

THE PELHAM  
**PATHWAY**



Issue 13  
DECEMBER 2024

Pelham's News Magazine



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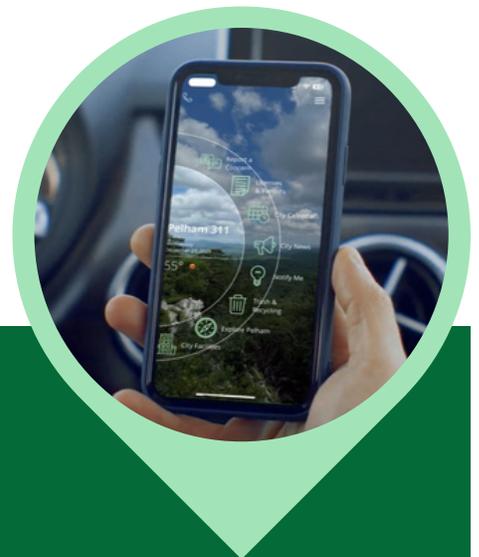
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THE PELHAM  
**PATHWAY**



DECEMBER  
2024

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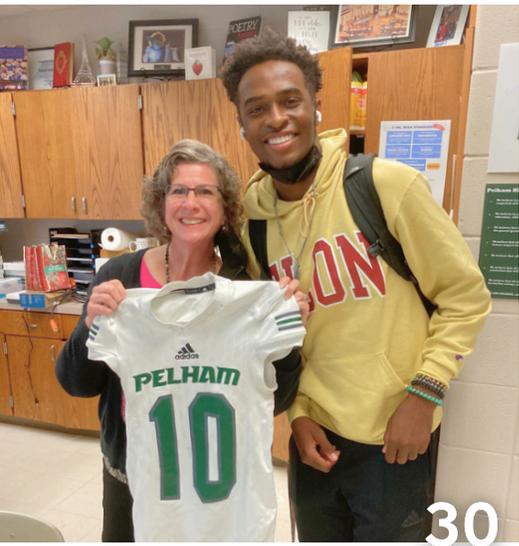
**Attention Pelham HOAs**



16



22



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# CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

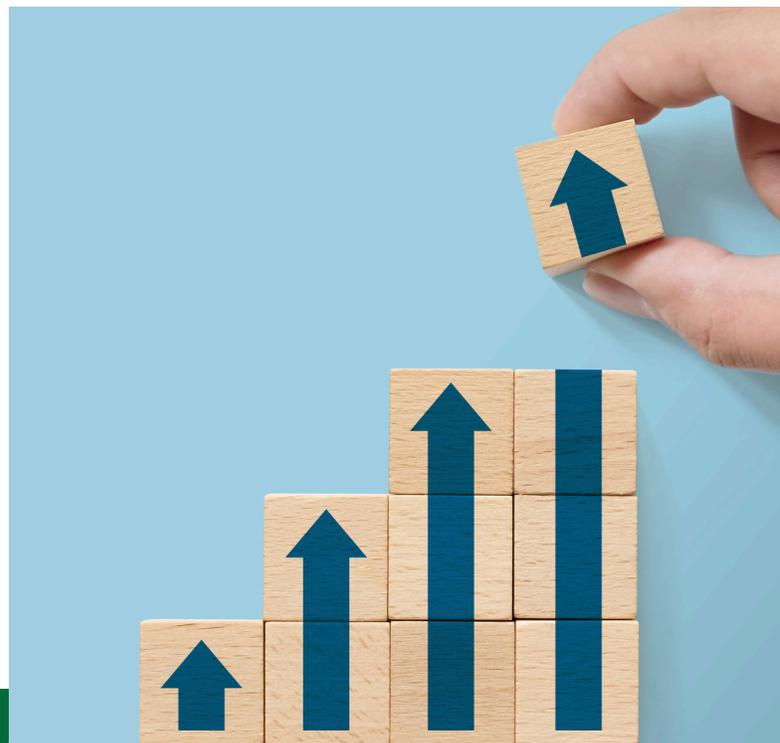
## YEAR IN REVIEW

BY: GRETCHEN DIFANTE

I used to really enjoy playing poker, and I was very good at it. The way I discovered I had more than average poker skills occurred early in my career when I was very new in a media sales position at a sports radio station in Buffalo, New York. The sales team was on a three-day off-site intensive training and retreat. One evening after dinner, I joined a friendly poker game with colleagues. The company's national sales manager joined the game, and we had been playing for almost two hours when the manager announced he was turning in for the night. He handed me \$2,000, telling the group that his best chances of a return on his money lay with me. Until that moment, the game had been pretty chill and was beginning to bore me; however, as soon as he entrusted me with his money, it became intense and competitive, and I upped my game.

Two things happened that night: I nearly doubled the big boss' money, and I earned the respect of the all-male sales team members, most of whom were from Canada or upstate New York and had never encountered an intense poker-playing girl, much less one with a thick southern accent. Two other things also happened because of that night: I never again played poker for money because I realized that I enjoyed it too much and recognized that the combination of enjoying it and being good could get me into situations I had no interest in.

Two, I began to appreciate how much I enjoyed the responsibility of being entrusted with things that were important and valuable to others. When I look back on the times in life when I have been the most fulfilled, those times almost always involve someone trusting me to help them achieve something tangible and meaningful. While I didn't find meaning in using my skills to earn more money for the wealthy sales manager, the satisfaction of being able to strategize, face competition, and prevail to help another was real.





## Emergency Transport

While the past seven years have been a tremendous privilege because this great city's citizens and elected officials have entrusted the staff and me with your money, public assets, and safety, this past fiscal year was extra special. After studying every aspect of emergency medical transport and working with multiple partnering organizations to determine the best strategy, the City Council supported Chief Mike Reid's recommendation to bring on the service. The fire department hired and trained staff, set up medical billing, and ordered supplies. The ambulances, paid for by Shelby County, arrived in September and October. We will start transport in January and are ready to bring our citizens the professionalism and intense attention to quality the Pelham Fire Department is known for.



See page 16 for more about Pelham's EMS transport services.



## Law Enforcement and Traffic Management

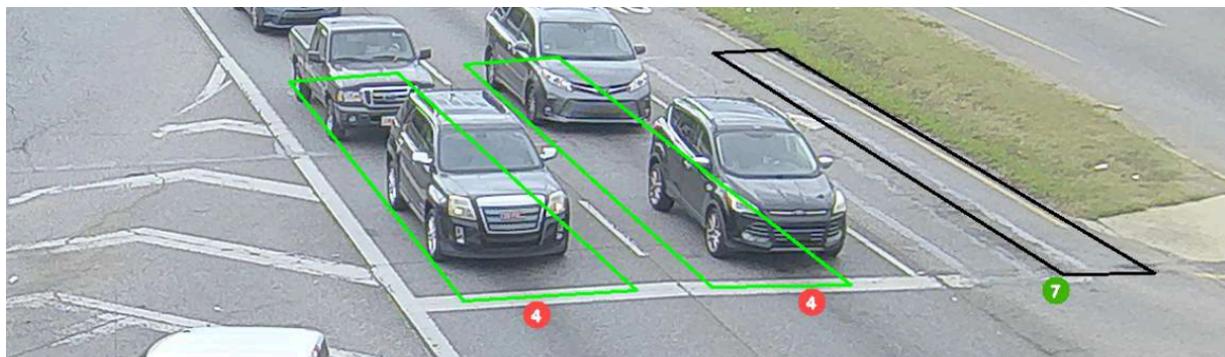
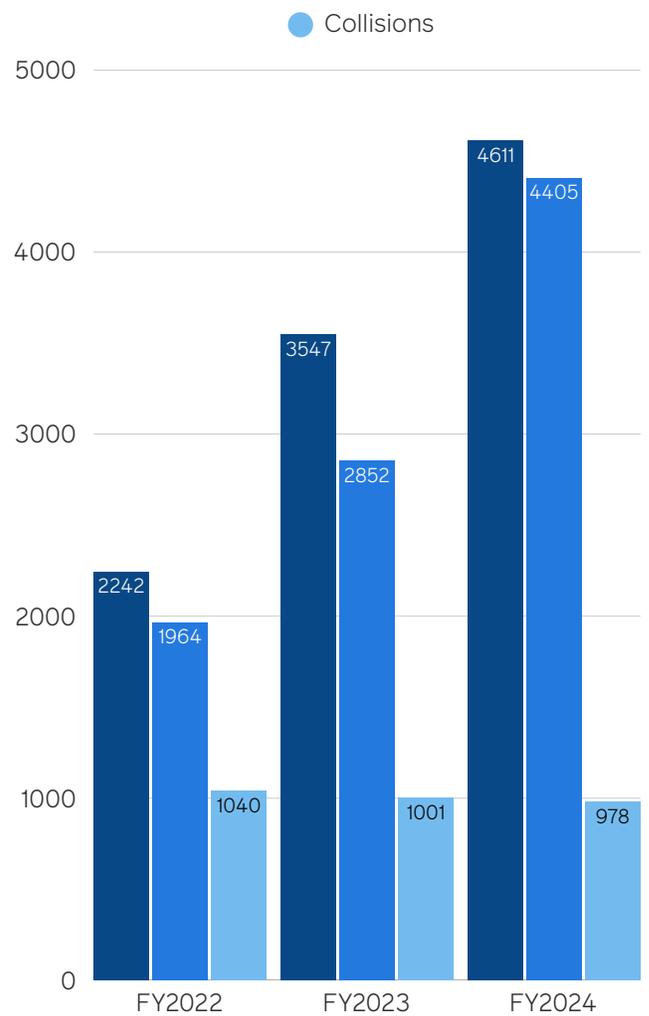
Traffic issues are consistently one of the top three complaints we receive from our residents, and Chief Brent Sugg and his team have made it a priority to help those traveling throughout our city to form good driving habits. One strategy to aid in behavior change is through traffic interactions. Our officers have increased traffic interactions by more than 100% over the past two years, with 50% resulting in driver warnings. Some people respond immediately to a warning from a police officer and immediately alter driving behaviors. Others, like my 23-year-old daughter, who was pulled over twice in one day for speeding and received a warning the first time, clearly need something more impactful to change behavior.

We can't forget the engineering side of traffic management. The work done in the area of traffic signal detection and coordination has significantly reduced traffic backups on Industrial Park Drive at US-31, CR-52 at I-65, and along the Hwy 119 corridor.

The City's goal is to improve safety and traffic congestion, and the strategy has resulted in a seven percent decrease in traffic accidents in two years while the traffic counts have increased during that period.



## Traffic Enforcement



Over the past few years, the City Council has approved the purchase and maintenance of 90 cameras to aid in law enforcement and crime prevention. These cameras are a vital tool and are used in 64% of our investigations. While we'd like to share all the successes these cameras have afforded us, the following is a representative list from the first three months of 2024. You will come away with a good understanding of the types of crime we experience in Pelham and how valuable the cameras and the quick work of our police officers and dispatchers are in helping to keep our city safe.

## CRIMINAL CASES SOLVED UTILIZING CAMERA NETWORK

### January 17

A stolen vehicle from Alabaster was picked up in Pelham after being identified by a camera. Pelham officers were able to stop the vehicle and arrest the suspect

### January 26

Suspects wanted in multiple states entered Pelham and committed two vehicle burglaries. Camera systems confirmed the suspects, and they were eventually identified, and warrants were obtained.

### January 30

A known theft crew entered Pelham. No reports were filed, but a "be on the lookout" was issued, and officer presence was increased, which we believe dissuaded the theft ring.

### February 14

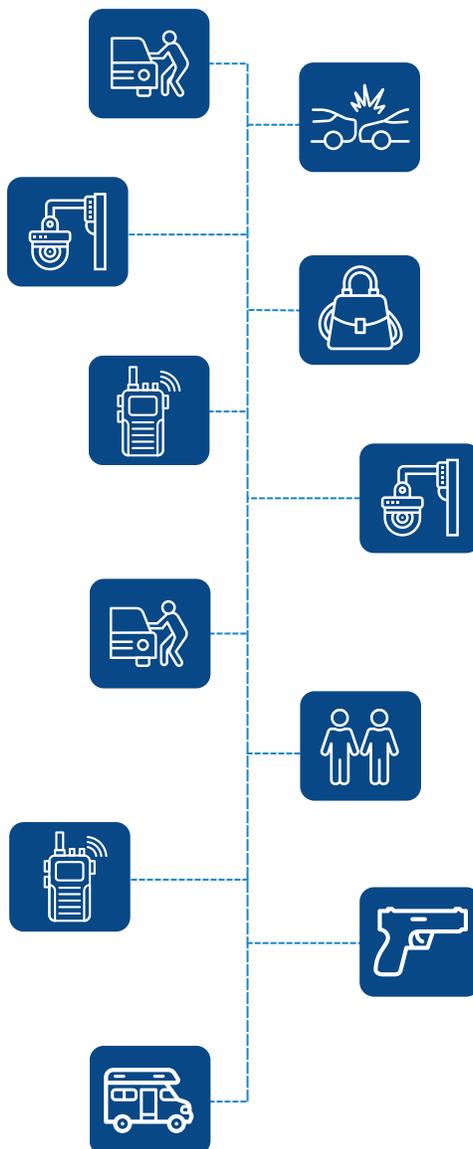
A vehicle was burglarized in a Pelham neighborhood. The suspect vehicle was identified through Flock cameras, and the suspect was confirmed via surveillance. The crime involved an Amazon delivery driver bird-dogging potential victims that he would forward to an accomplice.

### March 12

Dothan PD notified Pelham PD of a potential outdoor equipment burglar in our area and provided vehicle information. An alert was placed on the vehicle, and officers made contact with the truck/occupant in the early morning hours in the area of a local outdoor equipment dealership. The suspect was arrested on outstanding warrants, and no local crimes were reported.

### March 26

An RV was stolen from a local campground. Camera systems provided a partial view of the suspect vehicle with distinguishing characteristics. Investigators scoured thousands of similar vehicles on the Flock camera system and ultimately identified the suspect. The suspect was arrested, and the RV was returned to its owner.



### January 21

A hit-and-run with injuries was reported on Hwy 119. The suspect vehicle was identified utilizing camera systems, and the operator was subsequently identified and arrested.

### January 28

A local agency identified a serial purse snatcher targeting elderly females, and the vehicle information was entered into the Flock camera system. On that same day, the individual entered Pelham and was stopped based on the alert. Multiple charges were obtained.

### January 30-February 7

A known burglary crew targeting specific business owners in Jefferson County was identified in Pelham. Investigators used camera systems to track and monitor the individuals over days as they surveilled victims. All parties were ultimately arrested and transferred to Huntsville, AL, and Chattanooga, TN, on warrants.

### February 17

Two juvenile runaways were reported. Through camera systems, investigators determined that a third party had picked up the females and transported them to Madison, AL. Both were located and returned.

### March 16

Attempted murder/shooting into an occupied vehicle at an intersection in Pelham. The suspect vehicle was identified using cameras, and the individual was arrested.

## Technology

Nearly three years ago, we began the transition from a third-party managed technology vendor to an internal professional technology team, and that team is finally in place. We hired two systems analysts and a geospatial information systems analyst. All three came to us from the City of Tuscaloosa with exceptional experience and credentials. We have nearly completed the deployment of new hardware to our collocated facility in Birmingham and are currently migrating our servers to this new hardware. When complete, we will have all Pelham's server infrastructure, data storage and backup/DR functions on new hardware and in a dedicated Tier 3 datacenter facility.

In addition to new server and data storage hardware and network revisions, the department set up a new Microsoft Windows domain

with a revised set of controllers, private key infrastructure, and directory services, which greatly improved the city's security while holistically improving Pelham's technical infrastructure. We are enjoying the ability to learn and pivot quickly that our new structure and team affords us, and our Director of Technology, Chuck Croker, looks forward to bringing us even closer to his vision of a local government embodying state-of-the-art technology.

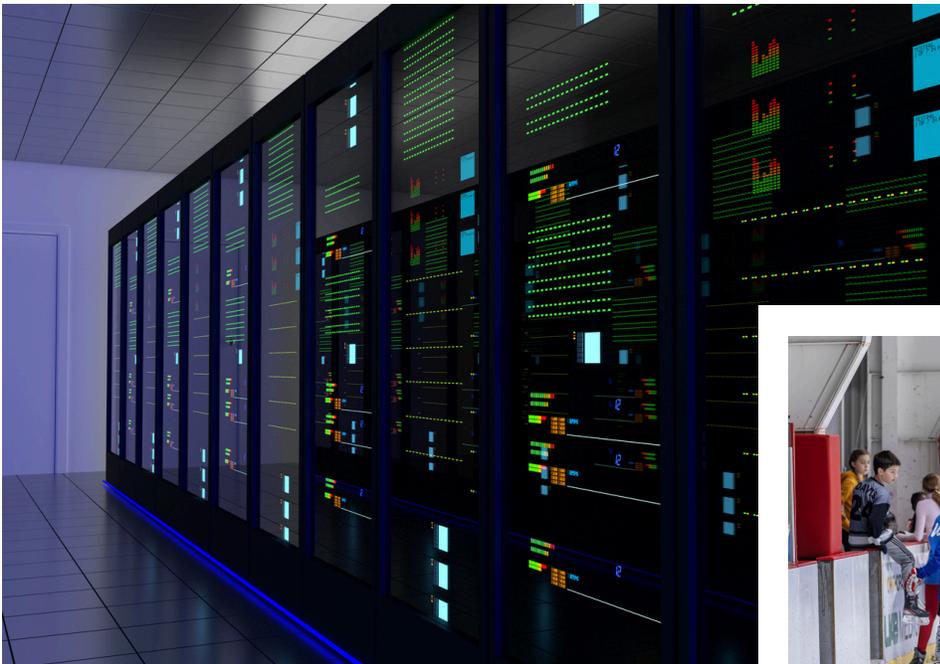
## Economic Development

Growth in Shelby County has slowed over the past few years, but as the county manager mentioned in his State of the County presentation, we are interested in positive, productive growth rather than growth just for the sake of having more. City economic development staff worked directly on eleven projects last year.

Seven were retail/restaurant, one was office, and three were manufacturing. Our director, Michael Simon, also worked with five local businesses on retention and expansion projects and the recruitment of six new businesses. Most notably, Jack's Restaurants opened next to Tractor Supply and The Canopy announced it had signed with Big Bad Breakfast. Additionally, the development in front of the library began construction with three restaurants and a new city park we'll be able to enjoy in 2025.

## Recreation

Last year, Pelham's recreation amenities saw tremendous growth in total usage and programming. The Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena income increased by nine percent, while expenses only increased by two percent. Freestyle figure skating, public skate attendance, and concessions sales showed double-digit growth.



In addition, the City and school district partnered to kick off a free learn-to-skate program for all Pelham City School first graders.

Ballantrae Golf Club completed \$1.2 million in repairs and additions while continuing to break revenue and rounds records. In 2024, 44,257 rounds were played on the course. The cart paths were repaired and the bunkers were equipped with state-of-the-art materials to combat drainage issues. The clubhouse and vestibule additions, enclosed terrace, outdoor seating, and giant fire pit enhance the experience for non-golfers as well. We hope all Pelham residents will take the opportunity to stop by for lunch or dinner at the Fireside Grill and enjoy seasonal drink specials at the fire pit. Check out the website for schedules, as they will change periodically.

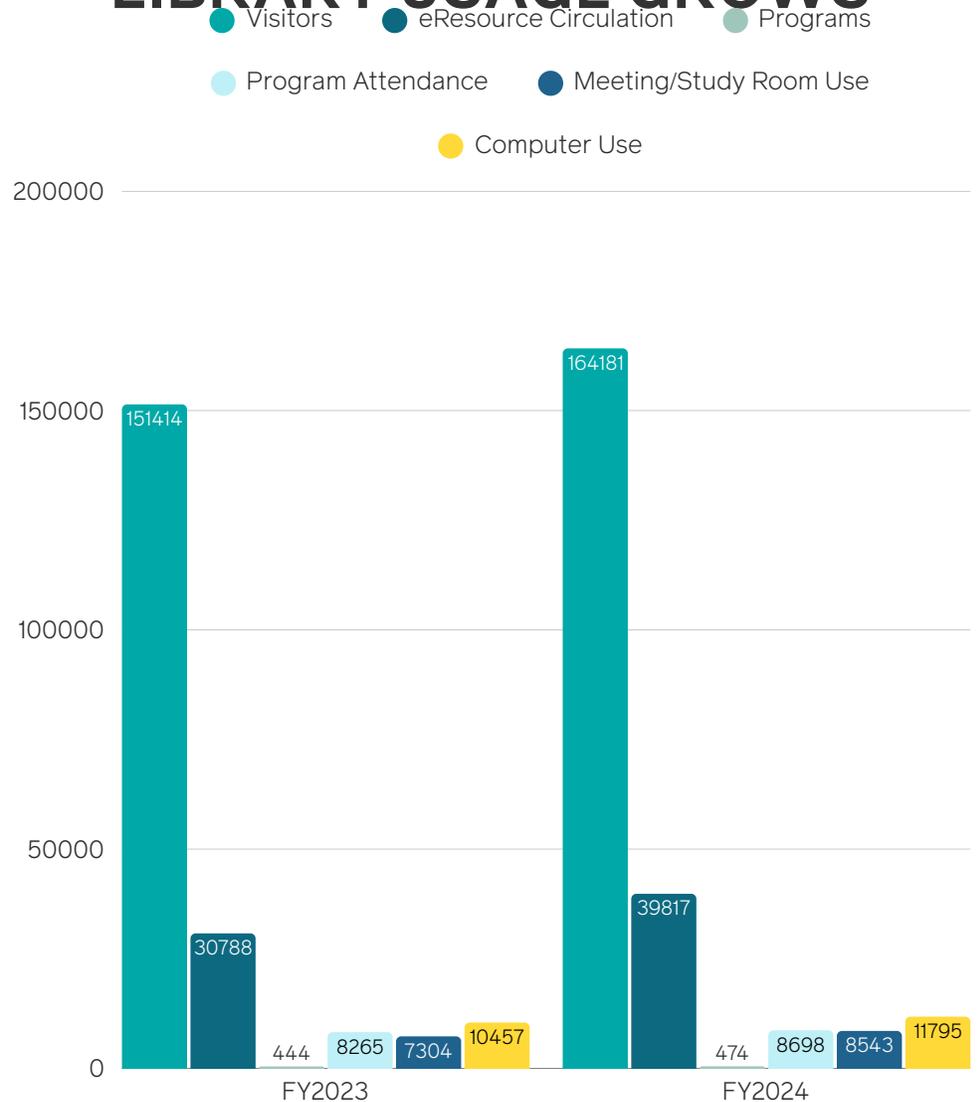
The Pelham Racquet Club received a USTA Outstanding Facility Award, which recognizes its excellence in facilities, program offerings, and tournament management. PRC is home to 112 USTA teams, 16 national soft court teams, and 15 USTA Junior Tennis Teams, and it has made a \$1.2 million economic impact on our community from its seven largest tournaments. The clubhouse was renovated, and events can now be hosted on the second floor. It has also begun offering yoga classes for the public.

Pelham Parks & Recreation opened Park 124 Park, a new playground, and saw its first full year with the new splash pad. Significant improvements were made to the baseball fields, resulting in fewer missed or delayed games due to drainage issues.

On the programming side, the staff realized a quick sell-out of its first summer adventure camps and added new camps, clinics, and learn-to-play programs, including learning to bowl and kayak, and introduced NHL street hockey and NFL flag football programs. A total of 21 community events were held in our parks, and 1,354 youth participated in our athletic programs.

The Pelham Senior Center increased its programs and events and offered additional day and overnight trips, all of which sold out immediately.

## LIBRARY USAGE GROWS



# Engineering & Construction Projects

The city has completed an unbelievable number of engineering and construction projects over the past four years, and the following list includes the major projects completed in 2024.

- Fire Station No. 2 renovations
- Fire Station No. 3 traffic warning signal
- Police Department roof replacement
- Annual street paving > 28,900 feet
- Stormwater drainage network updates
- Amphitheater Rd widening/lighting
- Traffic signal detection upgrades > 12
- Park 124 completion
- Splash pad parking lot paving
- Ice arena turbochiller installation
- PCCIA HVAC & hot water system replacement
- Ballantrae clubhouse renovations
- Bunker & cart path renovations
- PRC clubhouse renovations
- City Park batting cages covered
- Bunker & cart path renovations
- Coker Park playground & parking lot improvements
- Fun Go Holler Park restroom renovations
- Beaver Creek ADA & sidewalk repairs
- Emergency pump purchased for Sewer Lift Station B
- Stratford Sewer Lift Station pumps & controls
- Southgate Sewer Lift Station pumps & controls
- Four major projects at the Wastewater Treatment Facility
- Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Phase III
  - 128 point repairs
  - 17 manholes raised
  - 69 manholes identified for rehabilitation
  - 24,050 feet of main & lateral sewer pipe cleaned & inspected
- PVC pipe replacement > 16,300 feet
- Water Department facility renovations
- Campbell Ridge Well Pump
- Ballantrae back up water supply installation



## City Administration

The Finance Department implemented the revenue module in our City's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System, enabling improved efficiency with vendor payments and invoices. The department saw the retirement of a valued veteran business license clerk and is making tremendous strides in reviewing and updating the business license ordinance and procedures.

The Human Resources Department, in conjunction with an internal employee team, completed its review and update to the Pelham Civil Service Act, which the Alabama State Legislature then approved. The team also updated the employee handbook, completed the second annual city-wide employee engagement survey and a compensation study. The City Council adopted the proposal, which left only ten positions under the City Council's goal of the 50th percentile of the comparable job market.

The city communications staff responded to 662 requests and produced 72 newsletters for six departments and four issues of The Pelham Pathway magazine, all while maintaining the 746 pages of the City's website and managing 19 social media pages. Simultaneously, the Communications Manager worked with IT to build and launch the Pelham 311 app and push it out to all Pelham users. If you have not already downloaded the app, please scan the QR code on the inside front cover of this magazine.

Pelham hired its first Assistant City Manager (ACM), Justin Smith, who is handling the review of contracts, serving as non-technical project manager for remaining software modules for the ERP, facilitating process analysis for key cross-functional processes, updating key ordinances, and identifying grant opportunities. The ACM position was created by deleting the grants manager and half-time administrative assistant positions. However, with Justin's juris doctorate, the work he has accomplished in contract review and legal research saved the City \$6,000 in legal fees during his first month with Pelham.

I continue to represent the City on the board of directors for the Cahaba Solid Waste Authority. I am regularly asked why Pelham doesn't have ongoing significant issues other cities seem to have with solid waste management. While I believe the media can somewhat inflate the issues other cities are having, Pelham has always placed great importance on the value of the route manager. When our long-time route manager left Amwaste early last year, we were adamant with Amwaste's leadership that they hire the "right" manager for Pelham and not just anybody. We made our expectations for attention to detail and customer service very clear. It took Amwaste over six months (during which time we "shared" the route manager with Hoover), but in late August of last year, Amwaste introduced our new route manager, Maurice Marable, to us. Some of our readers will have met him because Maurice spends time in Pelham, visiting residents who have had issues with Amwaste. Our staff sees Maurice as an extension of the Pelham team, and we are grateful to have him. We will continue to work with Maurice and the Amwaste team to improve service to our residents.



**EXPLORE**  
The 9th Annual Pelham Palooza in the Park is a must-attend event for families and individuals looking for a fun-filled day. Live musical acts include The Divines at 10:00 a.m. and The M-80s at 1:00 p.m. The ever-popular Kidzapalooza area will include crafts with Party Art, face painters, music from Feel the Beat Entertainment, inflatables, and a rock wall. [Read more to explore Pelham](#)



**DISCOVER**  
The Pelham Garden Club had a vision for Pelham. They wanted the city to become more friendly to pollinators, which play a vital role in our food chain and human survival. Pelham is now a Bee City USA® affiliate, one of only two cities in the state of Alabama with the designation. [Read more to discover what's happening in Pelham](#)



**GROW**  
The City of Pelham, with the help of its Commercial Development Authority (CDA), achieved a significant milestone when Governor Kay Ivey signed Senate Bill 168 into law. Sponsored by State Senator April Weaver and State Representative Kenneth Paschal, SB 168 makes pivotal changes that will make it easier for CDAs statewide to spur economic development in their communities. [Read more to see how Pelham is growing](#)



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In addition to working daily with an impressive team to achieve results for Pelham, I had the privilege of serving as the President-Elect of the Alabama City County Management Association and on a national committee that identified the city manager's role as a community leader. I also worked with the Homewood City Council to bring the positive message of professional city management to that community. I, along with my colleagues, was thrilled to see Homewood adopt the Council-Manager form of government in a recent referendum.

While sitting on a panel at the State County Commission Chairman's Association last fall, I was asked how smaller organizations could afford to hire experienced human resource professionals. I responded that with all the incidents of illegal and unethical actions of local and state government finance officials, public safety leaders, community administrators, etc., I did not believe local governments could afford NOT to hire experienced professionals. I shared with the group that between 2005 and 2017, the City of Pelham had an annual average of 3.4 employee-related suits filed. Between 2018-2023, we saw those drop to .7 (which included an employee auto accident and two dismissed claims). That's because Pelham hired its first professional HR director, Tracy Hill, in 2019. Tracy came with 25 years experience in the highly regulated healthcare industry and quickly learned all she needed to about local government.



When I shared those statistics, the room got really quiet. At the break, three attendees approached me and asked excellent questions about how they might find a good candidate.

This is not an isolated story. Other organizations have sought out city staff members to serve on interview panels for several positions across the state.

Leaders in the fire, police, and HR departments presented at conferences and/or taught classes to other professionals in 2024. Our finance department has been asked to share best practices with two other cities relative to implementing the finance modules of our Enterprise Resource Planning System. Alicia Walters, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation, was honored at the state level.

The Pelham Racquet Club, the Economic Development Director, and the Communications staff were all recognized for excellence by national and international organizations. I hope the readers of this publication take pride in the fact that others benchmark their city for its best practices.

As we put 2024 behind us and embark on a new year, one that will see a big election of our own in Pelham. It is my hope and prayer that we will unite as a city. I hope that when we become frustrated and want to lash out at someone on the road next to us or type out something unkind about another person on social media, we will stop and remember that we are all in the same boat, living, loving, and being...one day at a time. On behalf of the entire city of Pelham staff, thank you for the privilege to serve in Pelham.

# PELHAM BY THE NUMBERS

4,968

Cases handled in Municipal Court

This is a 999 case increase over 2023

815 zoning cases completed

4,918 business licenses processed

1,369 IT service requests completed

31,233 tax returns processed

12,686 invoices processed

17:1

Private sector investment

City financial incentives

317 street department tickets closed

16,300 feet of PVC pipe replaced

4,200 water department service orders completed

27% decrease in water leaks over 2023

24 consecutive years with no wastewater treatment plant violations

3,904

Building inspections

This is a 194% increase over 2023

Collisions down 7% over past two years

3,858 fire department calls

2,375 patients treated by fire medics

1,392 patients transported

24 cardiac arrests worked by fire medics



\$107,761

Amount City Clerk earned from municipal auctions of surplus property



186

Resolutions passed by the City Council in FY 2024

# BUDGETING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

The Pelham City Council approved the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY 2025) budget on Monday, September 16, 2024. The total budget is just over \$90.6 million and reflects the City's commitment to continued growth and prosperity and prioritizes the concerns and preferences of Pelham's residents. The operations budget is just over \$69 million. The remaining funds are dedicated to capital outlay and debt service.

In 2022, the City conducted its first Citizen Satisfaction Survey to inform budgeting priorities. The survey allowed us to obtain a baseline measurement of our residents' perceptions and has been used to inform budget priorities for the third consecutive year.

The top priorities from the 2022 survey were stormwater management, traffic congestion, and road and facilities maintenance. These priorities are evident throughout the FY 2023 and 2024 budgets, and the FY 2025 continues that focus.

To further commit to the voice of the resident's importance in the budget, the FY 2025 budget reflects the cost of conducting the City's second citizen survey. The Council has concentrated on ensuring the budget's top priorities are aligned with those of the residents.

In addition to the budget priorities, the FY 2025 budget also allocates funding for capital projects that align with the survey and Plan Pelham, the city's comprehensive plan.

## Parks & Recreation

Plans and funds are in place for design work for a batting cage facility and entrance to the baseball complex, along with paving and new restrooms. Design work is also funded for the conversion of the large grass baseball diamond into a multi-use three-field synthetic turf area.

The City Council directed \$2 million from revenues to be placed into the existing Parks & Recreation Reserve Fund. Along with the nearly \$1 million already in the fund, at least one of the baseball complex projects can be fully funded with significant savings towards the cost of the second project.

This budget also covers the construction of two extra pavilions at the splash pad. Birthday parties in the pavilion quickly became popular, and the two additional spaces will enable more residents to hold parties in the park.



# “The Council has concentrated on ensuring the budget's top priorities are aligned with those of the residents.”

The Pelham Greenway Trail from Campus 124 to the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena parking lot is slated for completion in FY 2025, ensuring the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.

Two additional pickleball courts, solar lighting and a combination pavilion/restroom facility are to be installed at the Pelham Senior Center.

Other park expenses in the FY 2025 budget include the purchase of a six-seat golf cart to transport those needing assistance at the growing number of public events in the park.

## Annual Expenses

The City Council continues its commitment to use funds from the sales tax increase to complete \$1.25 million in annual paving projects. The FY 2025 budget also reflects the annual commitments to ADA sidewalk compliance and drainage infrastructure improvements.

Projects new to this budget include two new rain gauges along the creek to more effectively monitor creek levels, especially during storm conditions.

The parking lot just west of the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena will also be paved with sidewalks and lighting installed.

## Library Development

The property in front of the library is moving forward with plans for a retail/office space with dining choices and a city-managed outdoor gathering space for residents and visitors to enjoy.

## Transparency

The City of Pelham strives to make its annual Budget Book easy to understand to facilitate broader consumption and greater comprehension of the municipal budgeting process. It identifies the services provided, the funding sources, and the rationale behind key decisions. Because municipal budgets are large, the time required to read and understand the entire document is substantial. That's why we have also published a supplemental Budget-in-Brief (BIB) with the adoption of the FY 2025 budget. A BIB is a summary of the main Budget Book, and can be found on the city's website. To quickly access the document, type in Budget in Brief in the search bar.





# ADDED EMS SERVICES

## TRANSPORT BEGINS JANUARY 1

BY: AINSLEY ALLISON

Starting January 1, 2025, the Pelham Fire Department will launch its own in-house EMS transport services, aiming to improve emergency response times and continuity of care for the community. The new service, driven by increasing ambulance response times from third-party providers, marks a significant shift in local emergency medical services (EMS) and is anticipated to enhance critical care outcomes for Pelham residents.

### A Community-Focused Solution

According to Fire Chief Mike Reid, the decision to bring EMS transport in-house emerged from a growing need for reliable, rapid-response services. "Since 2020, we've seen an increase in ambulance response times and a shortage of paramedics, leading to delays in critical care. By managing our own EMS transport, we're positioned to provide faster, continuous care from the moment 911 is called until the patient reaches the hospital," Reid explained. With two staffed transport units, the goal is to reduce response times to under 15 minutes, a notable improvement from the current 20-30 minutes.

### Advanced Care at the Ready

Pelham's EMS Director, Capt. Matt Maples outlined the high standard of care residents can expect. Pelham's paramedics are trained to provide advanced life support, including airway management, IV therapy, and cardiac monitoring. Each ambulance will be equipped with cardiac monitors, video laryngoscopes, IV infusion pumps, ventilators, and a range of medications to manage emergencies from injuries to life-threatening conditions. "We're equipping our team with cutting-edge tools and specialized training to ensure they're ready to respond effectively, no matter the emergency," Maples said.

### Collaborative Effort and Strategic Partnerships

The journey to launching this service has involved close collaboration with multiple agencies. Shelby County's support was instrumental in funding the new ambulances. Chief Reid acknowledged the value of strong partnerships, especially with neighboring departments like Alabaster Fire, which played a crucial role in shaping Pelham's EMS program. He added, "Our Mayor and City Council have been supportive from the beginning, ensuring we evaluated all options carefully to deliver the best possible solution for our citizens."



## A Transformative Impact on Patient Care

Medical Director Dr. Shea Duerring highlighted the transformative effect the new service will have when coupled with the current advancements PFD is offering patients. "Having patients under our care for transport has the potential to make a significant difference in critical care situations," he said. The program promises faster response times, allows for enhanced training, and increases our ability to offer innovative treatments such as whole blood administration for trauma patients and point-of-care ultrasound for early diagnostics. "By addressing these critical factors, our city-based ambulance service can improve overall patient outcomes and enhance the health and welfare of our community," Duerring emphasized.

## Billing for Services

To help offset the ongoing costs of emergency medical transport, the Pelham Fire Department will bill patients' health insurance for EMS services provided. If patients do not have health insurance, they will not be denied treatment or transport; however, they will receive a bill directly. After submitting the treatment and transport claim to the billing company, Ambulance Medical Billing (AMB), all reimbursement processing, including uninsured cases, will be managed by AMB.

As Pelham prepares to launch this enhanced EMS transport service, residents can look forward to improved emergency response times and a new level of medical care that aligns with the city's commitment to safeguarding community well-being.

## PELHAM FIRE STATION NO. ONE



**"Having patients under our care for transport has the potential to make a significant difference in critical care situations."**



# DIGGING INTO DEVELOPMENT

BY: AINSLEY ALLISON

## Creekside Opportunities

Two vacant buildings have recently been demolished, opening up an exciting opportunity for prime creekside development in Pelham.

The Pelham City Council revoked Travelodge's business license in September 2022 due to serious health and safety violations, including rotting floors and exposed electrical wiring. After sitting vacant for nearly two years, both the Travelodge property and an adjacent vacant Pizza Hut building were purchased by Connor Farmer of Highpointe Properties. With the buildings now cleared, this stretch along picturesque Bishop Creek offers a blank canvas for new development.

Connor Farmer also owns neighboring land and has a stake in Creekside BBQ. He is committed to maximizing the property's potential, especially given its scenic creekside location. "We're thrilled about Connor's vision to expand the property's footprint for future projects," said Michael Simon, Pelham's Economic Development Director.

Farmer's Highpointe Properties office is in a renovated space across the creek, previously home to Cock of the Walk restaurant.

With this land's promising connectivity to the Greenway Trail and proximity to Oak Mountain State Park, Simon noted, "The possibilities for this area are truly exciting. We're looking forward to seeing what the future holds."



## Big Bad Breakfast

The restaurant options are expanding in Pelham, and the most recent announcement is causing much buzz around town. Big Bad Breakfast will bring its renowned Southern-inspired menu to the Canopy at Oak Mountain, with plans to open in the Spring of 2025. The popular breakfast and lunch eatery will join Taco Mac, Cahaba Cycles, and Mountain High Outfitters at the Canopy.

Big Bad Breakfast is known for its creative take on classic breakfast dishes such as fluffy biscuits, signature omelets, and locally sourced ingredients. The restaurant concept was the brainchild of Chef John Currence, a New Orleans-born James Beard Award-winning chef. There are 20 Big Bad Breakfast locations across the southeast, with two in the Birmingham metro area.

"We are excited to welcome Big Bad Breakfast to the Canopy," said John Benner, current president of Genrev Properties, one of the developers. "Their dedication to great food and exceptional service fits perfectly with the Canopy's goal of bringing new and vibrant restaurants and other businesses to the people of Pelham and North Shelby County."

City leaders say this announcement is part of the bigger picture. "The vision for Pelham's entertainment district was outlined in our comprehensive plan in 2019, and our elected officials and staff members have been working diligently with our outstanding partners to bring that vision to life," said City Manager Gretchen DiFante.

**"We know this area will offer the vibrant entertainment space our residents have requested."**



She pointed to the revitalization efforts of underused spaces, like the formerly vacant Canopy property, the cleanup of blighted areas, like the former Travel Lodge, and the revitalization of existing structures, like the log cabin where Mountain High Outfitters is located as well as Campus 124 as examples of adherence to the plan.

DiFante continued, "We know this area will offer the vibrant entertainment space our residents have requested. We are grateful to the Canopy investment team including Jordy Henson and John Benner, and John Michael Bodnar from Fresh Hospitality for their belief and continued investment in that vision for Pelham."

## Library Development

The development beside the Pelham Public Library is set to revitalize the heart of the city, offering an exciting blend of dining and retail options for both residents and visitors. Core infrastructure is now in place, and key foundational elements like curbing, landscaping, and paving are actively underway, creating a solid framework for this emerging community hub.

Several highly anticipated establishments are making progress in their plans. Bullet Coffee has submitted its project designs for review by the City, setting the stage for a new coffee experience that will add energy and warmth to the area. Meanwhile, Waldo's Chicken and Beer has recently received a permit, allowing them to proceed with site work as they prepare to bring their popular casual dining concept to Pelham. Edgar's Bakery is currently focusing on the busy holiday season and is expected to begin development activity after the New Year.

Once completed, Pelham Central Park will offer food and beverage choices and a welcoming atmosphere that enhances the local landscape and brings new conveniences to the community. This development is a key element of Pelham's ongoing commitment to creating vibrant spaces where people can connect, relax, and enjoy high-quality, local dining experiences.



## Business Expansion

Morin Process Equipment has grown tremendously in the ten years since it has been in Pelham. Founders April and Danny Morin are now expanding and building a new facility on Huntley Parkway. The new Pelham location will be the company's flagship and headquarters, including facilities in Decatur and Mobile.

"The new Pelham construction is a very significant move for our companies. It is an important step in supporting our fast growth and continued service for the power, steel, chemical, marine, water, and other industries across the Southeast," said Danny Morin. "The new Pelham location will also house the Morin Valves & Controls headquarters with state-of-the-art testing, assembling, and distribution center to support Jim Traylor and his team over the MVC division."

With the new facility will come new employment opportunities. Morin said, "In the coming year and beyond, we expect significant hiring as we grow the Pelham facility." He expects to fill 20-25 engineering, technical, and sales positions. Morin currently employs over 100 people at its three locations.

# EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENT

BY: AINSLEY ALLISON

The City of Pelham recently received a 2024 Excellence in Economic Development Bronze Award from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). The award was bestowed specifically for the organization's work in the Real Estate Development & Reuse Award category.

"The City of Pelham is setting the standard of excellence for economic development with its Redevelopment/Reuse of Old Fire Station No. 3 for the Retention & Expansion of Southeastern Construction Partners, LLC, project. This award highlights the City of Pelham's commitment to its community and demonstrates the transformative impact of economic development," said Nathan Ohle, IEDC President and CEO.

"We are very honored to have been selected as a Bronze Award Winner by the International Economic Development Council," said Michael Simon, Pelham's Economic Development Director. This project was one of those rare opportunities in community redevelopment when you can marry a property reuse project with a business retention and expansion project and incorporate an obsolete city asset on top of it all. Southeast Construction Partners, LLC, did a fabulous job renovating the building. The positive improvements they made to the exterior provided the rest of the community with a much-needed improvement on one of our heavily traveled thoroughfares."

"It's always great to see empty buildings repurposed, and it's especially rewarding when it's a building formerly owned by the City," said Pelham City Manager Gretchen DiFante. "In this case, a local business expanded its operations, and that's always something we're excited about. We also appreciated the company acknowledging the building's history in its renovation."





# A Jack's Love Story

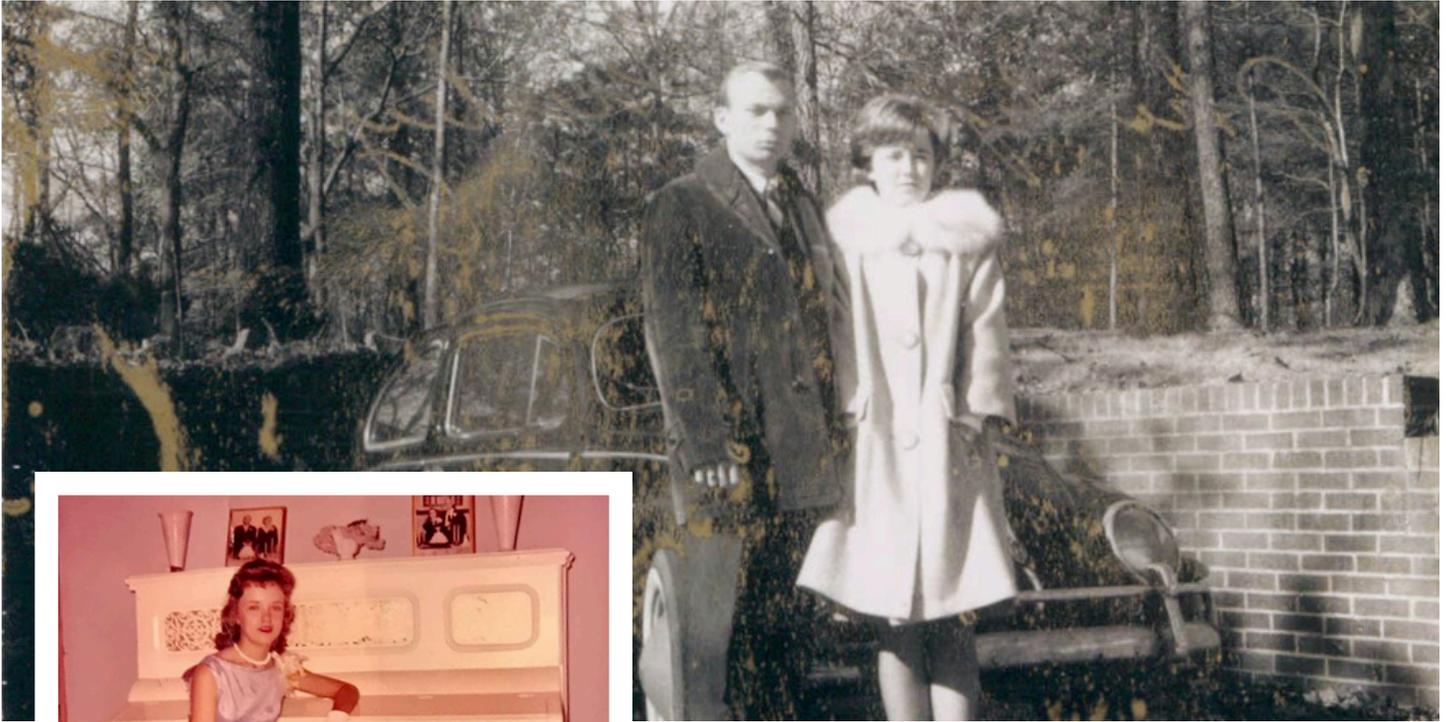
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BY: GINA WOMACK

When the announcement was made that a new location of Jack's Family Restaurants was coming to the east side of I-65, perhaps no one was more excited than Shirley and Phillip Vines. The Pelham couple, who live in an apartment off Huntley Parkway, said having the restaurant nearby is an excellent option for a quick meal, but their connection to Jack's runs much deeper. You see, Jack's was where their love story began.

It was the summer of 1963, and 18-year-old Phillip Vines wanted to buy a car. The Shades Valley High School senior knew he'd have to earn some money to buy his coveted set of wheels. "I just wanted a job. I heard the Vestavia Jack's had an opening, and I applied."

Fast-food restaurants were a relatively new concept in America at that time. Jack's was founded on November 21, 1960, by Jack Caddell as a walk-up stand in Homewood, Alabama. The original menu featured 15-cent hamburgers and fries, 20-cent milkshakes, and a 20-cent "fish on a bun."



The restaurant grew during the early 1960s, and soon, there were more than a half dozen locations in the Birmingham metro area, including Vestavia Hills. The original Vestavia Jack's was built where the current McDonald's is located today, on Highway 31 North.

Phillip landed the job and was quickly put to work cooking the hamburgers. "Sometimes I took orders, and sometimes

I cooked. If I worked at night, I had to clean up the grill after closing and pick up trash in the parking lot. There were several chores, but everything had to be done." His savings grew, and soon, he was able to buy a 1956 Chevrolet. "I drove that car through the time I finished high school," said Phillip. The car wasn't his only focus that summer. Phillip's life was about to change.

The Jack's in Vestavia featured a dine-in area, but there was no drive-through in those days. Customers would come in and order their food at the counter; then, they could eat at the restaurant or take it to go. Phillip began to notice a pretty girl who would come in and order lunch to take home to her parents, grandparents, brothers, and sister. Her beautiful smile and, admittedly, her shorts caught his eye. "She would come in with a piece of paper with the orders written down and hand it to me with a smile. I knew I had to find out her name."

Shirley Skelton lived in Bluff Park, which wasn't too far from the Vestavia Jack's. She was 16 years old and a newly licensed driver. "We lived two miles west of where I-65 is now," she explained. That summer, she eagerly offered to pick up her family's favorite burgers at Jack's. "I didn't notice Phillip at first. I just handed the list of orders to whoever worked the register."

Phillip recalled, "I would see her a lot. I noticed her, but she didn't notice me. Fortunately, I had friends who knew who she was. I don't remember how I got her number, but I did and called her right away." Phillip later discovered Shirley also went to Shades Valley High School, but they didn't know each other because the school was so big.

Shirley said, "When he called, he said, 'I want to see if you'll go out with me.' I told him, I don't know who you are! He said, 'I'm the guy at Jack's you give your paper to.' I had to get permission from my parents, and they said we'd have to double-date."



"We double-dated with my friend Bobby Sutton and his girlfriend. Shirley happened to know him from riding the school bus to Shades Valley," said Phillip. The date went well, and Phillip was sure of one thing by the end of the evening. "When we took her home that night, I told Bobby I would marry that girl."

"When my friends told me later what Phillip had said, I laughed and said, 'No way!' Shirley recalled with a smile.

Shirley must have warmed up to the idea because they started seeing each other regularly after that first date. "Across the street from Jack's in Vestavia, they had these trampolines. You could pay a quarter and jump for 15 minutes or so. That was one of our big dates," said Phillip. The couple went ice skating in East Lake and to movies at the old drive-in theater in Vestavia. Of course, most of their dates usually involved a hamburger at Jack's.

Their most memorable date was a Sunday afternoon drive that was quite the adventure. Shirley remembered, "We just wanted somewhere to go, so we headed to Chelsea, where my uncle had a farm. It was all dirt roads back then, and it had rained, turning the roads to mud."

Shirley had to be home at a certain time, so things got a bit stressful when the car got stuck in the mud. "There were no cell phones back then and no landlines in the country. Finally, someone came along and pulled us out. I was late getting home, and my parents threatened not to let me go with him to church that night. However, when they saw the mud all over the car, they realized Phillip was telling the truth, and they let me attend church with him."

Shirley and Phillip married at Homewood Church of Christ on May 29, 1965. Phillip's parents hosted a garden reception in their backyard, which capped off a perfect day. "The Vietnam War was going on, and they were drafting people. I got a draft notice right before the wedding, but it was deferred since I was getting married. I worked at A&P and went to Jefferson State. After my last quarter there, I went into the Air Force," said Phillip.

Phillip ultimately did not go to Vietnam but did his basic training at Amarillo Air Force Base in Texas. After basic, he stayed at the base and worked in personnel. He had a chance to return to Alabama to get the car and load up the couple's belongings. Shirley flew to Amarillo on a military standby and joined him there. "It was not a fun experience," Shirley said of the flight. She had barely been out of Alabama then, so flying on a plane to Texas was a bit scary. "I was only 18 years old," she said. "I was so afraid I couldn't find Phillip at the airport. We landed in the dark, and a storm came in. I walked off the plane, and there he was."



The couple stayed in Amarillo for three years. The base was closing, so Phillip was sent to Denver, Colorado, for his last year. "We had a good time in Denver. We got to see the sights and the mountains. I remember we would go to church on Sunday and stop at Kentucky Fried Chicken for lunch. We'd drive up in the mountains, across the Continental Divide, and get back down in time for church on Sunday night," said Shirley.

Phillip left the Air Force in 1970, and the couple moved back to Alabama and settled in a rental house in Bluff Park. A few years later, they moved to Pelham. "We heard they were building houses in Pelham in Cahaba Valley Estates. We bought our first house, lived there for a few years, and later moved into another house on Wilderness Road," said Phillip. After twelve years of marriage, Shirley and Phillip became parents to twin girls, Angie and Candie. They raised their family in Pelham, and the girls graduated from Pelham High School.

After their daughters married and started their families, the Vines downsized to a smaller house and eventually moved to an apartment in Pelham. At first, Shirley didn't think much of the idea, but now she admits she loves it. "It's such a great community with people of all ages," she said.

Now married for 59 years, the Vines are as dedicated as ever to each other, their family, and their faith. They cherish time spent with their daughters, sons-in-law, and five grandchildren: Heidie, a senior volleyball player at Freed-Hardeman University; Brody, a sophomore at the University of Alabama; Jayden, a freshman at Jacksonville State University and a member of the famed Marching Southerners; and Macie and Ethan, who are in high school.

The Vines are longtime members of Riverchase Church of Christ, where they've made many friends. Over the years, they have loved traveling with other church couples, especially to Gatlinburg. "We had a timeshare for several years and had the opportunity to travel in the United States. We enjoyed it so much," said Shirley.



Shirley and Phillip have seen many changes in Pelham over the years. "I remember we had an address with an Alabaster route number. There was a gas station with one pump. The interstate wasn't even finished yet," said Phillip.

But with all the changes they've seen over the years, one thing remains- the special place in their hearts for Jack's Family Restaurants. "We've always had a fondness for Jack's," said Shirley. When the grand opening for the new Pelham Jack's grew closer, Shirley called Councilmember Chad Leverett and said, "We want to know when it opens, and we want to be there for the ribbon cutting."

On October 16, 2024, Phillip and Shirley Vines were in line when the doors opened for the first time. As one of the first customers, they won free biscuits for a month. When Jack's owners heard the Vines' love story, they were treated as special guests, and a video clip of them at the grand opening was included in a social media reel.

Two days after the grand opening, Shirley fell in her apartment and broke her hip. She had surgery and is still recovering. Shirley is back home now, with Phillip and their dog Shelby beside her. These days, Phillip is the one who takes their order to Jack's and brings home hot, buttered biscuits for breakfast. He does so happily for the love of his life.



# OUTSTANDING

The Pelham Racquet Club received a 2024 Outstanding Facility Award from the United States Tennis Association

## BY: GINA WOMACK

The Pelham Racquet Club has long been a jewel in the City of Pelham's recreational offerings, and now it has received national recognition for its excellence. This year, the club was honored with the United States Tennis Association's (USTA) Outstanding Facility Award for a Large Public Tennis Center. The award, presented at the 2024 U.S. Open in Flushing Meadows, New York, celebrates the top public tennis facilities in the country, and Pelham Racquet Club was one of only 12 facilities selected for the honor.

To be eligible for the award, public tennis centers must meet the USTA's stringent criteria, including the quality of their court surfaces, enclosures, lighting, overall layout, and amenities.



For the Pelham Racquet Club, which boasts more than 20 courts, this recognition is a testament to years of hard work and dedication from its entire staff.

Chaney Mills, Director of the Pelham Racquet Club, accepted the award at the ceremony, but she was quick to give credit to her team.

"This award reflects the combined efforts and hard work of our entire team," Mills said. "We wouldn't have received this recognition without the contributions of everyone who works tirelessly to make Pelham Racquet Club one of the top facilities in the United States."



# Team first mentality

Grant Sasser, Deputy Director of Public Works, shared his pride in the team's dedication. "The USTA Outstanding Facility Award is rewarding to me personally for those who come in daily and are behind the scenes, so to speak," Sasser said. "From the crew members who arrive in the pre-dawn hours to prepare the grounds to the staff members who close the facility at all hours of the night during events—they are the true glue that makes our facility what it is."

Sasser also emphasized the importance of a well-maintained facility, which extends beyond aesthetics. "A strong plan for facility upkeep improves production, solidifies equipment reliability, and allows our team to focus on our members' needs," he said.

Chris Byrd, Pelham Parks & Racquet Club Supervisor, takes pride in seeing the courts and grounds in pristine condition every day. "Motivation for me is seeing the grounds and courts looking great and knowing I'm contributing to a great experience for everyone who uses them, whether it's a citizen of Pelham or a visitor for one of our events," Byrd explained.

"This award helps us realize what we have at the Pelham Racquet Club, and it encourages us to keep improving. We want to maintain—and even surpass—the high standards we've set."

"They are the true glue"



## PRC offers a wide array of programming for all ages and skill levels to grow the game of tennis.



Rylen Valentine, PRC's Head Tennis Professional, leads a team of five pros who help players of all ages and abilities improve their game. He noted that the USTA has strict criteria for the Large Public Facility Award, and the Pelham Racquet Club met nearly all of them. "We are a large facility that services the community. The facility is beautifully laid out with viewing for nearly every court, and the maintenance staff does an amazing job keeping everything in top condition. We also offer a wide array of programming for all ages and skill levels to grow the game of tennis."

David Brainerd, who runs the front desk and pro shop, has been with the club since 2018 and was Chaney Mills' first hire after she became Director. "Our team is truly like a family, and everyone enjoys working together," Brainerd said. "Good customer service is the key to making people happy when they come to Pelham Racquet Club to play a sport they enjoy. I try to treat our customers as if they're my friends, which they are."

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While the staff's dedication is one part of the equation, the club's members also play a vital role in its success. Chelsea resident Robyn Lyons, a three-year Pelham Racquet Club member, nominated PRC for the Outstanding Facility Award after receiving an email from the USTA encouraging nominations. "It was a no-brainer to choose PRC as my tennis home," Lyons said. "The Pelham Racquet Club's staff and leadership consistently strive to ensure that its members and visitors have excellent facilities and top-notch staff and feel welcomed."

Lyons highlighted the many improvements she's seen as a member. "Since I joined in 2021, PRC has continued to improve its functionality and appearance." She said among the improvements are updated walkway lighting, a new concrete walking path to the bottom courts, a more functional lobby and bathrooms, and an expanded pro shop. "Pelham Racquet Club continues to set the standard for tennis facilities not only in the Birmingham area but throughout Alabama. By far, PRC is the best I have ever experienced."

When Pelham Racquet Club won the award, Lyons was thrilled. "I knew it was deserved but didn't know if I was just being biased. I guess now we know I wasn't!" she laughed.

This award highlights the City of Pelham's ongoing commitment to providing residents and visitors with top-tier recreational facilities and opportunities.

# GAME ON!

## MATHEUS CHAIN JOINS PRC

BY: GINA WOMACK



The Pelham Racquet Club welcomed Matheus Chain to its team of experienced tennis pros. Head Tennis Pro Ryen Valentine said Matheus is a well-rounded pro who plays at a high level. "Coming from the private club world, he is comfortable teaching all genders, ages, and abilities. He's highly motivated and eager to learn within the profession. He will be a great member of our team."

Matheus was born in Birmingham but moved to Brazil at age two. He returned to Alabama to play college tennis on a full scholarship at Jacksonville State University. While at Jax State, he was on the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) Championship team in 2014 and was named to the OVC Men's Tennis All-Conference Second Team in 2017.

Although Matheus started playing tennis at age ten, he said he got serious about it a year later. "I was practicing a lot for a little kid," said Matheus. "My parents were very encouraging and influenced my career." As a teen, Matheus was ranked number two in Brazil among 14s players. He taught tennis lessons in Brazil during summer breaks.

While working on his master's degree in biomedical sciences at UAB, Matheus taught tennis lessons locally. He has been a tennis pro in the United States for seven years. His highest Universal Tennis Rating (UTR) was 12.9, an elite skill and performance level. He is the 2024 Birmingham Doubles Pro League Champion. When asked why he chose a career as a tennis pro, Matheus said he likes being out in the sun and exercising. "I worked at a hospital for a bit and just like to be outside. Being out and playing tennis makes you a happier person. I enjoy what I do and want to pass my skills and experience on to aspiring players. It's rewarding to see people getting better at the sport, and I enjoy developing relationships with the ones I teach."



# MORE THAN A GAME

## Pelham Football's Tribute to Teachers

BY: NICOLE KNIGHT

At Pelham High School, a heartfelt tradition has become a defining part of the football season. For nearly a decade, members of the PHS football team have taken time during the season to write personal letters to the teachers who have shaped their lives from elementary school to high school. These letters aren't just tokens of appreciation—they're a way for the players to recognize the teachers who encouraged them and guided them throughout the years.

The tradition continues every season, as players choose teachers and staff who have influenced them in meaningful ways. Each letter is delivered along with the player's "away" jersey, the one they won't be wearing at the upcoming game, as a symbol of honor and connection. Teachers wear the jerseys to school on game days, showing their support and pride for the student who remembered them in such a personal way. Teachers often attend the football game wearing their player's jersey to cheer from the stands, showing support beyond the classroom.

PHS football player Uriah Barginere shared how this tradition has influenced him personally. During his sophomore year, he chose to give his jersey to Coach Polly Jones, who taught him that success begins with "how you approach each and every day." Coach Jones continuously challenged him to improve through effort and a positive attitude, lessons she emphasized would carry over into his life as well as onto the field.

Uriah's experience highlights the true meaning of this tradition: it's an opportunity for student-athletes to reflect on the impact of their mentors and to honor those who shaped them along the way.

Head Football Coach Mike Vickery shared his thoughts on this tradition, saying, "As coaches, we believe in building character as much as football skills. We try to encourage our players to show gratitude while teaching them to recognize and honor those who've supported their journey. The Pelham tradition of giving teachers jerseys and notes is one small way for players to thank teachers who've had an impact on them. I think this simple gesture strengthens our school and community and reminds our players that success is a team effort, both on and off the field."

For many teachers, these letters are more than thank-yous—they are heartfelt reminders of why they became educators. Fifth-grade teacher Brooke Lott from Pelham Ridge Elementary, who has received several letters over the years, shared, "This tradition is a reminder of the lasting impact that teachers can make in their students' lives years later. They remain one of 'my kids' long after they leave my classroom. I love hearing the impacts they are making in the classroom and on the field."

New teachers, too, quickly learn the significance of the tradition. Traci Dubberly, an English teacher at PHS, was surprised and touched when she received two jerseys in her first year at the school. "When I read the letters from these two students, it reminded me why I teach!" she said. "I am SO honored that these players selected me."

The reach of this tradition extends beyond teachers to staff like cafeteria manager Shannon Vines, who was moved by the gesture. "You never know what a student sees in you until you are handed a jersey with a note, letter, or card," she remarked. "This tradition is amazing!"

Assistant Principal Andrea Fordham at Pelham Park Middle School shared, "Some people say that once you become an administrator, you don't have the same relationship with students as teachers, which may be true. However, this tradition is a true testament that no matter what role you play in the world of education, you are still impacting the students. The handwritten notes bring tears to my eyes."

The players often write to teachers they had in elementary school, illustrating the deep connections that transcend grades and time. Kindergarten teacher Marla Vaughn at Pelham Oaks Elementary summed up the sentiment many feel, saying, "This is by far my favorite PCS tradition. I love seeing my students do what they love and where they are years down the road. These sweet notes always remind me of the 'why' of teaching."

This cherished tradition highlights the genuine bonds that connect the Pelham school community. As players head into each game, they are backed not only by their coaches and teammates but by educators who stood beside them long before they donned a jersey. This blend of support and appreciation exemplifies the spirit of The Pelham Way and the school system's mission to Inspire, Empower, and Achieve.



# PANTHER PRIDE



PELHAM CITY SCHOOLS

NICHE®  RANKINGS

**A**

Overall Niche Grade

**#14**

Best Districts in Alabama

**#3**

Most Diverse District in Alabama

**#20**

District with Best Teachers in Alabama

## PCS Ranks in Top 10% of AL Districts on Niche.com

Pelham City Schools is ranked #14 in the state on the Niche.com listing of the 2025 Best School Districts. Niche's annual rankings are based on the collection of key data points, parent and student reviews, quality factors, finances and more. The #14 position ranks Pelham City Schools among the top 10% of all school districts in Alabama! In addition to the Best District ranking, Pelham received an Overall Niche Grade of A and ranked the #3 Most Diverse District in Alabama and #20 District with Best Teachers in Alabama.





## Pelham Homecoming

The Pelham City Schools Homecoming Road Trip featured a celebration of Panther Pride that included dress-up days at all schools, exciting PowderPuff games, pep rallies, homecoming court festivities and an action-packed football game and homecoming dance. The annual Panther Prowl Parade and Community Pep Rally had the largest turnout yet, and the PHS Senior Class of 2025 started a new tradition of Sharing the Spirit with the Kindergarten Class of 2037 to kick off a new legacy of pride in the Pelham Family.

## From Super Regionals to State Finals

The Pelham High School volleyball team had a remarkable 2024 season, advancing all the way to the Alabama 6A State Championship game. After sweeping Gulf Shores in the semifinal round, Pelham secured its place in the final match against Spanish Fort. After a hard-fought match, the team ended the season as 6A State Runner Up. The Panthers' performance throughout the season showcased their resilience and talent on the state's biggest stage.



Save the Date



# PELHAM MARDI PARTY

A CASINO NIGHT EVENT

*supporting*



PELHAM CITY SCHOOLS  
FOUNDATION

**FEBRUARY 1, 2025**

**7:00 - 11:00 PM**



Follow The Pelham City  
Schools Foundation for  
news and event updates!





# ACTIVITY GUIDE

DECEMBER 2 - JANUARY 15

## Youth Spring Sports Registration

It's time to register your child for spring baseball, softball, t-ball, and soccer. Early bird registration ends on January 8th, and late registration closes on January 15th. Scan the QR code to register.



DECEMBER 8

2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

## Elf Passport Celebration

We hope you've been searching for Pete the Elf and supporting small businesses. Drop off your completed Elf Passport at the Rec Center and enjoy hot chocolate, cookies, bounce houses, and Christmas crafts. Santa will be on hand for pictures. All are welcome.

DECEMBER 13

7:00 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

## Youth Game Night

Spend Friday night with friends! Parks & Rec is offering indoor kickball games, basketball mini-games, volleyball, tailgate styled games, e-sports and more. Open to ages 11-14 years old. \$15/child. Dinner will be provided. Registration ends December 12.

DECEMBER 20  
10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

## Jingle Bell Doubles

This is a fan favorite amongst adults and juniors at the Pelham Racquet Club. Scan the QR code to sign up online with or without a partner. The cost is \$30 per person, and a meal is included! [www.pelhamracquetclub.com](http://www.pelhamracquetclub.com)



DECEMBER 21  
5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

## Christmas Show on Ice

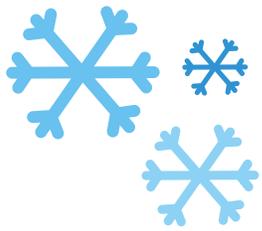
Make plans to attend the coolest Christmas show in the area at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena. All of our Learn to Skate classes will perform, as will some of our coaches. Team Newberry will perform, with Christian Newberry and Jack and Harriet Newberry performing solos. There will be about 35 numbers in all! Admission is \$12, and children five and under are free. Get tickets at [www.pelhamciviccomplex.com](http://www.pelhamciviccomplex.com).

DECEMBER 22  
10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

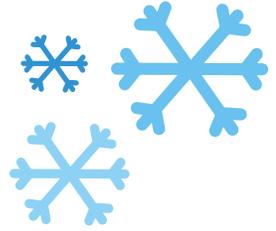
## Christmas Camp

Do Santa's helpers need more time to prepare for the busy holiday season? Let the kids spend a couple of hours at the Rec Center so you can make sure that the list is checked twice and take care of any last-minute shopping! We will have fun playing basketball and kickball and creating holiday-themed crafts. Open to ages 8-12 years old. \$15/child. Lunch will be provided. Registration ends December 20.





# CHRISTMAS EVE SANTA STOPS



## Engine 91

4:00 High Ridge Dr. @ High Ridge Trce.  
4:08 High Ridge Dr. @ Highview Cv.  
4:16 124 Village Ln.  
4:24 Pelham Pkwy @ CR-68 (Parking lot)  
4:32 437 Mid-Ridge Ln.  
4:40 3405 Pelham Pkwy (Church of Christ)  
4:56 Holland Lakes Dr. North @ Holland Trl.  
5:04 Holland Lakes Dr. @ Holland Cv.  
5:12 Holland Lakes Dr. @ Creekside Ln.  
5:20 Creekside Ln. @ Creekside Cir.  
5:28 Creekside Ln. @ 253 Creekside Ln.  
5:36 Walker Way @ Stonehaven Way  
5:44 Walker Rd. @ Stonebrook Ln.  
5:52 Heather Ln. @ Heather Ridge Cir.  
6:00 Stonehaven Trl. @ Stonehill Cir.  
6:08 Stonehaven Trl. @ Pebble Cir.  
6:16 Stonehaven Trl. @ Stonehaven Dr.  
6:24 186 Stonehaven Dr. (cul-de-sac)  
6:32 King Valley Cir. @ King Valley Dr.  
6:40 Heather Ridge Dr. @ Heather Ln.  
6:56 King Valley Rd. @ King Valley St.  
7:04 Ivy Brook Dr. @ Meadowview Cir.  
7:12 Ivy Brook Trail @ Juniper Cir.  
7:30 Yeager Pkwy @ Armory  
7:45 Camellia Ridge Way @ Camellia Ridge Ct.  
7:55 Camellia Ridge Dr. @ Camellia Ridge Cv.  
8:05 Camellia Ridge Dr. @ Water Tank

## Quint 92

4:00 Brookhollow Dr. @ Entrance  
4:08 Hidden Creek Pkwy @ Hidden Creek Cir.  
4:16 Hidden Creek Pkwy @ Hidden Creek Trl.  
4:24 Coales Branch Dr. @ Coales Branch Ln.  
4:32 Chase Creek Cir @ Entrance  
4:40 David Dr. @ Keith Rd.  
4:48 David Dr. @ Indian Creek Dr.  
4:56 Cedar Cove Dr. @ Cedar Cove Ln.  
5:04 Victory Trl. @ Panther Trl.  
5:12 Creekview Dr. @ Creekview Cir.  
5:20 Creekview Dr. @ Overhill Dr.  
5:28 Crosscreek Trl. @ Creekview Dr.  
5:36 Crosscreek Church  
5:44 Crosscreek Trl. @ Valleyview Dr.  
5:52 Wilderness Rd. @ Rycroft Rd.  
6:00 Wilderness Rd. @ Colesbury Cir.  
6:08 Frontier Dr. @ Wilderness Rd.  
6:16 Canyon Park Dr. @ Canyon Trl.  
6:32 Ridge Dr. @ Crestmont Ln.  
6:40 Chandalar Court  
6:48 Southgate MHP Entrance  
6:56 Green Park South MHP Entrance  
7:10 Valleydale MHP Office  
7:20 Terrace 31 Apartments  
(Building A Parking)

## Engine 93

4:00 Wild Timber Pkwy @ Wild Timber Dr.  
4:08 Grey Oaks Dr. @ Grey Oaks Way  
4:20 1002 Grey Oaks Valley  
4:30 Woodridge Cir. @ Woodridge Dr.  
4:38 Dickerson Rd. @ Dickerson Ln.  
4:49 Oak Forest Way @ Oak Forest Trl.  
4:57 125 High Crest Ln. @ Gate  
5:05 Chatham Ct. (W) @ Deer Springs Cir.  
5:13 Bent Rail Ln. @ Cul-de-sac  
5:21 Kelly Dr. @ Deer Springs Cir.  
5:29 Weatherly Way @ Talmadge Dr.  
5:37 Weatherly Way @ Cheshire Ln.  
5:45 Weatherly Way @ Clock  
5:53 Weatherly Way @ Kings Crest Ln. (N)  
6:01 Kings Crest @ 245 Kings Crest  
6:12 Simms Landing @ Simms Trl.  
6:20 Grand Reserve Office  
6:28 Huntley Office  
6:36 Publix  
7:06 Brookshire Ln. @ 141 Brookshire Ln.  
7:16 Hwy 35 @ Mallard Point Dr.  
7:26 Hwy 72 @ Pintail Dr.  
7:34 Silverleaf Dr. @ 181 Silverleaf Dr.  
7:42 Hunters Trce. @ Red Fox Dr.  
7:50 Hwy 361 @ Eagle Cove Dr.  
7:58 Eagle Cove Dr. @ Eagle Cove Ln.  
8:06 Legacy Parc Dr. @ Legacy Parc Cir.  
8:12 High Hampton Dr. @ Hampton Lake Dr.  
8:20 High Hampton Dr. @ Hampton Ln.  
8:30 Emerald Lake Dr.

## Engine 94

4:00 Sommersby Dr. @ Sommersby Cir.  
4:08 Sugar Dr. @ Entrance  
4:16 Shine Dr. @ Entrance  
4:24 Cobblestone Ter. @ Entrance  
4:32 Amanda Pl.  
4:40 Aaron Rd. @ Aaron Parc Ct.  
4:48 Aaron Rd. @ Kristen  
4:56 Royal Ln. @ Royal Chase Dr.  
5:04 Royal Ln. @ Elizabeth Dr.  
5:12 Royal Ct. @ Royal Way  
5:20 Saddle Run Cir.  
5:28 Beaver Creek Pkwy @ Beaver Trl.  
5:36 Stratshire Ln. @ Norridge Pl.  
5:44 Greenway Dr. @ Stratford Cir.  
5:52 Mitoba Tr. @ Hayesbury Ct.  
6:00 140 Keeneland Green  
6:08 Tecumseh Trl. @ Wooddale Ln.  
6:16 Wooddale Ln. @ Glen View  
6:22 Trail Ridge Dr. @ Trail Ridge Cir.  
6:28 Trail Ridge Dr. @ Burning Tree Dr.  
6:36 Burning Tree Dr. @ Indian Hills Rd.  
6:42 Chandawood Dr. @ Blazing Star  
6:50 Chandawood Dr. @ Chandawood Ln.  
6:58 Chandawood Dr. @ Dalton Cr.  
7:06 Dalton Dr. @ Chandalar Ln.  
7:14 Chandaway Dr. @ Chandagreen Ln.  
7:22 Chandaway Dr. @ Chandalar Ln.  
7:30 Chandalar Ln. @ Hamilton Rd.  
7:38 Hamilton Rd. @ Dalton Dr.  
7:46 North Chandalar Ln. @ Wellington Dr.  
7:54 Wildwood Dr. @ Wellington Dr.  
8:02 North Wildwood Dr. @ North Chandalar Dr.  
8:10 North Chandalar Dr. @ Windsor Ridge Dr.

## Engine 95

4:00 Normandy @ Swim Club  
4:12 Grey Oaks Ter. @ Grey Oaks Villy.  
4:20 Oaklyn Hills Pavilion  
4:27 Rolling Hills Dr. @ Oaklyn Hills Dr.  
4:32 Bent Creek Way @ Bent Creek Trce.  
4:48 Deer Ridge Ln. @ Fawn Dr.  
5:03 Wysteria Dr. @ Camellia Dr.  
5:28 Perthshire Rd. @ Perthshire Way  
5:36 Dunrobin Ln. @ Dunrobin Cv.  
5:44 Strathaven Rd. @ Strathaven Ln.  
5:52 Strathaven Ln. @ Eastdale Ln.  
6:00 Ballantrae Swim Club  
6:18 Birkdale Ln. @ Ballantrae Club Dr.  
6:32 Kilkerran Ln. @ Kilberry Way  
6:43 Kilkerran Ln. @ Glenn Iris Cir.  
6:51 Gleneagles Ln. @ Cul-de-sac  
7:01 Ballantrae Pkwy. @ Roundabout  
7:08 Stonekirk Rd. @ Caliston Way  
7:16 Stonekirk Rd. @ Stonekirk Ln.  
7:24 Lauchlin Way @ Lauchlin Ln. (168)  
7:32 Lauchlin Way @ Lauchlin Ln. (108)  
7:42 Kinross Ln. @ Kinross Cir.  
7:56 Cove Ln. @ Cove Cir.  
8:05 Oxford Way @ 383 Oxford Way  
8:13 Windsor Ln. @ Windsor Trl.  
8:21 Windsor Ln. @ Windsor Way  
8:30 Windsor Ln. @ Windsor Cir.  
8:38 Windsor Cir. @ Kings Crest Ln.



JANUARY 4

9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

## Get Out and Skate Day

Enjoy free skating and a complimentary figure skating or hockey lesson at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena. Skate rentals are \$2. Don't miss exciting exhibitions from the Birmingham Figure Skating Club and others.



JANUARY 6

## Learn to Skate Session

Learn to Skate at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena is where every skater's journey begins. These classes are designed to help build a foundation in skills, confidence, and technique for every figure skater or hockey player. Scan the QR code for information.



LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH  
2:00 P.M.

## Let's Talk BookTok

Obsessed with BookTok? Love reading "New Adult" books? Come to the Pelham Public Library book club for adults and chat about your favorite reads from BookTok!

JANUARY 13

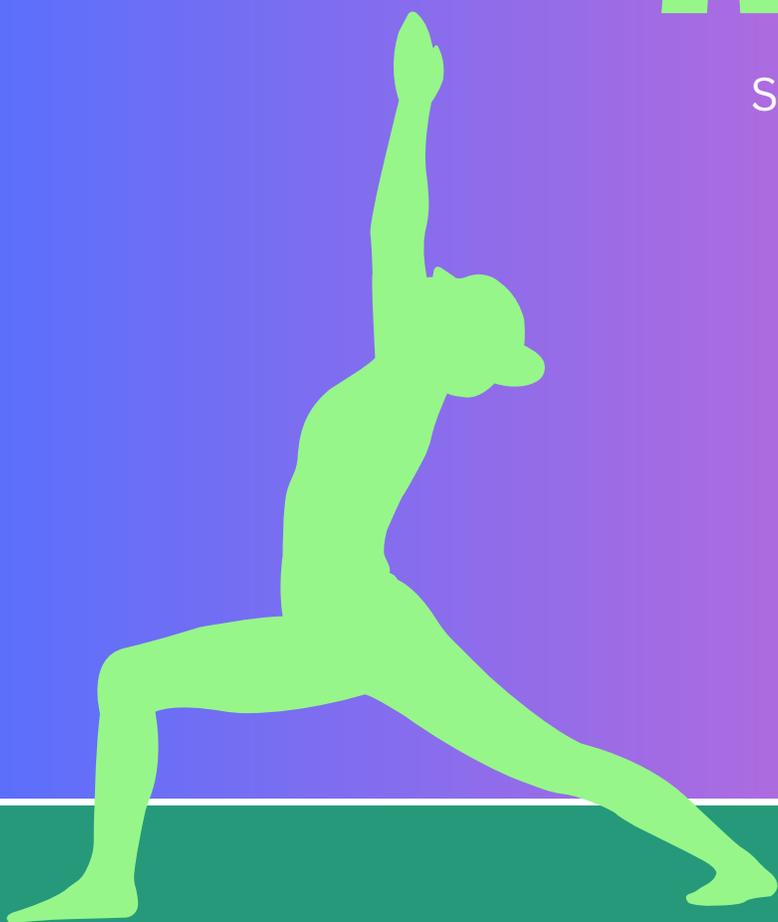
## Youth Soccer Clinic

This clinic focuses on skills, drills, and the fundamentals of soccer. All equipment is provided, and all skill levels are welcome. The clinic is provided by Pelham Parks & Recreation in partnership with Pelham High School soccer coaches and players. In-person and online registration ends on January 13th. [www.pelhamalrecreation.gov](http://www.pelhamalrecreation.gov)



# TAKE YOGA AT PRC

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW  
FOR CLASS TIMES.





# PELHAM HOAS: ACTION NEEDED!

Keeping your Homeowners Association's contact information current with the City enables collaboration on key initiatives, provides a voice in city decision-making, and offers opportunities to connect with other HOAs to share successful strategies for building vibrant neighborhoods.

Please have a representative contact Stacey Primero-Currier, Executive Assistant to City Manager Gretchen DiFante. Her email address is [scurrier@pelhamalabama.gov](mailto:scurrier@pelhamalabama.gov), or you can call her at 205.620.6402.

We would like the following information:

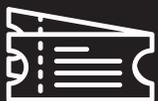
- Management company details (if applicable)
- A list of board members & their contact information
- HOA website & social media links (if applicable)

We encourage all HOAs to get involved—your input helps shape Pelham's future!



# REMAINING HOME SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 5	PENSACOLA ICE FLYERS
DECEMBER 6	EVANSVILLE THUNDERBOLTS
DECEMBER 19	KNOXVILLE ICE BEARS
DECEMBER 26	PEORIA RIVERMEN
DECEMBER 27	PEORIA RIVERMEN
DECEMBER 28	MACON MAYHEM
JANUARY 4	PENSACOLA ICE FLYERS
JANUARY 10	EVANSVILLE THUNDERBOLTS
JANUARY 11	EVANSVILLE THUNDERBOLTS
JANUARY 20	HUNTSVILLE HAVOC
JANUARY 31	FAYETTEVILLE MARKSMEN
FEBRUARY 1	FAYETTEVILLE MARKSMEN
FEBRUARY 14	PENSACOLA ICE FLYERS
FEBRUARY 15	PENSACOLA ICE FLYERS
FEBRUARY 17	HUNTSVILLE HAVOC
FEBRUARY 28	HUNTSVILLE HAVOC
MARCH 7	ROANOKE RAIL YARD DAWGS
MARCH 8	ROANOKE RAIL YARD DAWGS
MARCH 13	PENSACOLA ICE FLYERS
MARCH 28	FAYETTEVILLE MARKSMEN
MARCH 29	FAYETTEVILLE MARKSMEN



[www.bullshockey.net](http://www.bullshockey.net)



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