

Chamber CHATTER



July 4, 2023
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"The Voice for Business & Community"

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July 2023 | Vol. 22, No. 7

Chamber News



RIBBON CUTTING, MONTEVALLO ACE HARDWARE, 4004 Hwy 25 , (205)917-9576

White Rose Film & Photo, LLC



June 5 - August 21

Mondays 3-6 pm

660 Main St

behind Montevallo First Baptist



MONTEVALLO CHAMBER LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY JULY 19

"Shelby Emergency Assistance turns 50"

Speaker - Brooke McKinley, Director

Parnell Library with networking at

11:30am & lunch at noon \$15. ea.

RSVP by Mon July 17 to 205-665-1519

or montevallochamber@gmail.com

Catered by Southern Sweets



WELCOME NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS -
Alfa Insurance, Candace Byers, (205)909-8308
Pleasia Spears, Individual

SPONSORED BY LUCKY'S FOODLAND



3rd MONDAY

MONTEVALLO FARMERS' MARKET

3-6pm, Behind Montevallo First Baptist Church

4th TUESDAY

Happy 4th of July !!

INDEPENDENCE DAY 1776!

American Village. Food...Fun...Fireworks !

Gates open at 11 am, and celebration of America's Birthday ends with fireworks at twilight's last gleaming \$5.00 Admission

Veterans, active military & children ages 4 & under are free.

8th SATURDAY

LIONS SIGHT MOBILE EYE CLINIC

9am - 1pm / SEA Parking Lot

10th MONDAY

MONTEVALLO FARMERS' MARKET

3-6pm, Behind Montevallo First Baptist Church

17th MONDAY

MONTEVALLO FARMERS' MARKET

3-6pm, Behind Montevallo First Baptist Church

19th WEDNESDAY

MONTEVALLO CHAMBER LUNCHEON

"Shelby Emergency Assistance turns 50"

Guest Speaker - Brooke McKinley, Director

Parnell Library with networking at 11:30am and lunch at

noon, \$15. ea. RSVP by Mon., July 17 to 205-665-1519 or

montevallochamber@gmail.com.

Catered by Southern Sweets

21st FRIDAY - 23rd SUNDAY

BACK TO SCHOOL SALES TAX HOLIDAY

22nd SATURDAY

ALABAMA PET PANTRY

2-3pm / Distribution of Dog & Cat Food

Shelby Emergency Assistance parking lot

24th MONDAY

MONTEVALLO FARMERS' MARKET

3-6pm, Behind Montevallo First Baptist Church

24th MONDAY - 26th WEDNESDAY

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE AUDITIONS

6:30 - 8:30pm / Parnell Library

info : montevallomainstreetplayers@gmail.com

28th FRIDAY

FRIDAY NIGHTS AT THE COVE

6:30pm - 8:30pm / Owl's Cove Park

M&M Lemonade

31st MONDAY

MONTEVALLO FARMERS' MARKET

3-6pm, Behind Montevallo First Baptist Church

"AUGUST CHAMBER LUNCHEON"

WEDNESDAY, August 16

STATE LEGISLATOR UPDATE

Speakers: April Weaver, SD14 &

Russell Bedsole, HD49

Parnell Library / Networking 11:30am

Lunch - noon \$15. ea.

RSVP by Mon., Aug 14 to 205-665-1519 or

montevallochamber@gmail.com

Catered by Southern Sweets

PLATINUM LEVEL

CITY OF MONTEVALLO

MONTEVALLO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

GOLD LEVEL

MONTEVALLO FAMILY DENTISTRY

SLICE PIZZA & BREW

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DIXIE DECORATIONS

HEALTH SERVICES, INC.

REGIONS BANK

ROCKCO FUNERAL HOME

TEAM LEHMAN

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



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

MONTEVALLO
Main Street
Memories

MONTEVALLO CITY HALL

by Clay Nordan
Vice-president, Montevallo Historical Society

We know that Montevallo's first jail was located on the bluff over Shoal Creek and that the seat of city government has been on this property ever since.



Montevallo jailhouse (1915) atop the bluff overlooking the foot bridge over Shoal Creek.

The Montevallo Times advertised for bids for a new city hall in 1949 and within a year or two, the building you see below was constructed and opened to the public. In addition to the jail and city council chambers, the building housed the city clerk's office, the police department, the fire department, the city's water and gas boards, and the public library, which today we know as Parnell Library.

The photo (above right) was taken on Sunday,



In the mid-1950's, a single patrol car seemed to get the job done for the town's two-man police department.



Pictured left to right are: Milton Jeter (member), Harry Klotzman (member), Joe Meyer (member), Mr. Drake (Birmingham Civil Defense), Clay Nordan (11 year-old visitor on back of truck), Bill Pendleton (Chief), Dudley Pendleton (member), Harvey Rochester, (City Council), Mike Mahan (member), Cooper Shaw (member), and Clarence Chism (member). Others pictured at right: unidentified visitors.
 Photo by Pat Wyatt.

March 6, 1960, when the Montevallo Volunteer Fire Department held an Open House to celebrate the delivery of its new white Ford fire truck. The fire station and emergency siren at that time was located at the city hall building and adjacent to Montevallo Motor Co. The city's only firefighting equipment until then had been the vintage 1938 Peter Pirsch-built fire truck on a Chevrolet chassis which today's fire department in 2023 still owns and keeps running for use on special occasions.



The cramped and obsolete Montevallo City Hall as it looked just prior to its demolition to make way for the newer, more functional building that took its place in 2015.



The handsome new City Hall as it looks today brought a much needed expansion for conducting city business. Parking and access is much more generous while the council chamber and offices have created a more practical and professional atmosphere.

Veterans Wreaths will be laid this year at Montevallo City Cemetery on December 16, 2023. Order your wreaths now for \$17 each at WWW.HISTORICMONTEVALLO.ORG

Montevallo
Historical Society
Opening the Porch of Our Heritage

JOIN TODAY!
 Download Application at
www.historicmontevallo.org
 P.O. Box 411 • Montevallo, AL 35115
montevallo1817@gmail.com

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

SAFETY-SPOT

FIREWORKS & GRILLING SAFETY

Fireworks cause thousands of injuries each year

- 1200 degrees° is how hot a sparkler burns !
- More than 19,500 reported fires are started by fireworks annually
- Burns account for 44% of the 9,100 emergency room treated injuries during the month around July 4.
- 36% of firework injuries are children under the age of 15.
- Sparklers are 1/4 of emergency room fireworks injuries

JULY IS THE PEAK MONTH FOR GRILL FIRES

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors
- The grill should be well away from the home, deck railings, out from under eaves & overhanging branches.
- Keep children & pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- Never leave grill unattended

BE PREPARED FOR EXTREME HEAT

- Find Air conditioning, if possible
- Avoid strenuous activities
- Watch for heat illness
- Wear light clothing
- Cool down with a cool shower
- Check on family members & neighbors
- Drink plenty of fluids
- Watch for heat cramps, heat exhaustion & heat stroke
- Never leave people or pets in a closed vehicle



The Watson House

est. 1920

Founders of the Strand Theatre

FOR LEASE



Business Space on Middle Street
Montevallo Realty 205-665-4689
Letta Hallman 205-516-8664



BROADBAND INTERNET SURVEY

Shelby County, Alabama



Take this survey if you:

The Shelby County Commission and 58 INC are conducting a Broadband Study with Sain Associates to understand broadband connectivity issues in the County. Shelby County residents and businesses are being asked to take a survey about broadband internet service. Broadband connections can include Wi-Fi, DSLs, fiber, and satellites. We need input on your current service provider, availability of service options at your location, and your broadband internet speed. The survey results will help identify current service availability and evaluate the needs for improved service throughout Shelby County. Please complete the survey and share with others to do the same.

- Want Internet/Broadband
- Need Internet/Broadband Options
- Need Faster Internet/Broadband
- Have Internet/Broadband service issues

<https://arcg.is/lazz00>



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Economic Development Corporation

www.shelbyal.com

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Charlotte S. Conwell
Certified Public Accountant

655 Main Street • P.O. Box 468

Montevallo, AL 35115

205-665-1842 • Fax 205-665-1744

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AREA YOUTH SHOWCASE THEIR TALENT AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

On Saturday, May 27, 2023, the Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Incorporated, Alpha Pi Chapter held its annual Artist of Tomorrow and Scholars Recognition program at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Montevallo, Alabama. The Artist of Tomorrow is a program where the youths in our Chapter along with other youths and adults in the community showcase their talent.

The Alpha Pi Chapter Youth Auxiliary is comprised of 17 young people between the ages of 8 and approximately 20 (College Sophomores). They are led by two youth advisors: Mrs. Dorothy Turner and Mrs. LaTonya Robinson. This year, we were blessed to witness a dozen or so youths and adults share their talent by singing, poetry reading, words of encouragement, display of artwork, and playing of instruments.

At the conclusion of the Artist of Tomorrow portion of the program, we recognized each youth auxiliary member for their academic achievements. Additionally, five youths were spotlighted for their outstanding community service efforts during the 2022-2023 season. We have three college Sophomores that have completed the program and will continue to matriculate their education as college Juniors. Additionally, we have one young lady who graduated from Montevallo High School and she will begin her college journey at Auburn University in the Fall 2023.

The program schedule was as follows: Welcome: Phi Teen Kamia Hudson; Opening Prayer: Junior Cavalier Nikalas Wiltz; Scripture: Phi Teen Joy Robinson; Purpose of Program: Youth Advisor, Mrs. Dorothy Turner; Biography reading of the late Dr. Luthermae E. Adams: Junior Cavalier Samuel and Closing Remarks: Ms. Deborah Hudson, President of the Alpha Pi Chapter. Prior to the start of the program, the members of the Alpha Pi Chapter hosted a surprise bridal shower for one of the sorority members. This was an amazing fellowship and bonding time.

Following the program lunch was provided to program participants and their guests. On behalf of Gamma Phi Delta Sorority Incorporated, Alpha Pi Chapter, we would like to thank Pastor John Adams and the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church for allowing us to use their facility to host both events. We wish our entire youth auxiliary, their families, and the members of the Alpha Pi Chapter a blessed, safe and fun Summer.



**Montevallo Recycling Center
WILL BE "CLOSED" for
INDEPENDENCE DAY
TUESDAY, July 4th**

For information email
Ishapiro@cityofmontevallo.com
or call 205-665-2555

Want to start a business?
Sign up for **CO.STARTERS**[®]
Presented by Montevallo Main Street

Our Fall 2023 cohort will meet in-person at the University of Montevallo Michael E. Stephens College of Business, Stephens Hall classroom 212. Classes will be held every week on Tuesdays from 6-9 PM from August 22 - October 17, with a celebration October 24.

Limited space is available. We are offering an introductory course fee of \$99 per entrepreneur.

9-week fall course starts Aug. 22!


APPLY NOW



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2022 Graduates
Alabama Custom Trailer & RV



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Montevallo, AL 35115
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HOURS
MONDAY - SATURDAY
9AM-6PM

- ◆ Panini Sandwiches
- ◆ Gourmet Salads
- ◆ Wraps
- ◆ Specialty Coffees
- ◆ Smoothies
- ◆ Scones & Muffins
- ◆ Sliced Cake
- ◆ Assorted Cookies
- ◆ \$6 Dollar Menu Breakfast



Visit: ezcatering.com

C's Cake & Coffee House available for private functions & get togethers.

ELDER JUSTICE CENTER IS OPEN

The Elder Justice Center of Alabama located on Highway 25 in Montevallo has been closed temporarily for building repairs.

THE CENTER IS NOW BACK OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging (M4A), who oversees the center, offers many of their programs and services at the center. M4A encourages residents to visit or call the center to receive FREE assistance:

- **Connect** with Local Resources
- **Help** to Navigate Medicare or Medicaid
- **Screen** and **Enroll** in Low-Cost/Free Medication Assistance
- **Receive** Adult and Caregiver Support
- **Attend** monthly Community Education Events
- **Learn** to Prevent Elder Abuse and Financial Scams
- **Help** With Long Term Care Planning
- **Receive** a Comprehensive Screening for Public Benefits

ALL Services are offered at no cost to the Public. The Elder Justice Center is open Monday – Friday from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. Walk-Ins are Encouraged! (205) 490-8448, www.elderjusticeal.org, or www.m4a.org



MONTEVALLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

To register go to S.C.O.R.E. on the Shelby County Board of Education website. Questions call (205) 682-6420

MONTEVALLO MIDDLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Online registration <https://score.shelbyed.k12.al.us/> login before onsite in-person on Tuesday, July 25, 9am - 2pm. Questions call (205) 682-6410

MONTEVALLO HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION

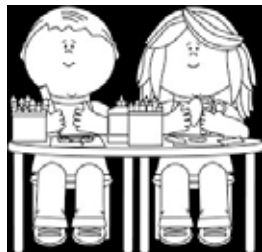
To register online go to S.C.O.R.E. on the Shelby County Board of Education website before onsite in-person Thurs., July 26, 1 - 5pm & Fri., July 28, 8am - 12pm. Questions call (205) 682-6400 or



Vendor info 205-665-1856

SHELBY EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES = SUCCESS

SEA will be accepting school supplies starting June 19th - July 25th.



Most needed items:

- 3-5 Subject Notebooks
- Composition Notebooks
- 2" Binders (3 Ring)
- Highlighters
- Markers
- Pencils
- Pencil Pouches
- Post-It-Notes
- Plastic Folders (3 Prong)
- Calculators
- Graph Paper
- Earbuds

Also Needed...

- Hand Sanitizer
- Kleenex
- Clorox Wipes
- Paper Towels

PLEASE CONTACT
CINDY POPE AT
205-665-1942
FOR MORE INFO.

NOW OPEN!



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Joe Mangina, Owner

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**10% discount
for ALL VETERANS
& FIRST RESPONDERS**

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Untold Stories

OF BLACK MONTEVALLO



Vol 2, No. 7

Everybody's stories matter. It's not just a matter of nostalgia, it powers us into the present and the future.
Barack Obama

CALLED TO TEACH: THE LEGACY OF BLANCHE COGER

She made a difference. She made a difference in my life.
-- former student, Rev Albert L. Jones

There isn't a word I don't think in the vocabulary that I can use to describe Blanche Coger. She was just a phenomenal woman. -- former student, Dr Annie McClain

The "Brown v. Board of Education" decision ended legal racial separation in the public schools. This was a gain for Black children but brought losses as well. Historian Annette Gordon-Reed, who lived through mandated desegregation in Texas, explains: Many Black teachers in the segregated South looked upon teaching as a calling. Women in the classroom, like men in the pulpit, felt they had a mission to prepare "the next generation of Black children to take the steps toward community advancement" (*On Juneteenth*, 50-51). This Untold Story honors that generation of teachers who saw teaching as a call to service, a mission to encourage and uplift the next generation of Black leaders.

One was Blanche Coger, featured in an earlier Untold Story. Tough but loving, feared but beloved, she pushed students of all colors to learn to their fullest capacity. (After teaching in "negro" schools from 1934 to 1969, including Prentice High School, she was transferred in 1970 to the newly integrated high school in Montevallo.) Some of her Prentice students were inspired to go into education themselves. Two shared their thoughts on her shaping role in their lives.

The Rev. Albert L. Jones, tireless champion of education for children of all skin colors, never forgot his first encounter with Mrs. Coger. She hit him over the head in the hallway of Prentice High School! But she turned out to be his "best friend."

I remember at the Prentice High School this big old lady standing in the hallway, and she was tough. I had heard about her, and when I got there, she knew me. I said, uh oh. She hit me over my head, and she said, now Albert, we ain't going to have no trouble like we had in the school over there. What do you mean by that? She said, I heard about you.

But anyway, she turned out to be my best friend 'cause she kept me on the path right. She see me doing something wrong and she would get me. She didn't let me get by with nothing. But that helped me though. She made a difference. She made a difference in my life.

Long-time Montevallo resident Dr Annie McClain, retired registered nurse, police officer, counselor, teacher, and school principal, attended Prentice High School from 1958 to 1965. She recalled in a telephone interview the nurturing role Mrs. Coger played in her life. She puts it beautifully: Mrs. Coger and two other teachers, Mrs. Junnie Mae Craig and Ms. Lillian P. Gibson, "were my leaning poles; watching over me as though they were my mothers, especially Mrs. Coger, especially her."

Mrs. Coger taught her how to respond to bullying without self-destructive anger. She made sure that there was enough food at home and that Annie had all the personal items she might need. When graduation came, she and Ms. Gibson helped with expenses. Mrs. Coger was there for others as well, offering everything from encouragement to financial help, and she made herself available at all times of the night.



BLANCHE COGER

She had a big heart. She loved everybody, it didn't matter the color of your skin, or your ethnicity. She just had an open heart and open door. 12 or 1 o'clock at night if you needed Mrs. Coger you could call her.

It didn't bother her. It was a gift she knew God had given her, an act that she had to perform; her ministry. A lot of people think ministering is preaching from a pulpit, but not always. The call can come in many different ways. Mrs. Coger was doing just that, being there for the students at Prentice who needed a solid person in their life, someone they knew they could trust with their heart.

A recent article in *Education Week* argues that "schools should embrace the rich pedagogy and practices that were common among black teachers in segregated schools." The example of Blanche Coger surely helps make the case.

Sources: Oral history of Rev Jones recorded Feb and Dec 2019 and preserved in UM's Milner Archives and Special Collections; telephone interview with Annie McClain recorded April 4, 2023. The article from *Education Week*, "65 Years After 'Brown v. Board': Where Are All the Black Educators?" (May 14, 2019), is available at <https://www.edweek.org/policy-politics/65-years-after-brown-v-board-where-are-all-the-black-educators/2019/05>.

Submitted by Kathy King and Anitka Stewart Sims. Do you have an untold story you'd like to tell or have told? Contact us at MontevalloLegacy@gmail.com. We want to hear your stories and welcome corrections of fact and interpretation.



2023 Cheer Silver Medalist

Kobe Cottingham graduated from Montevallo High School in 2022 and received a cheer scholarship to attend TVCC in Athens, Texas. Kobe accomplishments include being a 2021 Nfinity Legend and 2022 Varsity Fashion Guy, a finalist to participate on the show "American Cheer Icon, Everyone Needs A cheerleader", globed for the 1st time this year at World's with Cheer Athletics Cheetahs, 2023 Majors and Battle Under the Big Top winner and now a 2023 Silver Medalist. Kobe is a humble guy with big goals and his small town of Montevallo is proud.

Montevallo Main Street Presents:
FRIDAY NIGHTS
 AT THE
COVE



Featuring:
Cecil Shields
 July 28 at 6:30 PM
 737 Main Street

Sponsored by *The Flower Shop*

Thanks for another great year!

See you next season on:

April 26, 2024 May 31, 2024
 June 28, 2024 July 26, 2024

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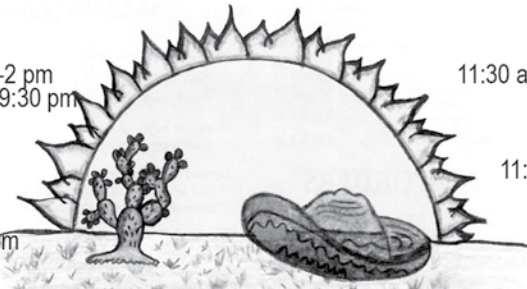
HOURS:

Mon.-Thurs.
 Lunch 11 am-2 pm
 Dinner 5 pm-9:30 pm

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

Saturday:
 Open
 11:30 am-10:30 pm

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



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

(1 coupon per table, per visit) • Expires 7/30/2023
 Valid at the Montevallo Restaurant Only

WEEKLY SPECIALS

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

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

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
Buy One Dinner A thru L Combination
 Get 2nd Dinner for \$2.50
 (NO SUBSTITUTIONS! DINE-IN ONLY)

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

TO-GO ORDERS!

(205) 665-7404

CITY OF MONTEVALLO NEWS

Mayor's Message...



RUSTY NIX, MAYOR

Hello Citizens of Montevallo!

I hope everyone is well. Summer is here and temperatures and humidity are on the rise. Please remember to stay hydrated when you are working or playing outdoors.

I'm sad to report that our community lost a dear friend, John David Holsombeck ("Johnny"), on June 11, 2023. Johnny was a 1985 Montevallo High School graduate. He received his degree in Recreation Management at Jacksonville State University in 1992. You may remember that he owned and operated the Double Play restaurant here in downtown Montevallo. Johnny joined the University of Montevallo in 2012 and most recently served as the Manager of Central Receiving. He was heavily involved in the Boys and Girls Club of Central Alabama and the City of Montevallo Park and Recreation Board. He was a strong supporter of High School and University athletics. He never met a stranger and always had a smile on his face. He was a selfless person and enjoyed cooking for local sporting matches and events at the Montevallo Senior Center. If everyone could be like Johnny, the world would be a better place. I always like to say that, if you had a problem with Johnny, you need to look in the mirror because the problem isn't Johnny. RIP my friend. You will be greatly missed.

The Montevallo Farmers' Market is in full swing. The Farmers' Market will take place every Monday from 3-6 pm till the 21st of August in the parking lot of the Montevallo First Baptist Church. Come out and pick up some fresh produce to cook and enjoy with your family. I am happy to report that we are seeing the largest crowds in the thirteen years that this event has been in operation.

Music at Owls Cove Park is off to a great start! The first two concerts this year were record breakers. The next concert will be "Drum the Program" on June 30th. Music starts at 6:30pm and continues to 8:30pm. Plan to bring your lawn chairs or a blanket and come out for some great family friendly entertainment. Be sure to dine at one of our local restaurants or bring your dinner with you. I hope to see you there.

Celebrate Independence Day at the American Village on July 4th! This event brings 5,000/6,000 people to our city each year. Come out and get reacquainted with American history, watch some short skits, listen to some good music and eat at one of the many food trucks. Don't forget about the firework show that night. BOOM! BOOM!

While we are on the topic of July 4th and fireworks, please remember to bring your fur babies inside if they are frightened of fireworks. There are many reports on social media of pets being scared and running away because of the sound of fireworks around the July 4th holiday.

Construction on the new pavilion and pickleball court at Stephens Park will begin in August. This addition at the park is much needed and an asset to our community. I would like to thank United Way for funding this project. I don't know much about the sport but I can't wait to try my hand at pickleball.

We have four electric vehicle charging stations coming to town and they will be operational in August. Two will be in the parking lot beside our new City Hall Annex. The other two will be located on the north end of the Urban Core. It will be nice for people with electric cars to be able to charge their vehicle and shop and dine in our downtown while they wait.

Remember to shop local. Business owners have invested in our town so please give them your support. Sales tax revenue is earned when you shop Montevallo and those dollars benefit the community. As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your mayor.

Lions Sight Mobile eye clinic

Alabama Lions Sight

helby emergency assistance

Serving Sight

Lions Sight provides services which include:

- Eye exams
- Treatment of conditions affecting the eye or vision
- provide glasses for everyone who needs them, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay
- And much more

FAQ

Where?
once a month in the Shelby Emergency Assistance parking lot

When?
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Whats the cost?
Low cost but financial assistance available if needed.

Dates

- July 8, 2023
- Aug. 12, 2023
- Sep. 9, 2023
- Oct. 7, 2023
- Nov. 11, 2023
- Dec. 9, 2023

(205) 645-1942
Office@shelbyEmergencyAssistance.com

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small business

neighborhood

main street

retail

patronize

support

local economy

cooperative

friendly

service

mom and pop

buy local

partnership

brick and mortar

shops

community

merchants

MONTEVALLO STUDY CLUB

The Montevallo Study Club provides locals with an opportunity to learn about and visit more of the surrounding community. The Montevallo Study Club has been around since 1933 and includes a maximum of twenty members. The club meets monthly for nine months out of the year and takes summers off.

Each year, the program committee selects a subject to study and topics are assigned to members each September for the upcoming year. The Montevallo Study Club also has a civic and welfare component—awarding financial assistance to non-profit organizations in the community.

Personal guides at each location enriched the experience with a conducted tour providing in-depth information regarding the history and function of each site. The Montevallo Study Club visited the following locations during the year: The Veteran’s Shrine at the American Village with Tom Walker The West Wing of Independence Hall at the American Village with Melanie Poole The Center for the Arts on the University of Montevallo campus with Andrew Fancher The Shelby County Arts Council in Columbiana with Bruce Andrews Shoal Creek Park in Montevallo with Lily Appleby

Those interested in more Information or would like to join the club are asked to contact incoming president Margaret Hall at 205-821-5003.

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MONTEVALLO FARMERS' MARKET

MONDAYS 3-6 PM
JUNE 5 – AUG. 21

GROWERS
Allen Farms
B & S Farms
C & J Farms
Calfee Cattle
Caver's Farm
Pierce Farms
Smith Farms
Yellowleaf Creek Farms

VENDORS
Handmade by Takias
Lena Mae Bakery
M & M Lemonade Stand
Skull Girl Soaps & Candles
UltiMutt
Valley Cottage Flowers

INFO
AL Partners for Clean Air
Parnell Memorial Library

SPONSORS
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Montevallo Family Health Center
M4A
Elder Justice Center
Alabama SHIP
Montevallo First Baptist Church
The Type Shop
University of Montevallo

ORGANIZATIONS
MMS Football

LOCATION OF MARKET
660 MAIN ST
behind Montevallo First Baptist

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AMERICA'S 247TH BIRTHDAY!**

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JOHNNY - ALWAYS SMILING, ALWAYS HELPING OTHERS

by Nancy Wilstach, writer and journalist of Montevallo, AL

The Always Smiling, Always Helping Others theme was repeated again and again as co-workers, friends and family struggled with the idea that Johnny Holsombeck was gone. A life-long Montevalloan, Johnny, 56, died June 11 in Shelby Baptist Medical Center after suffering complications stemming from diabetes.



Although he went away for college--to Jacksonville State University--he came back home with a degree in recreational management, and Montevallo's athletic teams, the Boys' and Girls' Club, the city's Parks and Recreation Board and most of the city have reaped the benefits.

Lonnie Layton, a friend since boyhood, remembers the smile and the special kindnesses. He struggles to use the past tense when talking about Johnny.

"He even celebrated his own birthday by doing things for others--he'd do a big crawfish boil and everyone was welcome," Layton said.

Johnny's sister, Cindy Holsombeck, said she and brother Ronnie plan to have a memorial crawfish boil as a fundraiser for the Boys' and Girls' Club next year with help from some of Johnny's friends.

Johnny worked at the University of Montevallo, managing a warehouse for the UM physical plant and overseeing the campus post office. Before that he owned a sports themed bar and grill, Double Play, on Vine Street.

LaVenta Young, a co-worker, met Johnny at Double Play and was relieved when he walked nervously into his job interview at the university to find that "Johnny was sitting there . . . it was so good to find a friendly face.

"Johnny would laugh and joke, and he knew if you were having a bad day. He'd say or do something to make it better. We're already missing him --the campus, the whole town, from kids to adults," Young said. Johnny's community spirit extended beyond his own community, Young said. When a tornado hit Selma recently, Young, who lives in Selma but fortunately escaped injury or property damage from the twister, said that Johnny was quick to respond: "He got tarps, medical supplies and cleaning supplies" for Selma.

"It's going to be a hard role to fill. Johnny had so much passion for the city of Montevallo, and he never met a stranger. I never saw Johnny angry--he always kept a smile on his face."

Johnny was the youngest of four Holsombeck children. (Older brother Buddy predeceased him in 2010.) His closest (in age) sibling, Ronnie takes credit for naming him.

"I told Mama: 'I don't care what you call him, I'm calling him 'John David.' After three of us, Mama was over the excitement about naming babies, so she said, 'Sounds good to me.'"

Of course, nobody ever called Johnny anything but "Johnny." Like the smile, the nickname became part of his identity.

"He liked cooking Thanksgiving dinner for the basketball team," Layton recalled, noting that Johnny was thinking about the players who couldn't go home because of holiday tournaments.

"When those kids go home, they talk about Johnny Holsombeck, and how he cooked dinner for them. They'll have those memories forever," Layton said. The high school softball and soccer teams were fed, too, often at end-of-season cookouts.

The Juneteenth celebration at Dailey Park was one of Johnny's projects, Layton said. The plan was to cook hotdogs for everyone who came. Johnny died before the June 19 holiday, but his friends followed through.

Pamela Smith, who served on the city's Parks and Recreation Board with Johnny, said his loss was felt immediately when the board suddenly had to pick up the pieces for that event. "He cared so much," she said, "that he even asked about the Juneteenth celebration when he was in the hospital."

Johnny was a driving force with the Senior Citizens Club, she said. "For the seniors' soup and bingo, he would fix food for them and make sure everybody got a prize or a gift card.

"There is no other person who did as much as he did, but we'll do our best. He was the foundation of the Parks and Recreation Board."

She said the board will be discussing ideas for a recognition award in Johnny's honor for those who best represent his community spirit. That meeting is at 5 p.m. July 29 at City Hall and is open to the public.

Johnny made sure there was an Easter Egg Hunt every year, and he worked on Critters by the Creek, as well as other city projects, said his sister. One year, she said, "the Easter Bunny that Johnny had lined up either cancelled or was a no-show. Ronnie (Holsombeck, Johnny's elder brother) got a call from Johnny, and he had to get himself to the park and be the Easter Bunny."

Brother Ronnie recalled that experience: "That had to have been the hottest Easter in Alabama."

Layton had endorsed the idea of an award in Johnny's memory, suggesting it be called the "Johnny Shine Award" because of the nickname so many people used for Johnny that was inspired by his ever-present warm smile.

University of Montevallo Head Baseball Coach Chandler Rose said that Johnny cooked barbecue chicken on two weekends for the team this past season. He often stopped by Rose's office over the coach's 13-year tenure at the school. He sometimes brought along a UM sports memento--like the poster of the school's very first men's team in 1958 or the baseball signed by the school's first baseball coach, Frank Lightfoot, and legendary long-time baseball coach Bob Riesener, as well as Coach Rose himself.

"He did so much for the community," Rose said, "always wanting to help other people. And he got so much enjoyment out of making others happy."

"I am going to miss him like crazy."

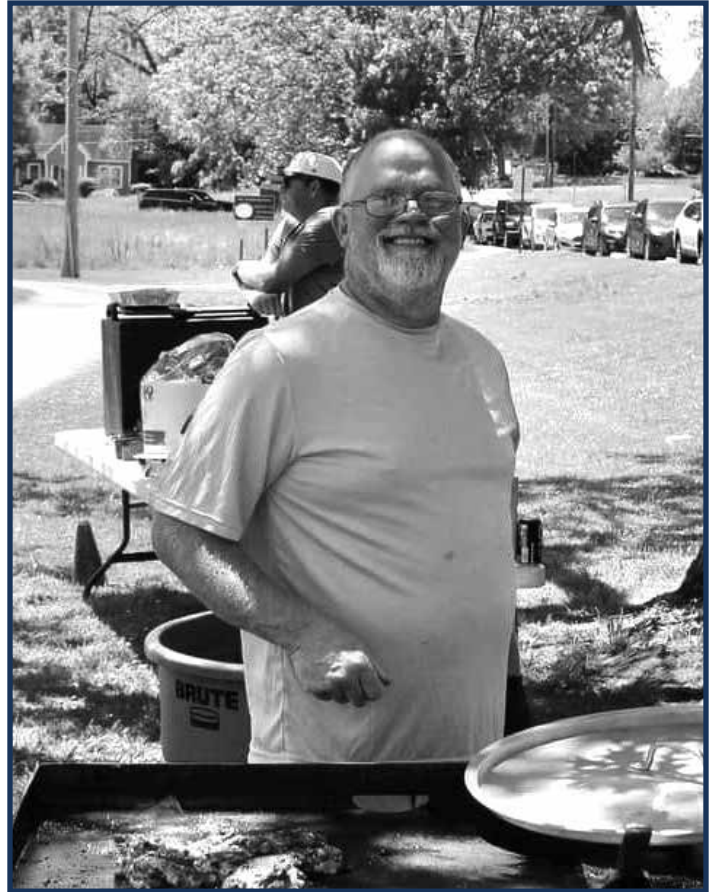
UM President John Stewart sent a tribute to Johnny to everyone on campus, including this comment on Johnny's contributions to the Montevallo community:

"Johnny was a kind-hearted soul who always had a smile on his face. He had a passion for supporting his friends on campus and in the Montevallo community. He was one of the strongest advocates for the Boys and Girls Club and supported youth sports in the community along with the UM athletic teams. Johnny was also an incredible cook and loved to prepare meals for Montevallo student-athletes, coaches and staff. "

Brother Ronnie said a June 16 memorial service at University Baptist Church drew several hundred people--he estimated between 600 and 700, with 500 people signing the memorial book. Besides the tributes from those who spoke at the memorial, Johnny also was the subject of hundreds of Facebook posts in the weeks following his death.

Long-time friend Tracy Rogers Lovelady posted a photo of a smiling Johnny cooking over a large grill at an event in Montevallo's Orr Park, and commented:

"There isn't a single person that has ever known him that hasn't had a friend for life."



Parnell Memorial Library

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Kids Craft Kit Manga Monday 3-5	4 Library CLOSED FOURTH OF JULY	5 9:15 Storytime with Mr. Mac 2:00 Kid's Movie	6 Tween Movie @ 4:00 pm	7 Board Game Day Drop by between 10-2pm to play a life-size board game in the air conditioning!	8
10 Kid's Craft Day @ 2 pm Manga Monday 3-5	11 Mini Music @ 10:00 Ice Cream Party @ 6:00 pm	12 9:15 Storytime with Mr. Mac 2:00 Kid's Movie	13 Tween Movie @ 4:00 pm Family Trivia Night @ 6 pm	14 Last Day of Summer Reading Science Lady: You Matter! @ 2 pm	15
17 Classic Movie Monday @ 2 pm Manga Monday 3-5	18 Mini Music @ 10:00 PARKY CLUB! between 2-4 pm	19 9:15 Storytime with Mr. Mac	<p>The Children's Musical Theater Camp proudly presents Off Their Rockers a rock-n-roll musical comedy Friday, July 21 @ 2:00 pm Tickets \$5 at the door Parnell Library Foundation</p>		
24	25 Mini Music @ 10:00 PARKY CLUB! between 2-4 pm	26 9:15 Storytime with Mr. Mac	27	28	29

Children 11 years and under must be with an adult in the library at all times.
277 Park Drive, Montevallo AL 35115 | (205) 667-3052 | www.parnellmemoriallibrary.org
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 10:00 - 5:00 pm; Tuesday/Thursday 10:00 - 8:00 pm; Saturday 10:00 - 1:00 pm

Parnell Memorial Library en Español

Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Viernes	Sábado
3 Llévate a casa una manualidad Lunes de Manga 3-5	4 Biblioteca Cerrada FOURTH OF JULY	5 Hora del cuento con el Sr. Mac 9:15 Película infantil 14:00	6 película familiar 4:00 pm	7 Día del juego de mesa ¡Visítanos entre las 10 y las 2 p.m. para jugar un juego de mesa de tamaño real en el aire acondicionado!	8
10 Día de manualidades para niños a las 2 pm Lunes de Manga 3-5	11 Mini música @ 10:00 Fiesta de helados a las 6:00 p. m.	12 Hora del cuento con el Sr. Mac 9:15 Película infantil 14:00	13 película familiar 4:00 pm Noche familiar de trivía a las 6 p. m.	14 Último día de lectura de verano Señora de la ciencia; ¡Tú importa! a las 14:00	15
17 Película clásica 2:00 pm Lunes de Manga 3-5	18 Mini música @ 10:00 PARKY CLUB! entre las 2 y las 4 pm	19 Hora del cuento con el Sr. Mac 9:15	<p>El Campamento de Teatro Musical Infantil presenta con orgullo fuera de sus rockeros una comedia musical de rock and roll Viernes, 21 de julio a las 14:00 Boletos \$5 en la puerta patrocinado y producido por Parnell Library Foundation</p>		
24	25 Mini música @ 10:00 PARKY CLUB! entre las 2 y las 4 pm	26 Hora del cuento con el Sr. Mac 9:15	27	28	29

Los niños de 11 años y menores deben estar con un adulto en la biblioteca en todo momento
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2023 MAIN STREET AMERICA ACCREDITATION

Montevallo, Ala. – Montevallo Main Street has been designated as an Accredited Main Street America™ program for meeting rigorous performance standards. Each year, Main Street America and its partners announce the list of Accredited programs to recognize their exceptional commitment to preservation-based economic development and community revitalization through the Main Street Approach™.

“We are very proud to acknowledge this year’s 862 Accredited Main Street America programs, and their steadfast dedication to nurture economically and culturally vibrant downtown districts,” said Hannah White, Interim President & CEO of Main Street America. “The increase in the size and impact of our network speaks volumes to the power of the Main Street movement to respond to the needs of local communities and drive innovative solutions.”

In 2022, Main Street America programs generated \$6.2 billion in local reinvestment, helped open 7,657 net new businesses, facilitated the creation of 29,174 net new jobs, catalyzed the rehabilitation of 10,688 historic buildings, and leveraged 1,528,535 volunteer hours. On average, for every dollar that a Main Street program spent to support their operations, it generated \$24.07 of new investment back into their downtown communities.

Collectively, 2 million people live or work within the boundaries of designated Main Street America districts. An estimated workforce of 1.1 million people contribute their skills and expertise to advancing the missions of these historic downtowns and commercial corridors.



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Montevallo Main Street’s performance is annually evaluated by Main Street Alabama, which works in partnership with Main Street America to identify the local programs that meet rigorous national performance standards. To qualify for Accreditation status, communities must meet a set of rigorous standards that include commitments to building grassroots revitalization programs, fostering strong public-private partnerships, nurturing economic opportunity for small businesses and entrepreneurs, and actively preserving historic places, spaces, and cultural assets.

“We are so proud that eight net new businesses have decided to open in downtown Montevallo since January 2022,” said Courtney Bennett, Executive Director. “Over the past year, we have started a new signature event—Spring Fling Family Food Truck Fest—as well as a new initiative to strengthen our entrepreneurial ecosystem, partnering with CO.STARTERS to offer a 9-week course to aspiring and new small business owners in our area. Private business and property owners have invested over \$200,000 in building improvements over the last year alone, and our volunteers have contributed nearly 3,000 hours of their time with us.”

In addition to supporting the downtown business community, Montevallo Main Street has continued to promote the arts by creating a downtown banner program with youth artwork, sponsoring live music at Art Walk and Arts Fest, continuing their free summer concert series Friday Nights at the Cove, co-presenting Tinglewood Festival, and supporting other local artistic initiatives.

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UM ACHIEVES DISTINCTIVE HONOR FOR 12TH YEAR IN A ROW

The University of Montevallo has been named to the 2023-2024 Colleges of Distinction list, marking the 12th year in a row that the school has achieved the honor. UM has also been recognized as a 2023-2024 Public College of Distinction.

Alongside the institution-wide Colleges of Distinction award, UM received special accolades specifically for the Stephens College of Business and the College of Education & Human Development. Montevallo was also acknowledged for its outstanding career development initiatives for undergraduate students and commitment to supporting military-related students and employees.

Colleges of Distinction selects schools by conducting in-depth research and detailed interviews, accepting only those that excel in four distinctions:



- Engaged students: Providing opportunities that encourage students to make the most of their education
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 - Vibrant community: Offering activities and events that help students keep on learning even after the books are closed
 - Successful outcomes: Producing alumni who are prepared for anything, from graduation and beyond
- As a College of Distinction, UM has shown excellence in each of these areas, providing its students with a well-rounded, practical education that prepares them for successful careers and lives.

“The University of Montevallo’s inclusion as a College of Distinction is a testament to the way it caters to its own students’ potential and goals, helping them achieve success in unique ways that cannot be ranked against others,” said Tyson Schritter, chief operating officer at Colleges of Distinction. “We are deeply inspired by how UM immerses students in their academic pursuits, fostering a welcoming community that provides unwavering support throughout their college years and beyond.”



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MONTEVALLO FIRE & RESCUE EXPLORERS

NEWS FROM THE FIREHOUSE

by Kay Goke

From June 9th-11th Montevallo Fire and Rescue hosted its second annual Explorer Weekend. For those unfamiliar with the program, Explorers are our youth at the fire house. The Explorer Program allows youth ages 14-21 both male and female to learn the ins and outs of the fire service. The group is led by Firefighters Shannon Blackburn, Reggie Darden, Kay Goke, Grady Gentry, and Sarah Gilbrook. Other personnel also assist when available.

Generally, the group meets bi-weekly on Sunday afternoons to train, but during Explorer Weekend the group stayed at the station for 48 hours. The weekend also allowed time for Senator April Weaver to come speak to the group. On Saturday June 10th the group went to the Shelby County Training Center to train in the gas-powered prop, the maze, as well as search and rescue. Explorer Jalena Shepherd has been a part of the group for a little over 6 months and had this to say of the program, "Joining the Explorers has been the best decision I've made. There's so much

knowledge, experience, wisdom, and so much more to take from it. It's not only changed who I am, but is shaping me into who I want to be. Everything you take from it is amazing to apply to your own life, regardless of whether you join the fire service or not."

Historically, the Explorer Program has been around since 1978 under Chief Mahan, but was called the Secondary Program back then. Many firefighters started in the program and went on to the career fire service in Central Alabama. We also currently have several on our roster who started as Explorers. "The Explorer Program has affected the lives of many people over the years. This includes mine. It is a great starting point to serve our community and can be a springboard into the career of fire service for some. It is a great way for youth to be involved in a way that improves themselves while helping the community. It's a win win all around and the relationships they build will last a lifetime," said Assistant Chief Lance Byrd of the program.

The program currently is full, but as our youth age-out openings will come up. For info email - FirePIO@cityofmontevallo.com



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Chain and Drivetrain: The chain and drivetrain components are vital for transferring power from your pedaling to the wheels. Keep the chain clean and lubricated to reduce friction and prevent premature wear. Regularly inspect the chain for signs of rust, stretch, or stiff links, and replace it if necessary. Also, ensure that the gears shift smoothly by adjusting the derailleur and cable tension.

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Maintaining your bicycle is a crucial aspect of being a responsible rider - with proper care, your bicycle will provide you with countless enjoyable rides while lasting for years to come. By regularly inspecting and servicing the essential components, you can enjoy a safe cycling experience. Remember to consult the manufacturer's guidelines or seek assistance if you're unsure about any maintenance procedures. We welcome riders of all experience levels. ValloCycle is Alabama's oldest citywide bike share. For more information visit vallocycle.org or contact vallocycle@gmail.com







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MILITARY MOMENT

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



This month, we celebrate and honor Independence Day on the 4th and Korean War Veteran Armistice Day on the 27th.

The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

National Korean War Veteran Armistice Day is observed each year on July 27th. It is a time to remember as many as 50,000 American troops who died in the conflict (official sources vary on the actual number), and over 100,000 wounded, and thousands of prisoners of war. Each year, the President of the United States issues a proclamation announcing July 27th as a day of national observance in honor of Korean War veterans and their families. There are observances of this day on military bases, at military cemeteries such as Arlington National Cemetery, and more informal observances held in America, South Korea, and elsewhere (militarybenefits.info).

HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE SUMMER!

MONTEVALLO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB SUMMER PROGRAM

JUNE 5 - AUGUST 4

WHEN: MODAY - FRIDAY FROM 7:30AM-6PM

WHERE: 420 VINE STREET MONTEVALLO, AL

WHO: ALL KIDS AGES 6 AND UP

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SNAKES ALIVE!

Submitted by Team Lehman

At Shoal Creek Park, besides the harmless snakes, there is a potential for you to encounter four venomous snake varieties: the Cottonmouth (aka Water Moccasin), the Copperhead, the Timber Rattlesnake, and the Pygmy Rattlesnake. Although Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnakes and Coral Snakes are found in Alabama, they are not found in Shelby County.

To avoid the snakes, stay on the trails, and keep your dog leashed.

If you see a snake: back away. You are much more likely to get bitten if try to kill a snake than if you avoid it. Snakes only bite in self-defense, especially when they are cornered.

If you do get bitten (even if you're not sure which kind of snake bit you), move away from the snake, call 911, keep the bitten limb elevated, remove jewelry and stay calm. Do not run. Do not attempt your own medical intervention. It's not necessary to photograph the snake; the treatment is the same for copperheads, cottonmouths, and rattlesnakes.

On the plus side, these snakes provide rodent control. And some snakes, such as King Snakes, eat venomous snakes. The best way for the city to control snake interactions is what they are doing: keeping the grassy areas along the trails cut so the snakes will move into taller vegetation.

To stay up to date with all the park news and events, please bookmark shoalcreekparkfoundation.com

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 TUESDAY

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY

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

EVERY THURSDAY

Rotary Meeting, noon, 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

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

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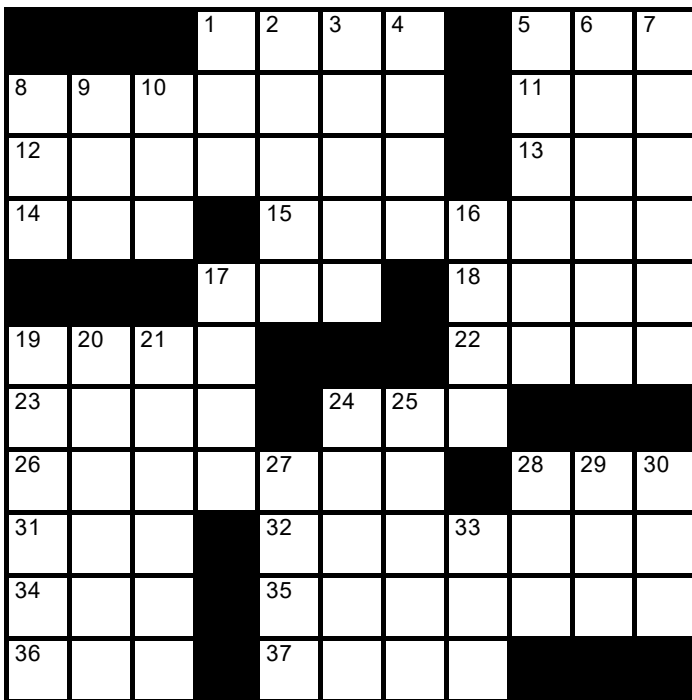
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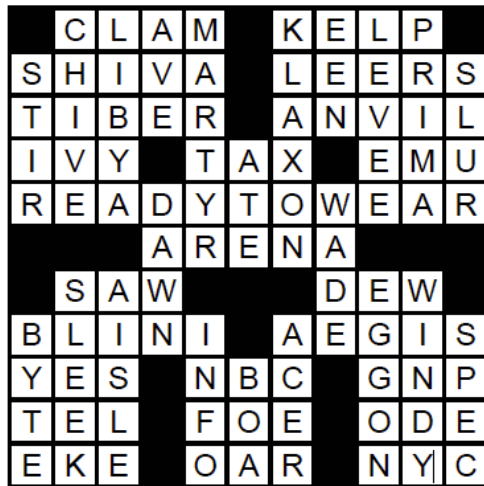
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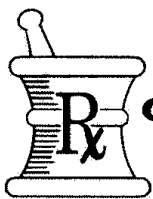


Across

1. Crude group?
5. feel poorly
8. Forgive a sin, say
11. Mobile college: Abbr.
12. Permission to proceed
13. Stat!
14. Choose
15. With great skill
17. Praise in verse
18. Support (with)
19. Never, __ again
22. Oracle
23. Some call it "pop"
24. Teacher's __
26. What Adam and Eve became after their expulsion from the Garden
28. __ Friday (trusty assistant)
31. Infomercials, e.g.
32. Faces, in old slang
34. As well
35. Sentelectronically
36. Ages and ages
37. " __ of Our Lives"

Down

1. Spa sound
2. What one does in criminal court
3. Dodge
4. Give over to
5. Em was one in the *Wizard of Oz*
6. Tristan's love
7. What an accused criminal needs
8. In the past
9. Hanson hit "MMM__"
10. What Miss Muffet did on her tuffet
16. "Overhere!"
17. Face-to-face exam
19. What you will
20. Kind of doll
21. Inventor of the stock ticker
24. __ Ballerina
25. English exam finale, often
27. Scraped by
28. Toothpaste, often
29. *Where the Wild Things* __
30. Trip advisor?
33. Sibling, slangily



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