Come Meet Your Next Congressman Tuesday October 19!

Candidates Steve Raby and Mo Brooks will be with us at the October 19 Civic Association potluck dinner and membership meeting, to be held at the Monte Sano Lodge. On November 2, one of these men will be elected to be our next Representative of the 5th Congressional District in Washington DC. This election has gotten national attention.

At the meeting, they will take some time to meet and greet Monte Sano residents. While this gathering will not be an issues debate, the candidates will have an opportunity to speak to our group for a few minutes, present their perspective of current topics, and answer some of your questions. You will have a chance to write a question to submit to the candidates. While time will not permit a response to everybody’s question during the meeting, they have pledged to respond to each if you give contact information.

We hope you will join us as we welcome Mr. Brooks and Mr. Raby to Monte Sano, and get to know them just a little better. Potluck dinner (please bring a dish to share) will be at 6:30, and the membership meeting will begin promptly at 7. The MSCA will provide plates, flatware, and tea/coffee/water.

IMPORTANT: Please plan to arrive a little early, as we want to get started with our meeting on time. The potluck line will begin moving at 6:30 sharp.

New MSCA Directory Coming Soon
Your MSCA board is currently hard at work on the 2011 telephone directory that is one of the “perks” for joining the MSCA. Please update your info by October 20 by going to montesano.org, or bringing it to the potluck or sending it to:
MSCA; PO Box 10077; Huntsville AL 35801

Info Needed:
1. First & Last Name
2. Spouse or partner's last name (if different), Spouse or partner's first name
3. Street address (Monte Sano residents only)
4. Primary phone number (one number only)
5. E-mail (you may have 2 emails listed)

Holiday Party
December 5
Save the Date!
CELEBRATE the SEASON!
The Monte Sano Civic Association invites you to celebrate the holidays.
Sunday, December 5, 2010
at
The Monte Sano Park Lodge

Membership Dues
The Monte Sano Civic Association supports community communication, education, Community Watch, the State Park, Monte Sano Elementary School, and Adopt a Mile. The membership year is Jan-Dec. Please check your mailing label to see when your membership expires. A membership table will be at the October 19 potluck if you would like to pay your 2011 dues. Thank you for your support!
Remember to bag or mulch your leaves!

The Botanical Garden is offering a free leaf composting demonstration on Saturday, October 16th from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
A New Home for Dr. Burritt’s 1949 DeSoto

In February of 1949, Dr. Burritt ordered a Sea Foam Green DeSoto Coupe with right-hand drive from the Cole Motor Company on Meridian Street. Burritt specified right-hand drive for safety reasons, believing that as he traveled the foggy mountain roads, he would be better able to see the edge of the road. When the car arrived it was a showpiece in the dealership; it cost approximately $2,100.00. With its unusual features, and color, the car quickly became legendary in the area.

When Dr. Burritt died, one of the families who tended to his property received the car and in 1970 Burritt Museum was able to purchase the car for $100. It was obvious that the car had taken some abuse over the years and would need a complete restoration. The car sat in the garage of the mansion until 2000 when a generous benefactor, Mr. David Butler, agreed to take on the monumental restoration task.

To facilitate the restoration, another 1949 DeSoto Coupe was purchased for parts as some of the components on Burritt’s car were beyond repair. With Mr. Butler’s financial support and project oversight, and Ray Bryan of Classic Car Concepts, the car was brought back to its original charm.

In celebration of the museum’s 55th anniversary this year, a permanent exhibit for the DeSoto has been constructed in the garage of the mansion. We hope you all come to see this Huntsville treasure on display.

Ball Park Dedication

There once was a ball field on the mountain built by the work and inspiration of John A. Reynolds, long time mountain resident who passed away several years ago. Monte Sano Little League teams used it for many years and the city of Huntsville maintained it. It was located on property owned by the Monte Sano United Methodist Church. In recent times city budget cuts had resulted in the field falling into serious disrepair. Robert Reynolds, son of John A. and Martha Ann Reynolds (beloved teacher at Monte Sano Elementary School) sponsored a drive in partnership with the church to renovate the field. In honor of his parents, Robert helped unveil the new sign designating the ball field as “The John A. and Martha Ann Reynolds Field”.

Look for the Ballot and Vote!

The Monte Sano Civic Association Board is made up of 10 volunteer board members, each serving a 2 year term. Many thanks to retiring board members Kurt Bothwell, David McMillion, Peg Heeschen and Steve Fair. Thanks also to MaryLynn Perry who has agreed to run for another term. A ballot can be found on the last page of this newsletter. Please select 5 names (write-in candidates are allowed in the space provided). Return your ballot by November 1 to:

Monte Sano Civic Association
PO Box 10077
Huntsville AL 35801

OR you may drop it in the box provided at the October 19 potluck.

One vote per household membership please.

THANK YOU FOR VOTING!
The Land Trust
The Land Trust is so fortunate to have strong community support and many Monte Sano residents support The Land Trust via membership and volunteering. Many residents have enjoyed the Moon Dance (and glow necklaces) for years. Almost 700 friends of preserving green space attended the 11th Annual Moon Dance at the foot of Monte Sano on September 18. The Land Trust continues to carefully maintain the 21 miles of trails on the Monte Sano Nature Preserve in order to keep them in top condition for hikers and mountain bikers. New trail maps (in downloadable pdf files) are now available on their website: www.LandTrust-HSV.org

Community Watch News
Bob Simpson, Community Watch Coordinator for Monte Sano since its inception in the 1980s reported recently that we are again in need of more magnetic signs. MSCA board members voted to give him $100 for his expenses at their September board meeting. He reminds volunteers to take care when passing the signs on to the next shift or to leave them at his house if you do not know (or cannot contact) the next person on the list.

He is also looking for someone (computer literate preferred) to take over the responsibility of coordinator. This involves attending monthly board meetings with other Community Watch coordinators, scheduling volunteers, ordering signs when needed and publishing the schedule. Anyone interested please contact him at 256-539-4574 rsimpson38@comcast.net

Astronomy Day
Von Braun Astronomical Society is celebrating Astronomy Day on October 16, 2010. At our facility on Monte Sano State Park from 2:00 - 6:00 pm there will be hands-on activities for children, solar telescope viewing and other telescopes on display. Starting at 3 o'clock there will be a planetarium show at the top of every hour until 6:00. Each show will feature a different speaker and an exciting topic in Astronomy. At 7:30 pm our special guest speaker, Ray Cronise, will present Space For Rent: Who will be the next generation "Exporeneurs?"

Based on his experiences as a cofounder of Zero-G and co-owner of Space Adventures, Ray will discuss these early days of pushing through the "you can't possibly do that" mindset that was pervasive in a community that once landed man on the moon. We'll take close examination of how the first generation of space entrepreneurs broke through these barriers and some of the opportunities that exist in the decade ahead.

Beginning at 8:00 pm as the skies darken, members of VBAS will have telescopes pointed at beautiful objects in the night sky. Everyone is welcome to take a look and stay as long as they like. This is a great time to get familiar with some constellations and/or look through a telescope. Bring the whole family and enjoy the VBAS facility in beautiful Monte Sano State Park. You might want to bring a picnic supper too, so you can stay until the stars come out!

There will also be an impromptu observing evening Friday evening October 8th at 8pm. The Moon will be out of the way and the Fall Constellations should be coming into view. There will be no planetarium show for this event and will be canceled in the event of overcast or rainy weather. Next years Youth and Adult Observing Evenings will be in May and June of next year and of course in the Fall of next year. If there is a demand for more, we may have more. For more information call Doug Horacek at 256 772-6788. Stellar Skies!

Check our website for updates: www.vbas.org
Monte Sano United Methodist Church Happenings

*Wednesday Community Meals and Classes*
All mountain residents are invited to the Wednesday night suppers and classes at the church during October. This is a great chance to visit with neighbors and friends. Supper is served from 5:30-6:30 for a $5 donation. Vita French is teaching a beginning Spanish Class from 4:30-5:30, beginning October 6. At 6:15, Linda Geary is leading a crocheting group, and Loye Pine is leading a women’s “Eat, Pray, Love, Monte Sano Style” group in the chapel. Dr. Roger Rinn will lead a 3 week session for parents called: “Influencing and altering the behavior of children and adolescents.” from 6:30-7:30. A nursery and childcare is provided. A reservation for the meal and childcare is requested. Transportation is available upon request, and take out meals are also available.

*Christmas Tree Sale*
Mark your calendar for the annual Christmas Tree Sale Saturday November 27-December 11. Fresh and fragrant North Carolina Fraser Fir Christmas trees will be sold at the church.

*Holiday Pancake Breakfast*
On Saturday December 4, 2010; 8am-11am come to the church for a Pancake Breakfast, Bake Sale and Holiday trimmings sale.

*Calendar Sale*
The 2011 Light on the Mountain 15 month calendars (beginning with October) are now available - featuring the work of local and mountain photographers who have captured the natural beauty of Monte Sano during all seasons. Calendars are available at the church office (Mon-Thurs 8:30-12:30) and at the Little Green Store.

Monte Sano State Park Memorial for Margaret Evans

For many years before Monte Sano resident Margaret Evans death in 2009 she and her husband Fred would make almost daily drives to the State Park scenic overlook by the Planetarium in their MG. Margaret held a special place in her heart for that overlook. When she died, their friends from NABMS (North Alabama British Motoring Society) decided to honor her with a memorial contribution to the Monte Sano State Park. The money will be used to create a wildflower area at the scenic overlook that Margaret loved so much. In August 13 members of the group in their sports cars started in Madison and gathered more members and cars as they climbed Monte Sano to the overlook for the dedication of the Margaret Evans memorial area. Kent Wilborn told the group of the plans for the plants and the creation of the memorial space. This picture was taken at that informal ceremony.

A Facelift for Fearn

A big thank you goes out to Mayor Battle and the City street crew, who repaved Fearn Street between Lookout Drive and Bankhead Parkway. Monte Sano residents have been bumping and bouncing on the rough road for months, and now every day will enjoy the smooth surface. As drivers will no longer swerve to avoid the deepest holes, it will be a much safer drive as well.
Monte Sano Elementary School News
By Christie Fiteley
Greetings! I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the Monte Sano community. As you may know, I was recently named principal at Monte Sano Elementary and I am so excited to have the opportunity to work with the teachers, students, parents and this community. I look forward to getting to know you and I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce my family and share my background.

As an educator for 19 years, I have served in many facets of this field. I have served as an Advanced Placement Political Science teacher, a school counselor and administrator at Bob Jones High School. I was employed as school counselor and administrator at Hampton Cove Elementary School. I am married to Kirk and we have 2 sons, Drake (9) and Tate (6). We spend a great deal of time outdoors, fishing at our pond and playing baseball. I enjoy running outdoors, especially the trails at Monte Sano State Park. It is one of my favorite places to run!

I value the field of education and treasure the positive impact and support that teachers, parents and community members have on children. With that said, I also value the school-community partnership. Beginning in October, Monte Sano Elementary is starting several new volunteer programs that work directly with students. Such programs include “Paws for Reading” that allows volunteers to bring “child friendly” pets to school and read with a student. Other volunteer programs include our “Volunteer Corp” and the “GAP” (grandparent adoption program). All volunteer programs will center on student achievement. Volunteer registration is available on the Monte Sano community website and at the school. If you have questions or are interested in more information, feel free to contact me at 428-7300. I invite all community members to join our effort in supporting our students. Another program that we would like to start is after school foreign language club (Spanish, German and French). If you or someone that you know is interested in teaching a language, please contact me.

I am very excited about this opportunity and I look forward to working with you.

Monte Sano Art Show
By The Staff of the Monte Sano Art Show
The Monte Sano Art Show on Saturday, September 18 was a huge success for both the Arts community and Monte Sano State Park. The crowd was estimated at 5,000! In addition to the art on display by over 150 artists and craftsmen, visitors enjoyed great entertainment and food. We’d like to send out a special thank you to our entire neighborhood, the residents of Monte Sano, for twelve years of continued patience and enthusiastic support of the show. The weather was great; the traffic was dreadful, but everyone seemed to be a good sport about it. Special thanks to Monte Sano residents Connie and Paul Blau for the golf carts, we could not have survived without them. We’d also like to thank our gracious hosts, the Monte State Park staff. Thanks for providing the perfect venue, no matter what the weather!

See you next year!

Here is a list of the winners of the 2010 Monte Sano Art Show:
Best of Show - A.B. Word,
First Place - Guadalupe Robinson
2nd Place - Connie Ulrich;
3rd Place - Helene Fielder
4th Place - Leslie Wood
Honorable Mentions: Bill Hill, Jim Shores, Marilyn Huey, Joan Kelly, Laura Stacy
Monte Sano State Park Award - Beer Chunhaswasdikul
Arch Pike Memorial Award - Carolyn Wass
Buffalo Rock Award - Amy Crews
The Little Green Store Award - Don Stewart
Channel 19 WHNT Emerging Artist Award - Yuri Ozaki
Mary Vandegrift Award - Mary Reed
Ruby Speed Award - Troy Criswell
Happy Tummy Award - Jack Rogers
Merit Awards - Jim Shores, Sherman Barnes, David Nutall,
Timothy Weber, Monique Given, Roger & Renae Poer, Mike Esslinger,
Vicki Grossman Wyrick
Thank you to the following residents of Monte Sano who have agreed to run for a position on the Monte Sano Civic Association Board for 2011-2012

**Paige Brown** has been a life-long resident of Monte Sano Mountain. She has helped coach the Monte Sano Makos swim team for about eight years. Paige graduated from UA-Huntsville last December with a major in Psychology and a minor in Philosophy. She is currently coaching the Huntsville High School swim team and working part-time at First Place Athletics. Paige says Monte Sano has always been and will always be her home. She will help in any way possible.

**Gene Ezell** has been on Monte Sano since 1985, restoring a 110 year-old log house on Lookout Drive that was completed in 1998. He and his wife of 50 years, Mary Ann, have two grown sons and two grandsons. He recently retired from Teledyne Brown Engineering after working there since 1965 as a physicist supporting Army Missile Defense in its various incarnations. Gene served on the Civic Association Board in 2003 and 2004.

**Don Masterson** moved into the house previously owned by Norm and Norma Bell on Cherokee Drive in April 2009. Don is married to Sara and they have four children ages 10 to 2½ years of age. Don is a fifth grade teacher at Monte Sano Elementary School and Sara is an engineer at Marshall Space Flight Center. The family enjoys being a part of the Monte Sano Swim Team and the Monte Sano Club.

**MaryLynn Perry** is a second-generation mountain resident and has lived on the mountain since 1981. Both she and her husband attended Monte Sano Elementary School as children and currently send their two children to school there. For the last two years she has served on the Boards of the Monte Sano Club and the Monte Sano Civic Association. She has just completed a business associates and is currently pursuing a Bachelor’s Degree in Management of Technology.

**Earle Self** is a practicing attorney who has been a resident of Monte Sano for over 25 years. He is a founding member & general counsel of the Huntsville Rehabilitation Foundation. He is a former state president of Alabama Easter Seals, the original incorporator of the Huntsville Land Trust and is a former state Outings Chair for the Sierra Club. He served on the MSCA Board of Directors in the late 1990s and was active on the sewer liaison committee.

**Elizabeth Thornton** has lived on Monte Sano since 1998. She is a mother of two children involved with the Monte Sano swim team where she has volunteered extensively. Her degree is in Accounting from UA-Huntsville, & she is currently self-employed working with individuals & small businesses. Since this community is where she is raising her girls, Elizabeth is interested in maintaining and cultivating the wonderful atmosphere on the mountain for the future.

**Robert Wood** was a career engineer and business man in the international arena before retiring to Monte Sano where his wife, Carol Edwards, has two siblings who are long term residents of Monte Sano. His experience includes DIY column in the China News, Publication of the American Club in China (ACC) 48 page monthly magazine, development of Websites for the ACC and Monte Sano United Methodist Church. He is interested in focusing on security, environmental and property value preservation issues on Monte Sano.

(Cut Ballot Along Dotted Line and Return by November 1, 2010)

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**BALLOT FOR MSCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Each member household has one vote.

PLEASE VOTE FOR 5 PEOPLE AND RETURN THIS FORM

By November 1, 2010 TO:

Monte Sano Civic Association; PO Box 10077; Huntsville AL 35801

(or bring to the October 19 Potluck)

________ Paige Brown

________ Gene Ezell

________ Don Masterson

________ MaryLynn Perry

________ Earle Self

________ Elizabeth Thornton

________ Robert Wood

Write In:_________________________________________

Please Sign Member’s Name_________________________________________
MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership year is January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011

Dues are $10.00 per year (multiple year payments accepted)

Return to: Monte Sano Civic Association
PO Box 10077
Huntsville AL 35801

NAME_________________________________________________________________________________________
(as you would like to be listed in the next directory)
NAME

ADDRESS_____________________________________________________________________________________

PHONE____________________________________________________________

EMAIL________________________________________________________________________________________

Monte Sano Civic Association
PO Box 10077
Huntsville AL 35801