

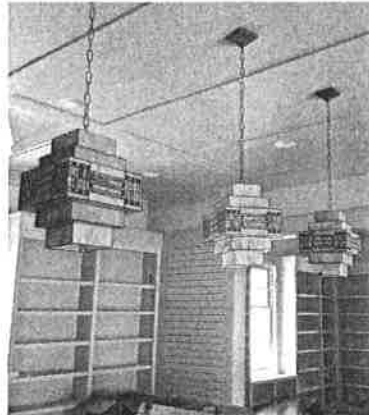


THE MT LAUREL CONNECTION

A newsletter for and about the Town of Mt Laurel

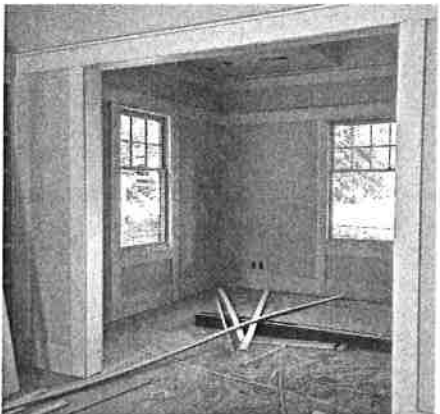
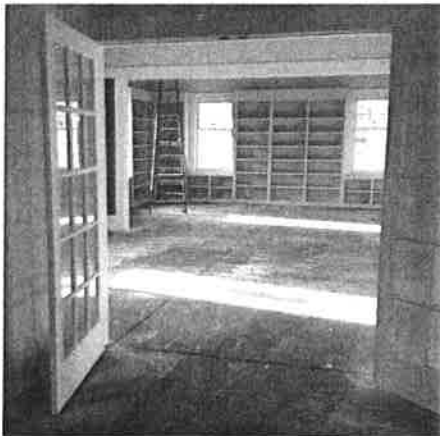
JUNE/JULY 2014

CONSTRUCTION NEARS COMPLETION ON THE NEW LIBRARY



Several years of fundraising and hard work have finally made the building of a permanent library in Mt Laurel a reality, and "it's even more stunning than we imagined it would be," according to Ann Price, chairman of the Friends of Mt Laurel Library's board of directors. "So many talented people have donated their time to making the building very special, and when the new library opens, we'll experience an additional layer of community enrichment when the expanded collection of books and additional programs are put into place.

Among the many who have donated their time and talent are Mt Laurel residents Kristin Prickett and David Brush. Kristin's expertise with color and design, and especially the selection of light fixtures, has been an important contribution to the building and design process. Likewise, David has donated his time and talent in creating a landscape plan using native selections and also assisting in working out exterior accessibility issues. Another Mt Laurel resident, Sandy Bishop, has refinished and refurbished several antique pieces that are going in the library, constructed and painted the coat racks, and fashioned a children's "tree trunk" chair from wood found in Mt Laurel. The chair will sit at the base of a tree mural in the children's room. Another talented Mt Laurel neighbor, Rorie Scroggins, will paint the children's room mural, and Anne Sturm is refurbishing a set of antique chairs for the community room.



SHOWN ABOVE

Top row, left to right: stone walls under construction and Meyda Tiffany mission pendants which will hang over the custom-made circulation desk in the main room.

Second row left: the view from the community room, through the main room into the reading room. *Right:* the community room with the Symthe Craftsman mica pendant and it's own exterior door.

Bottom: the children's alcove, just off the reading room.

COMING SOON...

MT LAUREL LIBRARY
CELEBRATION
& OPEN HOUSE

111 Olmsted Street

Details will be announced soon
at the library, around town and
in the Google Group email.

MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

It's summer in Mt Laurel and the town is alive with activity as the pool is open, the Farmers' Market and Crafts Fair is here on Saturdays, the Mt Laurel Library's Summer Reading Program is underway and various Vacation Bible School activities are scheduled. We are also blessed to have the opening of the long-awaited new Mt Laurel Library building.



Many thanks to the Friends of the Mt Laurel Library who have worked for over seven years to make this new library building possible and also to the residents of Mt Laurel and the surrounding area who have contributed so many funds and so much "sweat equity" to this project. We also owe great appreciation to the North Shelby Library which will maintain and staff our library as a fully-functioning branch of its main library. The expanded collection of books and the expansion of a number of programs and services, including the hours of operation, will certainly add to the quality of life here in Mt Laurel.

Since summer is an active time for all, we want to reflect on the safety and beauty of Mt Laurel. Please refer to page five for the rules and safety guidelines for the pool and lake. Golf carts can only be driven by persons 14 and over and no all-terrain vehicles or motorized go carts are allowed to operate on any common roads, sidewalks or common areas within Mt Laurel.

One of the best features of living in Mt Laurel is the sense of community we have here. If you want to get involved, I encourage you and your family to participate in all that's offered here, including the monthly Ladies Lunch, Sippin' Seniors on Mondays, Mt Laurel Book Club, the Garden Group, and storytime and crafts at the library. I'm sure a lot of folks will be also be enjoying fishing at the lake, enjoying the dog park and shopping and dining at the Town Center.

John O. Freeman, Sr.

Vice President & General Manager, EBSCO Development Company

COVENANT REMINDERS FOR SUMMER

It's summer in Mt Laurel, and neighbors are spending time on their porches enjoying the warm, sunny days. Mt Laurel's front porches promote a small town neighborliness that is reminiscent of the past. A porch can provide a leisurely setting to visit with next-door neighbors or provide a quiet setting in which one can be alone.

To maintain the beauty of our front-porch community, there are several points in the *Mt Laurel Codes, Covenants and Restrictions* that residents should remember when getting their porches and yards ready for summer:

- No interior furniture should be placed on the front porches. Outdoor furniture, excluding molded plastic furniture, is allowed.
- All front porches must be kept in a neat and orderly condition at all times.
- Firewood should not be stored on the front porch and should not be visible from the street.
- No clothing, rugs, or other items should be placed on a railing, fence or wall.
- Barbeque grills, or other types of outdoor cooking equipment, should not be visible from the street.
- American flags may be displayed at any time. Any other flags should not be displayed for more than 30 days. Banners are not allowed except for spirit flags which may be flown from Friday at 6:30 a.m. until Sunday at 11:59 p.m. on the weekend of the event.
- The landscaping for all areas visible from pedestrian paths and roads must be of a type native to the area, unless in a raised planter. A list of approved plants is located in the *Landscape Regulations*, which is available at the Mt Laurel Sales Center.
- Holiday decorations and lights should be removed no later than 30 days after the holiday.
- All additions of any kind must be approved by the Mt Laurel Architect Review Committee, including any temporary structures, fences or gates.



The Mt Laurel Connection is published every other month to provide frequent communication about the Town of Mt Laurel and its residents and to foster a strong sense of community. Residents are invited to send information, news and suggestions for articles to mtlaurelnewsletter@gmail.com or call Ann Price at 981-9772.

Editor Ann Price Contributor and Copy Editor Jill Walton Photography Kristie Arvin, Ann Price
Home Delivery Vicki Balogh, Lana Johnson, Chris Ladshaw, Nancy Ladshaw

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
FRIDAY, JULY 4

PARADE 10 AM

Decorate your bikes, strollers and golf carts, or simply don your celebration attire to join in the parade. Meet at Olmsted Park to march through town.

WATERMELON IN THE PARK

Immediately following the parade at Olmsted Park.

PICNIC AT SPOONWOOD LAKE 6 PM

Enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cold beverages and ice cream. Mt Laurel residents and their invited guests are welcome. Please RSVP with the number of residents and guests who will attend to mtlaurel_events@yahoo.com.

FIREWORKS AT DUSK

Stay for a spectacular array of fireworks.



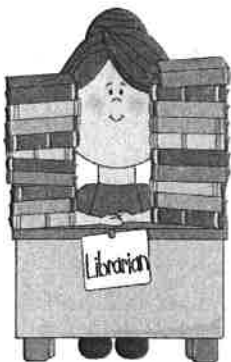
SUMMER READING IS GOING
TO SIZZLE IN MT LAUREL
REGISTER NOW!

It's time for the Summer Reading Program at the Mt Laurel Library! That means reading good books all summer, setting reading goals and earning library dollars to spend at the library general store. It also means weekly prizes and top reader awards at the end of the summer. Registration is required for participation, so stop by the library to register and pick up instructions for participating. Registration is also available online at www.northshelbylibrary.org. Registration ends July 18. This year's theme is "Fizz, Boom, Read." Find the library's summer activities calendar on page four to see all the special days planned at the library this summer.



POSITION AVAILABLE

With the new library building and expanding hours, Mt Laurel Library is adding a staff person. The position will be for 15 hours per week, including some weekends and evenings. Apply at the current library on Olmsted Street or at the North Shelby Library by June 9. Applications are also available for download at www.mtlaurellibrary.org. Contact nsl.business@gmail.com for more information.



SAVE THESE DATES

See page four for the additional library activities scheduled for the summer. The Mt Laurel Library Celebration and Open House date will be announced soon.

June 3	Garden Group
June 4	Storytime at the library
June 5	Book Club
June 10	Backyard Beekeeping Seminar at the library
June 12	Cookies & Ice Cream Social at the library
June 18	Storytime at the library
June 19	Miss Kit's Bubble School at the library
June 25	Ladies Lunch
June 26	Radical Reactions at the library
July 2	Storytime at the library
July 4	Independence Day Celebration
July 8	Paint and Pour at the library
July 16	Storytime at the library
July 17	Coosa River Science School at the library
July 23	End Party/Skip Cain, The Magic Guy at the library
July 23	Ladies Lunch

YOU'RE INVITED

Mondays 9:00 a.m.	Sippin' Seniors
First Thursdays 7:00 p.m.	Book Club
Fourth Wednesdays	Ladies Lunch

To receive email reminders of activities, join the Mt Laurel Google Group. Contact the Mt Laurel Sales Office for more information on joining.

MT LAUREL LIBRARY'S SUMMER ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

SUMMER 2014



PROGRAMS for ALL AGES

Register online or at the library

Cookies and Ice Cream Social

Join us for a cool treat on a hot day and cookies from Townhouse Tea Shoppe. No registration
June 12 from 2-4 pm

Miss Kit's Bubble School

Science, comedy, bubbles.
June 19 @ 2 pm

McWane Center: Radical Reactions

Fizz, Bang, Wow! Science at the library.
June 26 @ 2 pm

Coosa River Science School: Do You Hear What I Hear?

Meet live animals and learn about their sounds.
July 17 @ 2 pm

End Party with Skip Cain, The Magic Guy

Enjoy an interactive show filled with magic, jokes, balloon sculptures, & prizes for the top Mt Laurel readers. No registration
July 23 @ 2 pm

Crafts!

Drop in each week to create a different fun item. All Ages with adult assistance. Registration is not required but supplies are limited. June 3 through July 24

Movies!

All Ages. Once the new library is open, we will show a family movie on Tuesdays at 2 pm. Snacks will be served!

LAST DAY TO LOG BOOKS: JULY 22

LAST DAY TO CLAIM LIBRARY DOLLARS: JULY 31

PROGRAMS for ADULTS

Register at the library

Backyard Beekeeping

Doris and Neal Snider of Cahaba Valley Honey will discuss bees and honey production.
June 10 @ 6:30 pm

Paint & Pour

Create a piece of art with the help of a professional. \$3 reserves your spot and helps pay for materials.
July 8 @ 6 pm

Chuck E. Cheese Fundraiser

Celebrate Summer Reading and help the library at the **Chuck E. Cheese on Hwy 280** on **June 13 from 3:00 - 9:00 pm.**

Tell the cashier you are with North Shelby Library and **your child will receive 15 free tickets.**

The library will make 15% of sales for the night. Mt Laurel is a branch of the North Shelby Library.

Toddler Tales

A story program for children 19 - 36 months and a caregiver. Stories, songs, finger plays, and crafts make up a lively 30 minute program designed especially for short attention spans.

Limit 10. Registration Required
June 4 & 18 and July 2 & 16 @ 10 am

Ms. Kristy Storytime!

All ages are welcome for songs, stories, and serious fun.
June 4 & 18 and July 2 & 16 @ 11 am

All Ages LEGO Competition

@ North Shelby on July 11
Grab a flyer for details!

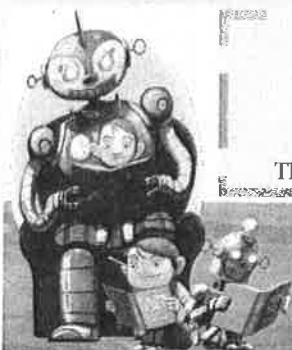
Kick-off Event: May 31 from 10 am to 1 pm at the North Shelby Library

Games, face painting, popcorn, and MORE! All ages.

End Parties: July 23 @ 2 pm at the Mt Laurel Library

July 23 @ 10:30 am or July 26 @ 6 pm at the North Shelby Library

There will be food, fun, and prizes at each party. Choose the one that best fits your schedule! All ages.



MT LAUREL PUBLIC LIBRARY
A BRANCH OF THE NORTH SHELBY LIBRARY
OLMSTED STREET - BIRMINGHAM, AL 35242
205-991-1660 - WWW.MTLAURELLIBRARY.ORG



STAY COOL AT THE POOL!

School's out and the pool is open, so it's time for summer fun. Remember that it's **SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK** this year. Parents, please supervise your children closely so that we'll have another accident-free season. Here are a few reminders:



- Running on the pool deck is the number one problem and safety issue.
- Remember that the maximum depth of the pool is only four feet, so horseplay and diving are not permitted.
- Pool Safety Rules and Regulations are posted on the right just past the gate along with emergency contact numbers.
- Children under age 14 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
- The pool hours are 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
- The pool is open only to Mt Laurel residents and their accompanied guests. Do not give your pool key to anyone. Unaccompanied guests will be asked to leave the pool.
- Please remove all your personal items when you leave the pool. Personal items remaining on the pool deck will be disposed of after 24 hours.
- Food and beverages are allowed in the picnic area only. Glass containers are not allowed.
- If you're the last one at the pool before closing, please close the umbrellas and turn off the lights and ceiling fans.
- Remember that the pool facility belongs to the residents, and residents should do their part in keeping the pool and surrounding area clean and safe.



POOL PARTIES A resident may have a party at the pool, but the pool will remain open to residents. No parties may be scheduled between 11 and 2. Any gathering must be registered with the sales office. A children's party is limited to 15 children and must have one adult chaperone per each three children present. If the area is not left clean following the party, a \$50 fine will be imposed.

SPOONWOOD LAKE

Spoonwood Lake is a beautiful spot created for the enjoyment of the community of Mt Laurel, but residents are urged to use caution and responsibility when swimming and fishing. Swim at your own risk, as there is no lifeguard on duty.

Here are a few rules for swimming and fishing:

- The lake is open only to Mt Laurel residents and their accompanied guests. Do not give your gate key to anyone. Unaccompanied guests will be asked to leave.
- All boats must be registered with the Mt Laurel office and have a registration number attached.
- Lake hours are dawn to dusk.
- Children under 12 must be accompanied by a responsible adult 19 years of age or older.
- Use caution when swimming. The water in the beach area reaches six feet deep within ten feet of the shore and is 40 feet deep at the floating dock.
- A resident may host a party at the lake, but the lake will remain open to the residents. Any gathering must be registered with the sales office. If you use the grill, please clean it and replace the cover and dispose of all trash.
- Fishing with live minnows is strictly prohibited. Introduction of foreign fish species can quickly disrupt a lake's ecosystem.
- No net fishing and casting nets allowed. This type of fishing results in a significant kill rate of bluegill and threadfin shad which are bass' primary forage supply.
- Limit on bluegill is ten per person. A healthy supply of bluegill is necessary to strengthen the largemouth bass population.
- Weekend anglers should not attempt to stock Spoonwood Lake with undesirable species of fish such as spotted bass, crappie or catfish. Trophy largemouth bass grow best when competition for forage is reduced.



AROUND TOWN AND BEYOND



THE GARDEN GROUP CONCLUDES ANOTHER BUSY YEAR

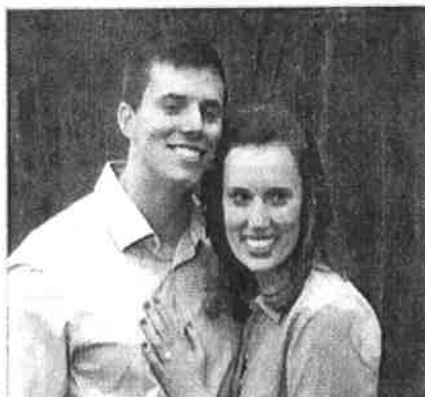
The Mt Laurel Garden Group recently elected new officers and made a \$600 contribution to the Mt Laurel Library to use for landscaping of the new building. Officers are (shown clockwise above): **Karin Franke**, treasurer; **Betty Ann O'Neal and Jeanie Tice**, Social chairmen, **Cathy Murphy**, chairman; and **Vicki Balogh**, secretary.

Also shown: **Cathy Murphy** presents six \$100 bills to **Ann Price** for the library landscaping fund.

Send News and Photos
to mtlaurelnewsletter@gmail.com



Collier Kauffman, grandson of **Mary Ayers**, graduated from Briarwood High School and will be attending the University of Alabama this fall. Collier is shown here with his parents, **Doug and Julie Kauffman**, sisters **Katherine and Lily**, and **Mimi (Mary)**.



Mike and Becky Davis are pleased to announce the engagement of their son **Corey** to **Chelsea Burns**. The proposal took place in Athens, GA on Friday the 28th of March and the wedding will be June 20, 2015 on Jekyll Island.



Adair Tishler, granddaughter of **Ward and Anne Tishler**, graduated from Franklin Road Academy in Nashville on May 25. She will intern for Congressman **Jim Cooper** in Washington, DC this summer and attend DePaul University in Chicago this fall.



Cindy and Jack Prickett welcome **John William Maroney**, the ninth Prickett grandchild. "Will" was born April 7 in Austin, TX to parents **Jacky and Patrick** and sisters **Frances and Cindy**. Aunt **Kristin** and Uncle **Cannon** and cousins **Parrish and Knox Prickett** live in Mt Laurel.

Grace Harris spent her spring break serving with Briarwood Christian School in Huehuetenango, Guatemala. They set up medical clinics and served the children in surrounding areas.

AROUND TOWN AND BEYOND

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS ON NOLEN AND ELYTON



Welcome to **Andy and Beth Price** at 72 Nolen Street, the very last house on Nolen. The Prices moved from Greystone where they have lived for ten years. Beth reports that they visited Mt Laurel many times in the past, and it is the only community that they both agreed would be wonderful. They have two children. Emily will be a sophomore at Berry College in Rome, GA in August and Matthew will

be a senior attending Indian Springs School. Emily will be available for babysitting and pet care this summer.

Welcome also to **Lee and Doris Goldenberg** and their four boys who recently moved to 113 Elyton Drive. Lee owns and operates a family chiropractic office, Greystone Chiropractic.

Doris is a stay-at-home mom with William (12), Michael (6), Charlie (3) and Zevi (1) and also is the manager for the office. William will attend the Alabama School of Fine Arts for Math and Science, and the younger boys attend Hilltop Montessori. The chiropractic center just celebrated a name change (formerly Goodson Health and Wellness) with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 1.



SPRING SCENES IN THE HOOD



IN CONCERT WITH NATURE



"In Concert with Nature" is a regular newsletter section that features topics about the landscape and design concept of Mt Laurel and also items of seasonal interest for homeowners, contributed by Jill Walton. Jill is a Mt Laurel resident and holds the Master Gardener Certification.

DELIGHT IN NATIVE PERENNIALS

As you know, we are tasked with planting only native plants in our publicly viewable yard spaces. It's one of the many aspects that makes Mt Laurel special and unique—that we don't only "Leave the Trees," we respect all of the natural landscape of this area. In the last publication, we featured some native shrubs to think about for your property. You might, however, be more interested in something smaller and perhaps colorful enough to give all those non-native showy annuals and perennials a run for their money. We have some ideas for you there. You've probably been noticing some beautiful perennials in yards and common areas around town lately. Here are a few we've spotted since spring that you could use to adorn the view from your porch.

There are several varieties of **Beeblossom (Gaura)** blooming throughout Mt Laurel now. They produce pink or white blossoms on long arching stems that appear in the late spring and can continue throughout the summer. Most will form about a 12-inch clump of foliage with the flowering stems reaching 18 inches to three feet. They like full sun, and look very at home planted with that great standby, **Purple Coneflower (Echinacea)**, which will eventually form a clump 18 inches to two feet and a stem height of two to five feet. Its standout blooms are nice for cutting and also for attracting butterflies. Also, if you leave the seed heads on the plant through the winter, you'll find the birds happy for the available natural food source.



Gaura



Purple coneflower



Brown eyed Susan

Mexican hat

Another branch of the coneflower family with multiple showy choices is **Rudbeckia**. Most of these are considered annuals or short-lived perennials, though they self-seed quite well, so no worries there. This wonderful group of about 25 choices includes **Black** and **Brown-Eyed Susans**, **Orange Coneflower**, and **Giant Coneflower**. There is yet another coneflower to consider, that's as bright and cheerful as any other, **Mexican hat**, which of course offers flowers that have the appearance of tiny sombreros. These all bear up wonderfully well to our hot and often dry summers, which of course, is one of the many reasons to use native plant materials. Once established, you won't have to spend all your "spare" time watering them to keep them from browning to a crisp.

If you're interested in something a bit softer in tone, there are plenty of choices, including **Dwarf Crested Iris**, which only grows six to eight inches tall. Its lovely springtime purple flowers would work very nicely in a shaded rock garden. If you'd prefer a blue/purple late spring bloom with a bit more stature, **Wild Indigo** is probably for you. With stunning three- to four-foot-tall blue spikes of flowers, it's perfect for just about any sunny spot you'd like to put it. It's also a host plant for multiple types of butterflies. For some blues (or whites or purples) that will cool



Dwarf crested iris



Stokes aster

you from summer to fall, try out **Stokes Aster**. This semi-evergreen grows 12 to 30 inches high and if regularly deadheaded, will reward you with blooms from May through September.

These are just some of the options out there for brightening your view. Once you get accustomed to planting native, you'll wonder why anyone is buying those high-maintenance droopers.