

THE

MT LAUREL CHRONICLE

Volume No. 3 Issue 2

A Traditional Community in Concert with Nature

July/September 2005

July 4th Celebration, 2005

July 4th carries a very special meaning in the United States as we celebrate our independence and freedom and remember the sacrifices which have been made and are being made by so many to ensure our liberties and to protect the ideals set forth in the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America.



To begin the weekend activities, on Saturday morning, July 2, children appeared on vehicles decorated with red, white and blue trimmings for the 4th of July Parade. Uncle Sam appeared on his bike to join in the Parade which began at Olmsted Park to wind around the neighborhood of Mt Laurel and return to the site of the beginning of the Parade for cold slices of watermelon and cupcakes. What a wonderful beginning for the day's activities.

held at Abbott Square Park as residents and their family members shared their dishes with each other under the muscadine vines. Children played, stories were told, and memories were revived as everyone who attended once again savored the moments of fellowship with neighbors until thunder announced an oncoming summer shower.

seats for the fireworks display at the Lake. What a show! Jeff Jackson, Scott Stone and Jon Thompson, the "Pyro Team", masterfully carried out a program of fireworks to rival any other show around. Gasps were heard, ohs and ahs, and then clapping when the colors burst across the sky above the Lake. What an enchanting way to end the day and the festivities. Thanks go out to the Events Committee and all who helped to make the July 4th celebration for 2005 at Mt Laurel a time to be talked about and remembered.

Later than afternoon, a Potluck Supper was

Everyone returned to their homes to await the next event of the weekend, festivities at Spoonwood Lake after sundown. The crowd began the gather before sundown to get choice

The Blueberry

Who at Mt Laurel doesn't have a blueberry bush in their yard? This year the blueberries were so large, it appeared some of the branches of the bushes might break!

Each resident of Mt Laurel is provided with a copy of the Town of Mt Laurel Residential Landscape Regulations, which lists the plants approved for use in the front and side yards visible from the public way. In each issue of The Mt Laurel Chronicle, at least one of the approved plants for landscaping in Mt Laurel will be featured and a description of the plant will be given along with care instructions. In this issue, the featured approved plant is the blueberry (*vaccinium* sp.).

The blueberry is easy to care for and is rarely bothered by insects or diseases. In the spring, the plants are covered with white, bell-shaped flowers. In June and July, you can see the evidence of the



compatibility of this beautiful native plant to the soil and climate of Mt Laurel when the fruit of the plant is ready to be eaten. The blueberry is delicious if eaten as soon as you pick the ripened blueberries off the bush or the berries will keep about a week if they are handled properly. To enjoy blueberries all year, pack freshly-picked berries in containers in the freezer. Native Americans dried blueberries for the winter. They were powdered to make "Sautauthig", a pudding with cornmeal, honey and water, and were used as a seasoning for smoked meats and stews.

The Native Americans were onto a good thing. Besides their wonderful flavor, blueberries have been found to have the highest antioxidant activity when compared to forty other fruits and vegetables. Antioxidants help prevent cancer, heart diseases and the effects of aging. One-half cup of blueberries provides as much antioxidant power as five servings of broccoli, peas or apples. At the 2004 International Conference on Longevity, a group of researchers released details of a study that suggests certain compounds found in blueberries (and some similar fruits,

(Blueberry Continued on p. 8) _____

Dunnivant Valley Greenway

Would you like to have a pedestrian link between the neighborhoods of Highway 41? Can you imagine – 11.4 miles of walkways linking Highway 280 to Highway 25. It would be called the Dunnivant Valley Greenway. The Greenway would enhance the quality of life for the Dunnivant Valley community by providing a unique recreational amenity in a park-like setting. The Greenway would create a linear amenity similar to Jemison Trail in Mountain Brook. The plan is to develop the Greenway in two phases – the first phase to be constructed from Shelby County Soccer and Recreational Facility on Highway 280 to Shoal Creek and the second phase to be constructed for the remainder of Highway 41 to Highway 25. Future plans call for the preservation of green space, scenic views, wild life preservation and access to hiking and bike trails.

The Friends of Dunnivant Valley Greenway, Inc. (“FDV”), a nonprofit organization composed of people from various neighborhoods in Dunnivant Valley, meet to discuss community issues. Jim Landreth, Renee and Scott Prescott, Elton B. Stephens, Jr., Ward Tishler, and Rip Weaver from Mt Laurel are active members of the organization. FDV is

working together with the Shelby County Planning Commission, the Shelby County Department of Development Services and the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham to implement a comprehensive plan for the continued development of Shelby County to accommodate growth effectively and efficiently, while also protecting the rural character so cherished by the citizens of Shelby County.

Are you wondering what you can do? Keep a watchful eye for notices regarding issues requiring a vote and be sure to vote; volunteer to help FDV; donations can be made to FDV to support their efforts; and if you or your friends have land in the Dunnivant Valley area, donations of land via land trusts are invaluable assets toward the accomplishment of the Dunnivant Valley Greenway and maintaining a green infrastructure in the Dunnivant Valley community. To be up for the task, an informed, alert and engaged citizenry will be needed to assure the protection and enhancement of our communities. If you have questions, please contact Ward Tishler at txag52@bellsouth.net.

MT LAUREL Library

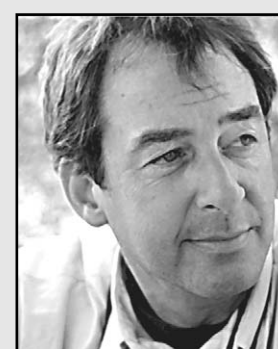
Shhhhhhh! Rows and rows of books. Somber atmosphere. Nope. That’s not our Library. As you step through the door of Jimbo’s at Mt Laurel, to your left you will see the Mt Laurel branch of the Shelby County Library. Minnie and Mickey sit atop the shelves lined with the current assortment of books you can check out. The Library is maintained by the North Shelby Library and is supported by a small group of volunteers from Mt Laurel and other communities in our area.



Let’s go back to the beginning. As the founder of Mt Laurel and others began to plan the layout of the Town of Mt Laurel, a library was included in the plan. A place for a quiet time for reading or research and for meetings. When you look at the drawings, you will see the prospective position of the Mt Laurel Library. If you close your eyes, you can almost hear the sound of footsteps of students and others walking and running up the front steps to enter the Library

to begin their quest for more knowledge. With the diligent help of the Library Committee (Sidney Green, Chairman, Pam Kinnebrew, Cheryl Landreth, Jackie Reynolds, Susie Schor, and Elton B. Stephens, Jr.), in the not too distant future, perhaps you won’t need to close your eyes and imagine, you will be able to approach the real front doors of the Mt Laurel Library along with others.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with the Mt Laurel Library, please contact Ward Tishler at 995-1805 or Txag52@bellsouth.net. You can check out the North Shelby Library at www.northshelby library.org.



Elton B. Stephens, Jr.

The Town of MT LAUREL

Few neighborhoods start with a longing for the past. Mt Laurel did. Town Founder, Elton B. Stephens Jr., pictured in his mind the traditional neighborhoods that once dotted America – those with character, respect for nature and, above all else, individuality. And so was born The Town of Mt Laurel.



John O. Freeman Sr.

Mr. Freeman’s Corner

Happenings around Mt Laurel: (1) EBSCO has made a donation for beautification of Mt Laurel Elementary School; (2) two tennis courts will be constructed at Mt Laurel and pricing is being reviewed; (3) the arbor has been completed at the Mt Laurel swimming pool and the fire pit will be ready for use for this winter; and (4) construction continues with homes being built in Phase III of Mt Laurel.

The Town of Mt Laurel Community

One definition of community states: "A community is best defined as a group of people who, regardless of the diversity of their backgrounds, have been able to accept and transcend their differences, enabling them to communicate effectively and openly and to work together toward goals identified as being for their common good."

To know the Town of Mt Laurel is to know the community of Mt Laurel – the people of the businesses, the Mt Laurel Sales Office, the Fire Department, the schools and the churches. Beyond the entrance to Mt Laurel, if you are a resident of Mt Laurel, you experience the community of people who make Mt Laurel their home.

The Town Businesses

Standard Bistro fuses Southern cooking with French cuisine and only the freshest natural foods to create a taste that is truly unique. Dress casually but dine elegantly at the Standard Bistro. 3 Mt Laurel Drive. 995-0512.

Mt Laurel Hardware & General Store provides grocery and hardware items, from milk and snacks to paint brushes and nails. Grab a cold one from the Coca-Cola drink box, have a key made while you browse, and stay for a game of checkers if you have the time. 7 Mt Laurel Drive. 408-2220.

Jimbo's Soda Fountain serves fresh, hot sandwiches, soups and other delicious breakfast and lunch items. For dessert or a snack, Jimbo's scoops up the best ice cream cone this side of town! 9 Mt Laurel Drive. 408-2268.

Mt Laurel Apothecary is a full-service pharmacy with fast, friendly service and competitive pricing. The Apothecary has a full line of prescription and over the counter products, accepts most insurance plans, and prescription delivery is available upon request. 11 Mt Laurel Avenue. 408-5630.

Fitness Together specializes in individual training programs that get results, offering one-on-one instruction in private studios. The Fitness Together motto – "one client, one trainer, one goal". 15 Mt Laurel Drive. 981-1115.

Guthrie Development Company – a real estate development company. Projects include the DPZ planned community of Bon Secour Village in Gulf Shores, Alabama. 1 Mt Laurel Avenue, Suite 210. 408-9411. www.guthriedev.com.

Mt Laurel Cleaners – Dry cleaning and laundry • alterations • draperies • suede/leather • household items • iron sheets • 56 Manning Place. 980-0825

Mt Laurel Dentistry offers state of the art comfort and the latest in dental technology for a full service dental clinic prepared to treat the entire family. Scott Russell, D.M.D., is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and UAB School of Dentistry with a residency completed at University Hospital in Birmingham. 58 Manning Place. 408-3882.

Southern Pines Chiropractic Center - Let us help you and your family achieve and maintain optimal health through natural chiropractic care and traditional and non-needle acupuncture. We are dedicated to educating you about the many wonderful benefits of our drug-free and surgery-free method of health care. Dr. Jessica Dietrich-Marsh. 50 Manning Place. 437-8837.

Daniel Capital Lending is committed to providing the highest quality of service for each person seeking financing for his or her home. 46 Manning Place. 408-1848.

Brown Dog Interiors offers fashionable home interiors, antiques and interior decorating services by Jennifer O'Neil. 42 Manning Place. 437-8252.

Main Street Florist carries exquisite flowers and gifts for all occasions and specializes in wedding and event planning. 38 Manning Place. 408-2717. www.msflorist.com.

Open Creative Group is a full-service design and advertising agency specializing in brand identity, collateral materials, print and broadcast advertising, and interactive design. 40 Manning Place. 437-3395. amraz@opencreativegroup.com.

High Pointe Spa offers an impressive selection of services, including massage therapy, facials, esthetic services, body treatments and complete hair, makeup and nail salon services. The Spa boasts custom International Excursion packages, a Vichy shower and the only hydrotherapy tub in Birmingham. 34 Manning Place. 408-0737.

2B Solutions - 2B Solutions focuses on the technical and business needs of customers. We believe success comes with offering meaningful solutions that work to serve the customer. 21 Manning Place. 408-9991. www.2Bsolutions.net.

Area 41 Pizza Company - Opening soon! 30 Manning Place. 995-0141.

Corner Café - "Let's get together" for gourmet coffee, European-style pastries and bread, soups, salads, and unique sandwiches, or give us a call and place an order for dinner, pick it up your on the way home, pop it in the oven, and then sit down to a dinner prepared by a chef! 27 Olmsted Street. 995-8848.

Rose Tea Room – Make your reservation for a tea luncheon and be served three different teas during lunch along with soup, breadsticks, chicken salad croissant, and a three plate tea tray with scones, fruit, tea sandwiches, desserts and chocolate covered fruit. 23 Olmsted Street. 408-4390.

(Community Continued on p. 4)

(Community Continued from p. 3)

Residents of Mt Laurel who operate their businesses from their residences offer the following:

David N. Brush Landscape Architecture specializes in high-end, custom residential design, offering full design services for all of your landscape architectural needs.

Mallory Carrington is an educational and independent consultant for Osborne Books, a company that provides unique, inexpensive children's books to schools and individuals.

Clear Solutions offers home solutions, including automation, home theater, audio and video distribution, computer networks, lighting and HVAC control to enhance your existing home or a home under construction. 873-0542.

Extec Screens and Crushers Southeast, LLC – We sell and rent heavy equipment for screening, crushing, excavating and recycling needs. www.extecscreens.com.

"*Happy Paws*", a company providing reliable, in-home pet sitting services to care for your pets while you are away. 981-1488.

Angela M. Johnsey, RN, CH - certified hypnotherapist – "Guiding you to health and wellness". 995-1704.

Alan Lee Company, LLC, CPAs provides tax preparation and accounting services for small businesses and individuals. 408-1995. alan@alanleecompany.com.

"*Own A Home*" Consulting helps obtain financing for a home if you want to own a home but can't qualify for financing. 1-800-345-9688, Ext. 7200.

Premier Designs Jewelry – Cheryl Harper, independent consultant, representing a large line of high fashion jewelry with over 700 items in the latest catalog. To receive a catalog or schedule a viewing, call 408-4231 or e-mail Cheryl_pdj@yahoo.com.

Rorie Scroggins is a *Juice Plus+®* consultant. *Juice Plus+®* provides whole food based nutrition, the nutritional essence of 17 different fruits, vegetables and grains in convenient capsule form.

Tigris Development – Sean Caskie – consulting and operations services in conflict, post-conflict and emerging markets to the defense and infrastructure sectors.

Thrash Associates – Diane Thrash, Interior Designer. Superior quality hard surface window treatments for sale, including all types of blinds, wooden shutters, pleated shades and woven woods. 205-223-3304 for a quote.

The Town Churches

St John's of Mt Laurel, a traditional Episcopal church which is part of the Reformed Episcopal Church using the 1928 Book of Common Prayer, began its ministry at Mt Laurel with meetings in a resident's carriage home in 2002. Father Scott Houser, the rector of St. John's, now invites you to their new location at 11 Olmsted Street in the Town of Mt Laurel. Services begin with Sunday School for all ages at 9:00 a.m. and Holy Communion at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. Check out St. John's website at <http://webpages.charter.net/marktaylor/stjohns/> for additional

information about activities of the Church. Throughout the year, activities are held at Mt Laurel, such as church picnics and Vacation Bible School.

Double Oak Community Church is a non-denominational church committed to excellence in ministry to all ages. DOCC began its worship services at Mt Laurel Elementary School located at the end of Olmsted Street in Mt Laurel on January 16, 2005. Pastor Randy Overstreet invites you to a contemporary blended worship service at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday. DOCC has extended its ministry in activities throughout the year, including Community Stages at Mt Laurel and Beach Blast Vacation Bible School. Visit the DOCC website at www.DoubleOakCC.org for additional information about the Church and its activities.

The Town Schools

Mt Laurel Elementary School

On August 10, the halls of Mt Laurel Elementary School began to fill up again as children poured into the school for the first day of the new school year. In only its second year of existence, the School has an enrollment of 585 students.

Principal Bill Naugher expects this year to be a fantastic one with many activities planned for the School and the community, including: October 4-14 - a visit of Body Trek, the educational truck from University of Alabama in Birmingham for learning about the human body; October 20 – recognition of students who have exhibited thoughtful and kind behavior, as well as random acts of kindness, and announcement of the Student of the Month; October 24-28 – Drug Awareness Week and 5th Grade trip to Washington, D.C.; October 21 – Fall Festival. Visit the new website for Mt. Laurel Elementary School – www.mt.laurel.elementary.com to find out more about the School and events.

Hilltop Montessori School

The coming year will be an exceptional time for Hilltop Montessori School. In September, the School officially broke ground on the new state-of-the-art LEED rated green school. Students will be able to witness the new facility being constructed, actively learning about the unique components of their new building and the importance of living "green".

The School offers an individualized program for students: toddlers through middle school students learn Spanish, participate in art and music as they move at their own pace through the hands-on Montessori curriculum. Hilltop offers a premium education with an environmental influence, teaching the children to be the leaders of the future in terms of protecting our planet and its natural resources.

November 5 is the date for the annual "Hilltop on the Green" fundraiser held at The Standard Bistro, hosting an evening of food, entertainment and an auction for the new school. Mt Laurel residents are invited to participate. This year will be the first year the School will award the Elton B. Stephens, Jr. Environmental Award. This year promises to be the best year yet!

Fire Department

Mt Laurel Fire Station 183 – 60 Manning Place. Charles H. Morton, Fire Chief. On-duty firefighter paramedics 24-7. 408-7734. If you have an emergency, be sure to dial 911.

(Community Continued on p. 8)

The Farmers Market at Mt Laurel

Another wonderful summer has come and gone and the farmers and vendors who came to Mt Laurel on Saturdays during the summer of 2005 have driven away to hopefully return next summer. If you did not stroll to the center of the Town of Mt Laurel on a Saturday morning, you missed an opportunity to purchase Alabama grown vegetables and fruits and items crafted by artisans of the region.

Those who ventured out in the rain on June 11 were able to talk with and purchase native plants from Jan Midgley, the author of *Alabama Wildflowers*. On the third Saturday of each month, a gourmet chef drew the crowds to watch as delectable treats were prepared for the onlookers who listened carefully to the instructions of the chefs as they prepared the dish of the day – the guest chefs included Daniel Briggs of *Daniel George Restaurant*; Alan Martin, the executive chef of *Standard Bistro*; and Cliff Holt of *Little Savannah*.

Thanks to Kelly Burley, the organizer for The Farmers Market for 2005! Where did the summer go!



Bunco Night at Mt Laurel

On a given night each month, ladies at Mt Laurel are invited to gather to engage in the fine art of a game called Bunco. No, this is not a swindling game or scheme but a fun time to be had by all who attend. The ladies enjoy the camaraderie and just sheer fun!

On June 21, 2005, the game was put aside and the ladies gathered at What's Cooking, a shop at Lee Branch. Patricia J. Kes ("PJ"), a financial advisor with Parish, Steed & Associates, in partnership with Merrill Lynch, sponsored a cooking class for the residents of Mt Laurel at What's Cooking, featuring Lynn Graham, a chef who prepared, among other incredible dishes, the most delectable grits you could ever put in your mouth. Food, comedy, neighbors, and a smattering of financial advice (2 + 2 = 5) made the evening a memorable experience. You just had to be there.



Groove In the Grove!

Residents of MT LAUREL were invited to attend an exciting event on Saturday evening, August 20, 2005, in Bryson Square – Groove in the Grove! Over 120 people enjoyed, and danced to, the cool blend of funk, blues, jazz and rock music of the band engaged for the evening, Meteorite. Beer, wine, and hors d'oeuvres were served as the sun began to set over MT LAUREL and an ever so slight breeze blew through the trees lit with shimmering lights.

People laughed, danced and whiled away the night at what was acclaimed as the "biggest, coolest, bestest" event of the year. A big "Thank You" goes out to Cathrene Jackson, Carrie Lusk, Karen Salter, Chris Stone and Catherine Thompson, the event coordinators.



Mraz – Vizzina Wedding

April Mraz and Michael Vizzina were married on August 1, 2005, at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. A small group of family and friends attended the ceremony and the reception held at Antica Trattoria. Flowers were provided by Main Street Florist. The couple honeymooned in Sausalito and reside at 79 Hawthorn Street.



Little Bundles Arrive!

Chloe Dietrich Marsh born on August 18, 2005, 8 lbs., 18 inches long; daughter of Jessica and Russell Marsh, sister of Marissa and Emily Marsh

Martin Joseph Ahearn, born on September 2, 2005, 7 lbs., 13 oz.; 21 inches long; son of Gabrielle and Patrick Ahearn; brother of Nicholas Ahearn

Get Cookin'

Roast Butternut Squash Soup with Leeks and Pecan Pesto

(Ingredients for soup)
3 large butternut squash
3 leeks
1 ½ qt. chicken stock (or water)
1 cup heavy cream
pinch of ground nutmeg
salt and pepper to taste

(Ingredients for Pesto)
handful of basil
2 cloves garlic
⅓ cup pecans
⅓ cup parmesan cheese
½ cup extra virgin olive oil

Peel squash. Remove seeds. Place in roasting pan with 2 cups of stock (or water). Season with salt. Cover and bake at 350 degrees until tender. Puree. Clean leeks, removing tough, dark green portion. Slice thinly. In heavy bottom pot, cook leeks, stock and puréed squash over medium heat for ten minutes. Finish with cream, nutmeg, salt and pepper to taste.

Courtesy of Alan Martin, Executive Chef, Standard Bistro

Busy Mama's Chili

2 lbs. ground beef or turkey
1 envelope taco seasoning
8 oz. picante sauce

1 can petite diced tomatoes
1 can chili beans
1 or more cups of water as desired

Brown meat in dutch oven or deep pot. Add taco seasoning as per directions on envelope. Add picante sauce, tomatoes, beans and 1-cup water. Simmer 30 minutes on low/med heat. Stir occasionally. (NOTE: this is even better left over and reheated. Can be doubled or tripled depending on the size of your family)

Courtesy of Melody Crocker

Easy Dessert Tip!

Pears are great to have around when a quick dessert is needed. Cut them in half, place in a baking dish, sprinkle with brown sugar and a pat of butter on top. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

Sippin' Seniors

On June 6, 2005, a group called the Sippin' Seniors began to meet for coffee. At first the meetings were held at 8 a.m. at Jimbo's, then 8:30, and then as the time moved to 9:00 a.m. on July 25, George Meighen, organizer of Sippin' Seniors, announced that the meeting had standing room only (almost). Oh if those walls had ears! It is said they share stories and laughter and maybe some tricks? No dress code, no need for IDs, and actually no age limit. For those who live the life of Riley, you can join the early morning meetings of the Sippin' Seniors. As George has noted, "Youth is the gift of nature, but age is a work of art" so you can sip a cup of coffee with some "works of art" at Jimbo's at Mt Laurel.

On August 18, the Sippin' Seniors met for the first monthly dinner meeting with nineteen people attending. The highlight of the evening was the celebration of the birthday of the founder of Sippin' Seniors, George Meighen, who, to no one's surprise, had no difficulty in blowing out the candles.

Such a good time was had by all, it was agreed that a monthly evening meeting would be a good thing. Watch for announcements about time and place!

Water Aerobics

You heard the call, well, not the bugle call, but more of an invite to join others for water aerobics at the swimming pool at Mt Laurel during the summertime. Did you heed the call? If you didn't, those who participated can tell you that you missed a good workout. George Meighen, known to the participants as "Colonel", barked out the commands, "Raise those knees!" "Higher!" "Run!" "No laughing!" The water churned as the participants kept the pace. The Colonel encouraged participation by sending out e-mail announcements to the residents, which included such comments as "More people rust out than wear out".

Just think, if you had participated in the water aerobics program at Mt Laurel swimming pool during the summer of 2005, you would have had a leg up on the competition. Maybe you will have another opportunity next year.



Red-headed Woodpecker
by James Coe

The Red-headed Woodpecker

As you walk around Mt Laurel, have you seen a streak of red, black and white flying among the trees? If so, you have seen one of the family members of our red-headed woodpeckers. The red-headed woodpecker is the only woodpecker in North America with an entirely red head and neck. The back is solid black and the belly is white. Its white inner wing patches and white rump are especially noticeable in flight. Because of its red head and white breast, this bird has been called patriotic bird and flag bird, among other interesting nicknames.

This species is of high conservation concern because a 50% population loss has been noted rangewide since 1966. Reasons are not clear, but it is felt that a decline in farming and the associated loss of open woodlots, coupled with competition from other birds for nesting cavities, are particularly responsible for the decline.

The red-headed woodpecker feeds on wood-boring and flying insects, fruit, and corn and may be attracted to a backyard feeder with suet, sunflower seeds, cracked corn and bread.

What can we do? With "in concert with nature" as one of our three core values, we can be aware that Mother Nature establishes the environment for her children, which we should be careful not to destroy. Audubon's Important Bird Area program is a vital tool for the conservation of red-headed woodpeckers as well as other species. If you are interested in the program, go to the website, <http://Audubon.org/bird/iba/>

2nd Annual Shake & Bake 5K

The air was heavy but the temperature was nice when participants in the Town of Mt Laurel 2nd Annual Shake & Bake 5K began to sign up for the race around 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 6, 2005. A good number of Mt Laurel residents signed up and stood around anxiously waiting for the race to begin. Wonder if Miles Brush had to sign up and wear a numbered shirt as he enjoyed the ride in his stroller as Dad raced?



The race began with John O. Freeman, Sr., shouting, Get ready, Get set, and the gun didn't fire. Go! And so the racers were off and running down toward Highway 41 for the first leg of the race. As they rounded the race course, soccer players from the Attack 88 Black Soccer Team were point guards to steer them on their way with directions and encouragement. The race map carried the runners from the start point at Mt Laurel Avenue out to Highway 41 then back into the Town of Mt Laurel up Hawthorn Street to

Olmstead Street, down Burnham Street and to the finish line on Mt Laurel Avenue.

The first person to cross the finish line was Ellis Porch with a time of 17:44:9., winning the prize of a 3 day/2 night trip to Gatlinburg, Tennessee,

compliments of Travel Planners. A gift basket, compliments of Main Street Florist, was given to the overall female winner, Nicole Muldowney. Mt Laurel residents who came across the finish line were Brian Parker, James Landreth, David Brush, Matt Cash, Lisa Brush, Blair Canale, Mallory Carrington, Lauren Shaw, and Mark Taylor. Congratulations to all!

If you didn't participate in or stand on your porch to watch, you missed out on an exciting event at Mt Laurel. Thanks to Bill Kreis and all who helped to make it happen!

It's Summertime and the Living Is Easy, Fish are Jumping...

Well, for those who pulled in the fish at the Shrimp Boil & Fishing Tournament at Mt Laurel, the living might not have been so easy but it sure looked like fun!

The banks of Spoonwood Lake were lined with fishermen and fisherwomen on June 18, 2005, while others fished from boats on the Lake, hoping to catch the largest fish of the day. Spectators took a lakeside seat to watch the competition. Avid fisherpersons know that you can't expect to catch anything of significance in the heat of the day but several people proved that the right fisherperson can catch fish anywhere, anytime - practically. Charlie Peters brought in the first catch of the day at a little past 2 p.m. but involuntarily lost his catch before the scales could register his potential winner. The fisherman who weighed in with the largest catch of the day was Gentry Gonzales, who

caught a 3 lb. bass using an artificial black worm as bait. Dr. Gonzales was fishing from a boat captained by Matt Cash. That bass just thought



he could hide in the cluster of tree trunks in the middle of the Lake!

The reward for everyone was an outstanding feast of boiled shrimp with corn and potatoes, a keg of ice cold Heineken beer, cold soft drinks and water, chips and salsa. Oh, not to forget hot dogs on the grill. The shrimp was proclaimed the best ever by many. The cooks would only tell that the batch was prepared using a secret backwoods recipe from the Gulf Coast. Thanks to the Homeowners Association Events Committee for a wonderful time, and a special thanks to Scott Stone and Jon Thompson.

Good company, good food, cold drinks and a gorgeous sunny Saturday afternoon in Mt Laurel. How much better can it get! By the way, it was rumored that an 8 lb. bass got away!

<i>Community</i>	<i>Respect for Nature</i>	<i>Commitment to the Future</i>
Change landscaping to greenscaping, practice the 4-Rs: Reduce; Reuse; Recycle; Rebuy www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/green/index.htm .	If we all make little contributions, the impact over time can be huge.	Help protect all the creatures and plants – the circle of life connects us all.

The Town
of
MT LAUREL
An EBSCO Community

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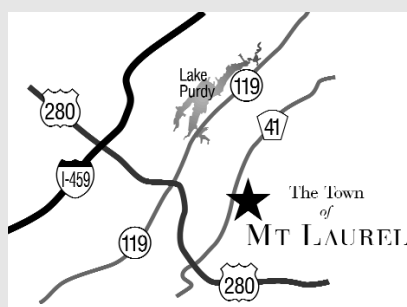
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www.mtlaurel.com

(Blueberry Continued from p. 1)

including cranberries) have a significant impact in reducing the degradation of brain function, as in Alzheimer's disease and other conditions. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blueberry>)

Blueberries grow wild over the eastern United States and are important food for wildlife. Residents at Mt Laurel have seen the mockingbirds and red-headed woodpeckers feasting on the blueberries. If you are primarily interested in the beauty of the plants and in supporting your local bird population, variety is not important. However, if you are interested in enjoying the

blueberries along with the birds, the rabbiteye (*Vaccinium ashe*) is a variety that is native to the Southeast and is the most popular species grown throughout Alabama. Blueberries require acid soil and need plenty of sunshine for plentiful yields. When planting, plant with lots of organic matter and compost in the root zone. Keep a thick layer of mulch around your blueberry bushes to eliminate weeds and help keep the soil moist. The best time for planting is in the spring. Do not add fertilizer at the time of transplanting. From the spring following transplanting, you can add fertilizer once in the spring and again in late summer to help

promote the buds for next year's fruit but be aware that over-fertilizing can damage your blueberry bush. If you prune your blueberry bush, prune in the winter and remember that the blueberry buds form on second year wood. The advantage to pruning is healthier plants and fewer but bigger berries.

You may be disappointed when the last blueberry is eaten by you or by the animals, but do not dismay! During the fall, you will be in for a beautiful display of fall colors on the foliage of the blueberry bush.

(Community Continued from p. 4)



EBSCO Development Company, Inc. and Town Builders, Inc.

General Manager's Office – John O. Freeman, Sr., General Manager and Vice President of EBSCO Development Company, Inc.; Superintendents of Construction – Kenny Cost, Bryan Phillips, and Roger Spratlin; Samantha Hardy and Liz Pharris, Administrative Assistants.

Landscape Architecture - Rip Weaver, Landscape Architect; Michael Newton and Onesimo Martines Banabria.

The Sales Office - Della Pender, Sales Manager, Judy Bross and Mary Jane Kelly, Sales Associates; Mary Peters, Office Manager.

Various divisions and branches of EBSCO Industries have offices at Mt Laurel. After all, why not take advantage of such an enticing setting of a mixed-use community!

The Residents

The residents of Mt Laurel share a commonality of interests, the first of which is the interest in the well being of their neighbors. When new neighbors arrive, when neighbors leave, when neighbors experience the arrival of new members or members are ill, the community responds with actions which show the love and concern of the community. When issues arise which are of concern to the community, the residents respond with diversity of expression. A "family" is thriving.

When you visit Mt Laurel, you will quickly find the beauty and essence of the community of Mt Laurel – the people.

