

**E-NEWSLETTER**

NEWS FROM THE CITY OF PELHAM  
GINA WOMACK, EDITOR



Written By: Ainsley Allison

## A Visionary Plan for Pelham

The City of Pelham is embracing an exciting new chapter in its development by acquiring the former Oak Mountain Amphitheatre property. This move ensures the city has complete control over the future of this key piece of real estate, paving the way for a thoughtfully planned entertainment district that will serve residents and visitors year-round.

"I think it's akin to turning a page," said Mayor Gary Waters. "Experts will tell you that a generation is approximately 25 years, and we've had a generation of entertainment and support by Oak Mountain Amphitheatre. But now, we're moving on to new possibilities, and it's very exciting."

The decision to acquire the property stemmed from Live Nation's intent to sell the land, stipulating that the amphitheater be torn down.

Rather than seeing the site transition to residential development or some other purpose not congruent with Pelham's best interest, city leadership recognized an opportunity to reimagine it as a vibrant entertainment hub that aligns with the community's long-term vision.

"The significance of having an entertainment district at this location is undeniable," Waters said. "By purchasing the property, we ensure that Pelham controls its future."

City Manager Gretchen DiFante echoed these sentiments, emphasizing the broader benefits for Pelham's business community and recreational offerings.

"We have Oak Mountain State Park here, and that exit in this city is already a place where

*(Article continues on next page)*

### THIS MONTH:

Shredding & E-Recycling

Taste of Pelham: A Culinary Tradition

Read & Watch Book Club: Jodi Picoult

Setting Priorities: Citizen Survey Results

Pelham City Park Pavilions

Blueprint for Growth

families, individuals, couples, and multi-generational families come to enjoy what we have to offer," said DiFante.

"This project will only enhance that experience. You can't discount the proximity of Oak Mountain State Park, and that will be a consideration as we develop this project," Mayor Waters interjected.

The City will look for a development partner who shares its vision of creating a dynamic destination filled with restaurants and retail options. While a large-scale amphitheater is not part of the plan, officials are considering features such as a community stage, open gathering spaces, and family-friendly amenities that will contribute to Pelham's economic and cultural vitality.

The next step in the process is finalizing the property closing, which is expected to occur by the end of June. Once demolition is complete, the city will begin working on the development framework and seeking stakeholder input.

"Pelham residents have consistently expressed their desire for more parks, open spaces, family-friendly businesses, walking trails, and restaurants," said DiFante. "This project aligns with those priorities and with Plan Pelham, our comprehensive plan."

As Pelham moves forward with this transformative initiative, City leaders remain committed to ensuring that the final development reflects the needs and aspirations of residents. Stay tuned for updates on the city's website and social media channels.

# FAQs

**Q: What will happen to the Oak Mountain Amphitheatre?**

A: The terms of the contract include the demolition of the amphitheater by Live Nation before the closing date, which is estimated in June 2025.

**Q: What are the financial terms of the contract?**

A: The asking price for the property was \$5,943,000 million, and Pelham is paying \$5.3 million for the entire property, which includes the amphitheater, the parking lot, and adjoining property along the creek. The purchase also includes frontage property on AL-119, commonly known as the grass parking lot.

**Q: Is the city restricted from building a performance venue at the location?**

A: The way the contract is worded, the City could build a community stage within the Pelham Arts & Entertainment District for performances and shows.





## Shredding & E-Recycling Event Planned

The bi-annual spring shredding and e-recycling event date with our partners, Secure Shredding & Recycling, is set for Saturday, March 29, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in front of Pelham City Hall. Drop off up to six boxes of documents for secure, on-site shredding. You don't need to leave your car for this drive-through service.

Residents should not bring the paper in 3-ring binders. Secure Shredding will not accept wet paper. Manila folders, envelopes, and office paper are acceptable.

Staples and paper clips are okay, but please, no binder clips. Residents may bring the paper in any receptacle, and you will get your boxes or bags back after your documents are securely placed in the shredder.

Those looking to discard CRT monitors will be charged \$10 each. Flat-panel monitors are free. Secure Shredding will also provide secure hard drive destruction for \$10 per drive. Television sets are not accepted at this event. Please [review the list of accepted items on the City of Pelham website](#).



## The Pelham Pathway

The Spring 2025 edition of The Pelham Pathway magazine is coming to your mailbox this month.

Editor Ainsley Allison said, "Pelham's future is taking shape! In the March issue, we're diving into the City's blueprint for smart growth and how it will shape our community for years to come. Plus, we're lacing up our skates to see how a unique partnership brings ice skating to kindergarten PE. We also highlight the spring's must-attend community events. Don't miss it!"



## Ballroom Dance Class

**Join us for a 6-week Ballroom Dancing class starting March 3 at the Pelham Senior Center. Classes are \$5 per session.**

Classes are on Mondays from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and offer an excellent opportunity to improve your skills in a fun and supportive environment.

Take advantage of our special offer—**buy five sessions upfront and get the 6th session FREE!**

Registration is now open, so sign up in person at the Senior Center.

## Taste of Pelham: A Culinary Delight

It's arguably one of Pelham's most anticipated events of the year, and organizers say there are many reasons why you'll want to mark your calendars for the 2025 Taste of Pelham. This can't-miss culinary celebration is scheduled for Thursday, April 3, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena Banquet Hall.

Taste of Pelham is the primary fundraiser of the Pelham Library Guild. All proceeds from the event support the Pelham Public Library through the purchase of materials, technology, and programming.

Library Director Mary Campbell said the event has been going strong for at least ten years. "Originally, Taste of Pelham was a fundraiser for the Library building project," she explained. "Since then, the money raised has supported technology upgrades, furniture for the Teen Department, and more."

Campbell said this year's proceeds will help to fund conferencing technology in the library's Mobley Room.

Organizers with the Library Guild estimate 30 local restaurants, chefs, and caterers will offer mouthwatering samples of their signature dishes, making it the perfect opportunity to discover new favorites while supporting a good cause.

Campbell said some people have attended yearly since the first Taste of Pelham. "It's a great way to connect with neighbors and meet new friends."

Tickets for Taste of Pelham are on sale now. You are encouraged to show up hungry because you'll leave happy and full!

Stay up to date with the latest Taste of Pelham details on the [Pelham Public Library website](#).



### Taste of Pelham

April 3, 2025

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena Banquet Hall

### Tickets:

\$40 in advance

\$50 at the door

Scan the QR code below to purchase tickets, or follow the [Eventbrite link](#) to buy tickets online.





## Read & Watch: A New Book Club at Pelham Public Library

Imagine reading a captivating book and having the opportunity to ask the author your burning questions. The Pelham Public Library makes it possible with the all-new Read & Watch Book Club!

This month, we invite you to read "By Any Other Name" by New York Times bestselling author Jodi Picoult. Then, join us on Wednesday, April 2, at 5:30 p.m. for an engaging discussion at the library. At 6:00 p.m., we'll tune in together for a live, virtual interview with Ms. Picoult—an exclusive opportunity to gain insight straight from the author.

But that's not all! Throughout March, the library offers three additional "Virtual Author Talks" you can enjoy from the comfort of your home. Follow the links below to register:

- March 12 at 1:00 p.m. – [The Power of Reset and How to Change What's Not Working with Dan Heath](#)
- March 20 at 1:00 p.m. – [How Women's Liberation Transformed America: In Conversation with Clara Bingham](#)
- March 26 at 6:00 p.m. – [Dreams We Chase: An Author Talk with Jennifer Weiner](#)

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to connect with bestselling authors and fellow book lovers. Mark your calendars and prepare for an outstanding literary experience at the Pelham Public Library!



## Discover the Mystery of Dowsing at the Library

Join us at the Pelham Public Library on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. for a fascinating program, "A Brief History of Dowsing." Presented by [Jason Kirby](#) of [Elysium House Healing](#), this event will explore the origins of dowsing, dispel common misconceptions, and highlight its modern applications.

Participants will gain insight into how dowsing works and how it can be used to locate objects in everyday life. This free event is open to the public—don't miss this opportunity to learn about an intriguing practice with real-world uses!

For more details, visit the [Pelham Public Library website](#).

## Also This Month at the Library

Dungeons & Dragons for Teens & Tweens  
Each Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.

Preschool Storytime  
Each Wednesday at 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 p.m.

PJ Storytime  
Each Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

STEAM Team: Balloon Powered Car  
Homeschool!: March 6 at 1:00 p.m.

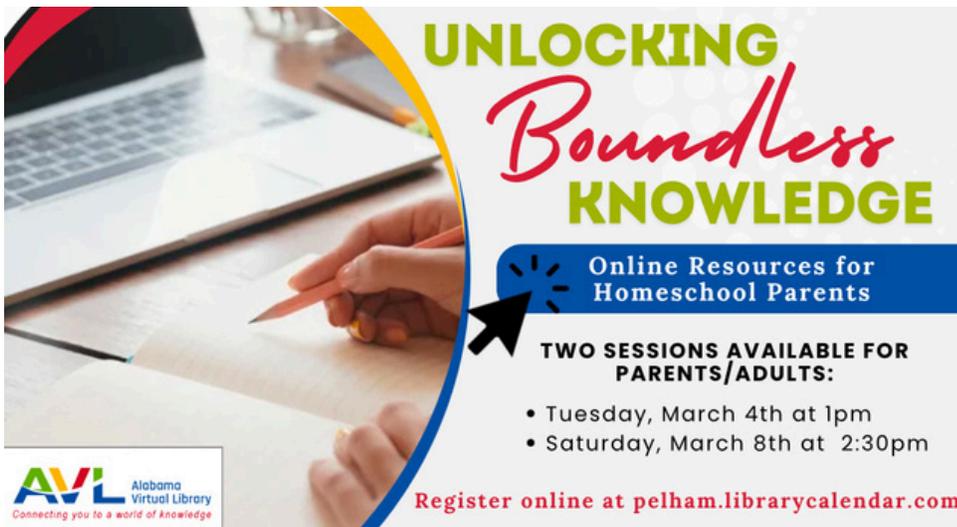
American Red Cross Blood Drive  
March 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Pelham Garden Club  
March 13 at 10:00 a.m.

The ABC & Ds of Medicare  
March 20 at 10:00 a.m.

Let's Talk #BookTok Book Club  
March 22 @ 10:30 a.m.

\*Links are provided for additional information.



**UNLOCKING**  
*Boundless*  
**KNOWLEDGE**

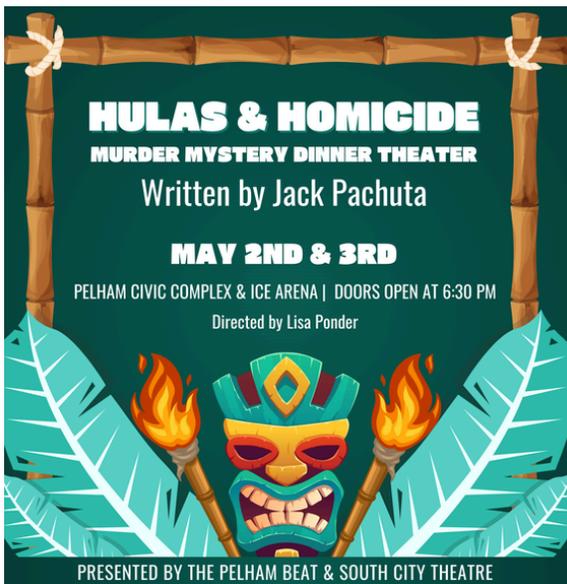
Online Resources for  
Homeschool Parents

**TWO SESSIONS AVAILABLE FOR PARENTS/ADULTS:**

- Tuesday, March 4th at 1pm
- Saturday, March 8th at 2:30pm

Register online at [pelham.librarycalendar.com](http://pelham.librarycalendar.com)

**AVL** Alabama Virtual Library  
Connecting you to a world of knowledge

**HULAS & HOMICIDE**  
MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATER

Written by Jack Pachuta

**MAY 2ND & 3RD**

PELHAM CIVIC COMPLEX & ICE ARENA | DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

Directed by Lisa Ponder

PRESENTED BY THE PELHAM BEAT & SOUTH CITY THEATRE

## Birmingham Bulls Home Games

Friday, March 7  
vs. Roanoke @ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 8  
vs. Roanoke @ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 13  
vs. Huntsville @ 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 14  
vs. Huntsville @ 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 28  
vs. Fayetteville @ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 29  
vs. Fayetteville @ 7:00 p.m.



[Birmingham Bulls Tickets and Special Promotion Information](#)

Written By: Jenni Hodges

# NHL Street Summer

Pelham Parks & Recreation is making waves in the youth sports community by expanding NHL Street into a second season. This innovative and accessible street hockey program is designed to bring the excitement of hockey to a broader audience. The introduction of NHL Street is a testament to Pelham Parks & Recreation's commitment to offering innovative programs that cater to the evolving interests of the community.

Following the success of its first year, big plans are in place to expand the program and make it a staple in Pelham's youth sports calendar. Construction will begin soon on an NHL Street court as a part of an expansion project at City Park.

[Read More on our website](#)



## E-Sports Tournament

We're thrilled about this new format! Due to overwhelming interest, our first tournament filled up quickly. But don't worry—tournaments will be held regularly. Follow us on social media for updates on the next registration opening!



[More youth activities listed online](#)

**NEED A PICK ME UP?**

**TRY PICK-UP VOLLEYBALL**

**MARCH-APRIL**  
Adult Drop-In League  
Scan For More Info

### Get Back in the Game - Adult Volleyball

Remember when playing with friends was the highlight of your day? It still can be. The Pelham Rec Center invites you to keep the fun going with our Adult Drop-In Volleyball League. No need for a team, captain, or roster—show up and play.

- **All skill levels are welcome**  
come with friends or make new ones
- **Structured open gym**  
a fun, social, and inclusive environment
- **Rotating play**  
ensuring everyone gets equal time on the court

Mondays | March 3 – April 28  
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. | Pelham Rec Center  
Free for Rec Center members | \$10 for non-members  
Pre-registration is required for all players.

## SPRING HOURS

- Spring hours at Ballantrae will begin on Sunday, March 9, 2025.
- Extended evening grill hours will take place on Fridays starting March 7th. The restaurant will be open until 8 p.m.

## AROUND BALLANTRAE

- The Pelham High School and Middle School Golf Teams have started practicing for this year's golf season.
- The Pelham High School Fundraiser Golf Tournament is scheduled for Monday, April 14th.
- The new flooring, along with new furniture, is now installed in the grill and the landing area at the staircase.



# Get Golf Ready

GOLF CLINICS

**\$100**

INCLUDES ALL SESSIONS

LEARN HOW TO PLAY GOLF OR IMPROVE YOUR CURRENT GAME!

CLUBS AVAILABLE IF NEEDED

Our golf professionals will teach fun ways to learn these fundamentals:

- PUTTING
- CHIPPING
- FULL SWING
- COURSE MANAGEMENT

**SATURDAYS IN MARCH  
10 A.M. TO 11 A.M.**

CONTACT THE GOLF SHOP AT 205-620-4653 TO REGISTER  
SELECT PHONE OPTION 1

Call 205-620-4653 or email [tmims@pelhamalabama.gov](mailto:tmims@pelhamalabama.gov) to register

**TUESDAY JUNIOR CLINICS ALSO AVAILABLE**



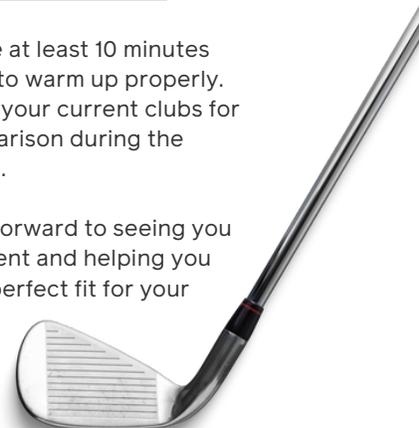
**NEW LOOK IN  
FIRESIDE GRILL**

## MIZUNO GOLF FITTING EVENT

Get the most out of your game with a personalized Mizuno Golf Fitting Experience. Secure your spot by [scheduling an appointment in advance](#).

- Arrive at least 10 minutes early to warm up properly.
- Bring your current clubs for comparison during the fitting.

We look forward to seeing you at the event and helping you find the perfect fit for your game!



## New Tennis Pro

Welcome to the Racquet Club family, Abby Cranor! Abby is an emerging tennis coach passionate about helping players of all levels build skill and confidence. With an 18-year background in competitive tennis, Abby deeply understands technique, strategy, and mental toughness; she brings a fresh perspective and personalized approach to coaching and strives to create a supportive environment where players can thrive, improve, and enjoy the game.

- #1 singles and doubles for Huntsville High for 5 years. Led her team to state every year
- Coached juniors of all ages and women at Moore's Mill Country Club in Auburn
- Put on summer camps for juniors at Athletic Club Alabama in Huntsville
- Ranked top 5 in Alabama for 16s

Whether you want to begin your tennis journey or brush up on your skills, Abby is the Pro for you! Contact us for booking information.



## Learn to Skate

Ready to glide into a new skill? Our next Learn to Skate session begins on March 3rd, offering a fun and supportive environment for skaters of all ages and skill levels.

Our experienced instructors will help you build confidence and improve your skating abilities. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from the best—[register today](#) and take your skating to the next level!



## Xtreme International Ice Racing 2025 "Relentless" Tour

On March 15 at 7:00 p.m., the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena will transform into an icy battlefield, where fearless athletes, mounted on motorcycles and ATVs equipped with over 2,000 razor-sharp metal studs, will battle for speed, precision, and supremacy.

This action-packed event promises thrills for the entire family, offering jaw-dropping excitement to keep everyone on the edge of their seats. Whether you're a dedicated racing fan or simply seeking an unforgettable night out, XIIR guarantees an evening of high-octane entertainment.

Don't miss your chance to experience the Xtreme! Get your tickets today and witness the most exciting racing event to hit the ice!

# DID YOU KNOW

anyone can have access to the Pelham Racquet Club's online clubhouse?

This new system allows players to have greater access to all things Pelham Racquet Club.

## Login to:

- See clinic & class schedules
- Register for classes & clinics
- Book private lessons
- Access statements
- Pay fees online
- Register groups for clinics

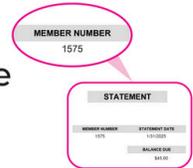
You don't have to have a Membership to access the free social account. It cost you nothing to gain access.

Request your member number today and follow the instructions to the right to get started!

[Request a Member Number](#)

## Racquet Club Account Verification

1. Locate your **Member Number** on your invoice or Request one from Front Desk.



Anyone can have a member number for the free social account. You do not have to have a Racquet Club Membership.

2. Visit the **Member Validation** link or scan the QR code.  
<https://pelhamracquetclub.clubhouseonline-e3.club/roster/membervalidation.aspx>



3. Enter your **Member Number** and **Name** then click "**Validate**".

Member Validation

Member Number

First Name

Last Name

**VALIDATE**

CANCEL

4. View upcoming classes and clinics in the **Classes** tab, schedule individual lessons with a Pro from the **Tennis** tab.

