their sacrifices, as well. Most of these children have to grow up a bit faster than others and accept more responsibility due to their parent's service.

I am a child of a Vietnam Veteran and the scars it left behind after my father took off the uniform were tremendous. I am also raising a military child (both myself and my husband are Veterans). When his father was being deployed to Iraq several people, including family members, told our son to take care of his mom and that now he was the man of the house while his dad was away. Our son was 4 years old at the time and though well meaning, it is a ridiculous idea. Please don't feel you must offer "words of wisdom" to these children, a simple thank you will go further than you might think.



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FARM Day

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024
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SPRING INTO ACTION: REFRESHING YOUR HOME FOR THE MARKET

Submitted by Team Lehman

As the blossoms start to bloom and the sun begins to shine a little brighter, it's that time of the year again – spring cleaning season! As seasoned real estate agents, we at Team Lehman understand the importance of making your home shine, especially when you're considering putting it on the market. So, let's roll up our sleeves and dive into some practical spring cleaning tips that will not only create a welcoming atmosphere but also boost the appeal of your property.

1. Declutter and Donate: Before you even think about scrubbing surfaces, it's time to declutter. Channel your inner Marie Kondo and assess each room, parting ways with items that no longer spark joy. Consider donating gently used clothes, furniture, or appliances to local charities. A clutter-free home not only looks more spacious but also helps potential buyers envision their own belongings in the space.

2. The Power of a Deep Clean: Now that you've cleared the excess, it's time to get down and dirty with a thorough deep clean. Pay attention to often overlooked areas like baseboards, window sills, and light fixtures. A clean home not only feels more inviting but also gives the impression that the property has been well-maintained.

3. Freshen Up with a Splash of Color: Spring is synonymous with color, so consider adding a fresh coat of paint to your interiors. Stick to neutral tones to create a blank canvas for potential buyers. Don't forget to touch up scuff marks on walls and trim – these little details can make a significant difference in the overall impression of your home.

4. Let the Light In: Maximize the natural light in your home by cleaning windows and removing heavy drapes or curtains. Bright, airy spaces are more appealing to buyers and create a positive, uplifting atmosphere. Consider investing in new light fixtures or updating lampshades to enhance the overall brightness.

5. Spruce Up the Curb Appeal: First impressions matter, and the exterior of your home is the first thing potential buyers will see. Give your curb appeal a boost by power washing the exterior, refreshing your landscaping, and adding some potted plants or flowers near the entrance. A well-maintained exterior sets the tone for the rest of the tour.

6. Tackle the Nooks and Crannies: Take a magnifying glass (figuratively) to those overlooked nooks and crannies. Clean out gutters, inspect the roof for any needed repairs, and touch up exterior paint where necessary. These details might not be immediately noticeable, but they contribute to the overall perception of your home's maintenance.

7. Create an Inviting Outdoor Space: If you have a patio, deck, or backyard, spruce up these areas to create an inviting outdoor space. Clean and arrange outdoor furniture, add some potted plants, and consider investing in stylish outdoor accessories. Buyers will appreciate the potential for relaxing or entertaining outdoors.

Our goal is to help you showcase your home in the best possible light. By taking the time for a thorough spring cleaning, you not only enhance your living space but also increase its market appeal. Remember, a well-maintained home is a happy home – and a happy home is more likely to attract the perfect buyer. Happy cleaning!

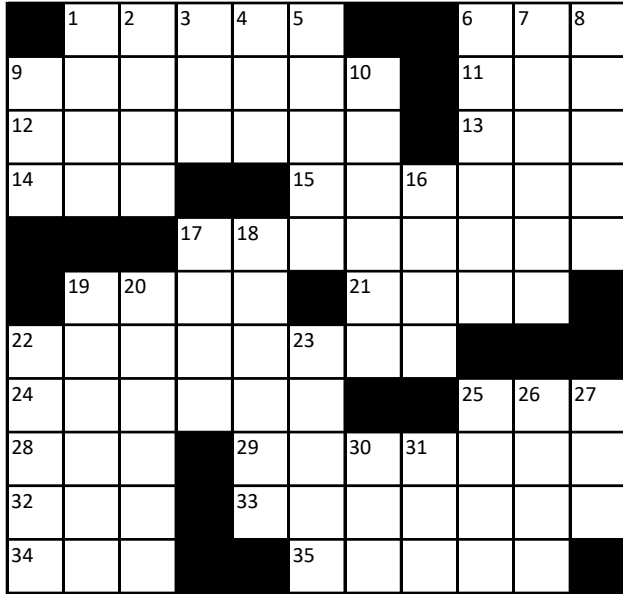


Catch us at Home!



OPPONENT	SPORT	DATE	TIME
Flagler	Women's Lacrosse	Apr. 6	12:00 p.m.
West Alabama	Women's Tennis	Apr. 9	2:00 p.m.
Miles College	Baseball	Apr. 10	2:00 p.m.
West Florida	Softball	Apr. 12	5:00 p.m.
West Florida	Baseball	Apr. 12	5:00 p.m.
West Florida (DH)	Softball	Apr. 13	1:00 p.m./3:00 p.m.
West Florida (DH)	Baseball	Apr. 13	12:00 p.m./3:00 p.m.
Alabama Huntsville	Men's Lacrosse	Apr. 13	12:00 p.m.
Lee	Women's Lacrosse	Apr. 13	4:00 p.m.
West Alabama	Baseball	Apr. 16	5:00 p.m.
Shorter	Women's Lacrosse	Apr. 20	12:00 p.m.
Columbus State	Baseball	Apr. 23	5:00 p.m.
AUM	Softball	Apr. 26	5:00 p.m.
AUM	Baseball	Apr. 26	5:00 p.m.
AUM	Softball	Apr. 27	1:00 p.m./3:00 p.m.
AUM	Baseball	Apr. 27	12:00 p.m./3:00 p.m.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Created by Mike Hardig
(tmhardig@gmail.com)

ACROSS

1. Original native of Alabama
6. Unit of work
9. Soviet satellite, launched in 1957
11. Aviation prefix
12. Prisoner's shackle
13. Miss identification?
14. Treat badly
15. Like a golf ball ready to be driven
17. Book that doesn't require much time or thought
19. Tops
21. Seniors' org.
22. Fay Wray's hairy co-star
24. Opening-round game of the NCAA basketball tournament
25. Dr Pepper alternatives
28. German "a"
29. Luggage attachment
32. Riddle-me-___ (old kids' rhyme)
33. Montevallo city clerk Steve
34. Cold War initials
35. Fanatical

DOWN

1. Tax pros like Montevallo's Charlotte Conwell and Joe Howard
2. Ancient letter
3. BHM info
4. Bottom-of-letter abbr.
5. Drug smuggler's measures
6. April holiday honoring Jesus Christ
7. Pile up again
8. Love of money
9. Dallas sch.
10. Many a marathon winner
16. Limp as ___
17. On pins and needles
18. Inquiring
19. Flowers often associated with 6-Down
20. More ludicrous
22. Military potato peelers and pot scrubbers?
23. Studio sign
25. Me.-to-Fla. hwy.
26. Payment option
27. Certain NCO rank
30. Style guide inits.
31. Recede

March Puzzle Solution

1	S	2	P	3	R	4	E	5	E	6	A	7	S	8	H	9	E	
10	L	I	T	T	L	11	E			12	P	T	A	S				
13	O	N	E	A	L	L				14	P	A	L	S				
				15	A	E	16	R		17	N	B	A					
		18	T	19	A	20	T		21	V	A	22	L	L	E	Y		
		23	A	L	A	24	B	A	S	T	E	R						
25	E	B	B	O	U	T			26	R	E	D						
27	M	A	E		28	T	I	29	C									
30	M	S	R	31	P			32	N	O	33	R	34	M	35	A	36	L
37	A	C	T	O				38	G	S	H	A	R	P				
39	S	O	A	P				40	T	O	G	A	S					



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