

# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS + 2023 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



The Mission of the Garden District Preservation Association is to protect, preserve, restore, promote, beautify and expand the Garden District.

P.O. Box 463 • Montgomery, AL 36101 • www.facebook.com/GDPAMontgomery • gdpamontgomery@gmail.com

#### **GARDEN DISTRICT PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION** Officers, Committee Chairs & Section Captains 2022-2023

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**Public Safety** Social

Ashleigh Cook

Or contact any of the officers, section captains or committee chairs via direct message on Nextdoor.com. General inquiries can go to gdpamontgomery@gmail.com.



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## **Please Join Us!**

Dear Garden District Resident:

We're about to wrap up our 2023 Membership Drive, but we don't want to finish without you.

The Garden District Preservation Association is dedicated to maintaining the historic character of our neighborhood, and our residents' property values, by staying on top of proposed changes to neighborhood structures through monitoring items on the agendas of the Architectural Review Board, the Board of Adjustment and the Planning Commission. We also communicate regularly with the Montgomery Police Department to enhance safety and security in the neighborhood. You can think of the association as a form of "property value insurance" for your most important asset, your home.

In addition to our preservation work, the association hosts several neighborhood-wide social events each year to give Garden District residents the chance to enjoy food and fellowship while welcoming new neighbors and renewing old friendships.

Board meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Church of the Ascension (second Monday in the event of Monday holidays), and all Garden District residents are welcome to attend. Members receive the minutes of each meeting as well as other members-only email communications each month. You'll find enclosed a list of board members with contact information should you have any questions about current association activities or need to report issues of concern.

We've also enclosed a membership form with information on returning a check or paying online, a new service we've added this year. The board members of the GDPA and I hope that you'll join us today.

Sincerely,

Laura A. Calloway

John Phillips

GDPA President

GDPA Vice-President & Membership Chair

#### **GDPA Meeting & Event Schedule 2023**

#### January

Monday, January 9 - Regular Board Meeting (Moved for New Year's holiday)

#### February

Saturday, February 4 - Neighborhood Mixer at Café Louisa Monday, Feb. 6 - Regular Board Meeting Saturday, Feb. 25 – Soup Supper

#### March

Monday, Mar. 6 - Regular Board Meeting & Association Annual Meeting (6:00 p.m.)

#### April

Monday, Apr. 3 - Regular Board Meeting Saturday, Apr. 22 - Plant Swap Sunday, Apr. 23 - Spring Picnic

#### May

Monday, May 1 - Regular Board Meeting Memorial Day - May 29

#### June

Monday, June 5 - Regular Board Meeting

#### July

Monday, July 10 - Regular Board Meeting (Moved for the July 4th holiday.) Independence Day - July 4

#### August

Monday, Aug. 7 - Regular Board Meeting

#### September

Monday, Sept. 11 - Regular Board Meeting (Moved for the Labor Day holiday.) Labor Day – Sept. 4 Possible dates for fall picnic: Sunday Sept. 17, 24

#### October

Monday, Oct. 2 - Regular Board Meeting Halloween – Oct. 31 Possible dates for fall picnic: Sunday Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

#### November

Monday, Nov. 6- Regular Board Meeting Veterans Day – Nov. 11 Thanksgiving – Nov. 23

#### December

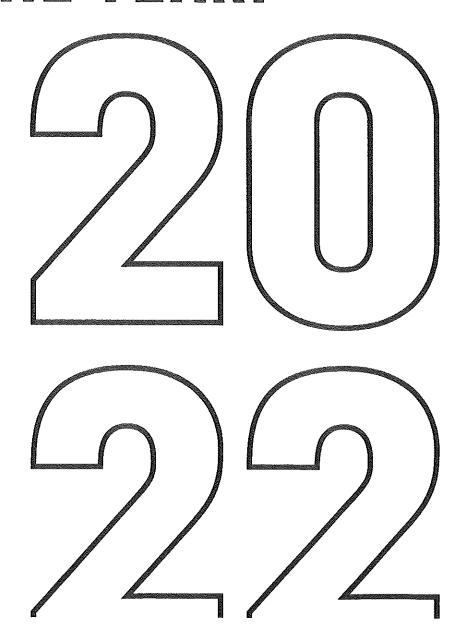
Monday, Dec. 4 - Regular Board Meeting

GDPA Regular Board Meetings are held at 5:30 p.m. at the Church of the Ascension unless otherwise indicated, and all Garden District residents are welcome to attend. Use either the McDonough Street entrance to the left of the sanctuary and downstairs through the Waldo Garden or the S. Hull Street parking lot entrance for access to the dining room or parish hall.



### THE GARDEN DISTRICT PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR!



## THANK YOUR

Dear Garden District Community,

We are excited to share the GDPA's first Annual Highlights report! We are grateful for the numerous ways our community came together in 2022. We wanted to find a way to bring more context and detail to how our Association can be present in our special neighborhood.

And we need your input! There are so many more ways we can improve. We hope you will share your reactions and ideas for how we can better our community, meet one another, and make the Garden District Montgomery's most wonderful neighborhood to live!

Please join our email list by contacting gdpamontgomery@gmail.org. And if you want to become a member or rejoin, you can do so electronically here.

Thank you!
Laura Calloway
President, The Garden District Preservation Association

## GATHERINGS

From the Annual Picnics and Soup Supper to monthly Board meetings, it is so important to continue coming together to deepen old friendships and meet new neighbors!

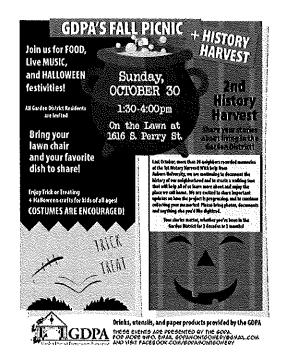


#### February

A dozen Garden District
neighbors gathered to discuss
our first steps creating the
Community History Project and
Walking Tour. We brainstormed
what we value about our
neighborhood, what we feel is
still lacking, and what we can
do to achieve our vision.

#### May and October

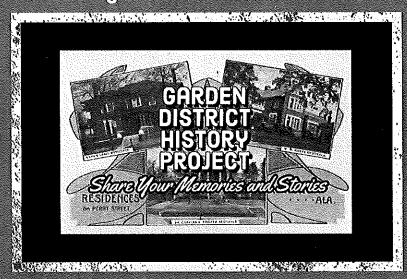
The GDPA's seasonal Potluck Picnics have become a neighborhood staple! We appreciate everyone who came out -- especially those dressed in costume for our Fall Halloween Theme!



## WHAT'S GROWING

Alongside meetings and events, we're excited about two projects that we hope embody our aspiration to create meaningful opportunities for neighbors to connect and for our neighborhood to grow stronger together.

#### **Garden District Community History Project** & Walking Tour



We're thrilled at the progress made to record and share neighbor's memories of living in the Garden District. Our partnership with Auburn continued this year and we launched our Walking Tour which you can find on our website:

www.gardendistrictmgm.org

#### **Home & Garden Award**

Thanks to Beautification
Chair Wes Little, we now
have a way to regularly
recognize two homes in our
community! Look out for
our email newsletters for
more info on the homes
highlighted.



## COMMUNITY SHOUT OUT!

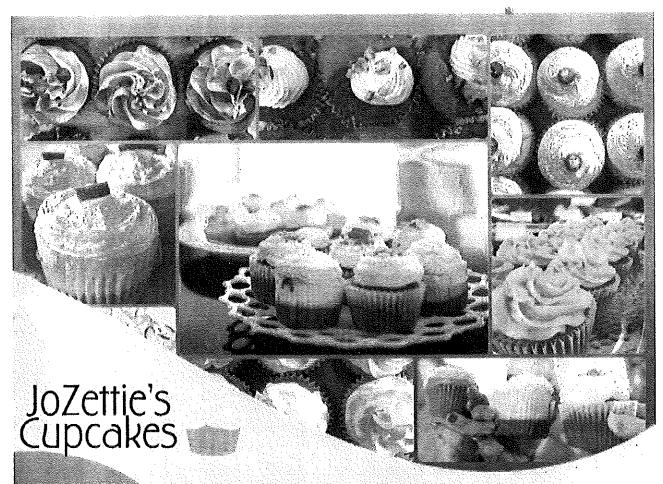
We want to say a big thank you to our neighbor, Ms. Kester, for creating The Sun Does Shine community food bank. Ms. Kester has elevated the disturbing injustice that 1 in 7 adults and 1 in 5 children in Alabama are suffering from food insecurities. She is working hard to help bring an end to this issue. We are grateful for her example of community care.



### All of us can participate!

- Drop off food donations to the Pantry located on the corner of S. Hull & Maury Streets
- Shop using this Amazon Wishlist
- Write a check to The Inspired Child Project or CashApp \$cheryldenisekester

If you have additional questions about the project, please call: 334-788-5882!



## Fresh Baking Made From Scratch

1404 South Decatur Street Montgomery, AL 36104 Tel: 334-239-9289

> Hours of Operation Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Saturday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM 2229 East South Boulevard (Drive Thru Available) Montgomery, AL 36116 Tel: 334-676-1598

> Hours of Operation Tuesday - Friday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Saturday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

## Good Neighbor Guidelines

Your Garden District neighbors attempt to observe and enforce all City of Montgomery ordinances which relate to maintaining the good appearance of the neighborhood. This protects everyone's property values. Here's a quick breakdown of what you need to know to avoid problems and potential fines or enforcement action.

#### Home Repairs, Improvements and Alterations

The Garden District is on the National Register of Historic Places and the majority of the neighborhood is also designated as a city historic district, making *any* alterations to the exterior of a home in the city historic district subject to prior review and approval by the Architectural Review Board. If you are in the locally designated area you must submit an application, appear at an Architectural Review Board meeting, and receive approval before you:

- Change the exterior color of your home
- Replace or alter any element of the home, such as doors, windows, columns, shutters, siding or roofing tiles
- Make changes to a fence or outside structures, such as a garage or storage building, or add a new fence or structure
- Remove any tree with a diameter of 12 inches or greater
- Make changes to landscaping or add or alter a driveway or other parking area

This list does not include everything that must receive prior approval. You can find out more about this process at <a href="https://www.montgomeryal.gov/government/city-government/city-departments/community-development/land-use-division/architectural-review-board">https://www.montgomeryal.gov/government/city-government/city-departments/community-development/land-use-division/architectural-review-board</a>.

Failure to obtain ARB review and approval can result in an order to restore the property to its previous condition and pay a fine.

#### Sanitation

Garbage Cans

- Garbage pickup days in the Garden District are Tuesday and Friday
- Garbage cans should be placed at the curb no later than 7:00 am the day of pick-up, and removed from sight by 7:00 pm the same day.
- Never place your garbage can in the street
- Garbage cans should remain out of sight on non-pickup days

Trash Collection

- Trash pickup day in the Garden District is Friday.
- Tree limbs and bushes will be collected if cut less than 4' in length and less than 8" in diameter, and placed behind the curb and **not** in the drainage area of the street.
- Grass and pine straw must always be bagged for pick-up and placed behind the curb.
- Leaves must be bagged for pick-up, except between October 1 thru April 15 when loose leaves will be picked up. Bags and/or loose leaves must be placed behind the curb, not in the street.
- Never place any items in the curb drainage area that would collect debris and block the flow of rain. Flooding can result.
- No building materials or debris, household furnishings, or larger limbs will be collected without arranging with the Sanitation Department for a pickup and paying a fee. Please arrange for your

own pick up and disposal of such materials or take them to the City's free collection sites. Call 311 for dates, times and locations.

#### City Right-of-Way Trees

Please be aware that the area between the sidewalk and the street in the Garden District is the property of the City of Montgomery and any trees or shrubs planted in this area are the property of the city. Please do not prune or remove any trees in the right-of-way area without first consulting Russell Stringer, the city's Urban Forester at (334) 625-2740.

Fines may be incurred from the City for failing to adhere to these rules.

#### **Parking Motorized Vehicles**

- Do not park in any part of your yard that has not been constructed and approved as a parking area. The only exception is for temporary loading, unloading, or washing your vehicle, and you must be fully engaged for no more than 3 hours during any 24 hour period.
- Do not park in the street where you would be blocking someone else's driveway.
- Do not park in a driveway while blocking the sidewalk, or on any unpaved portion of the public right-of-way.
- Please pay attention to parking signage and do not park in areas where the curb has been painted, near a fire hydrant, or too near an intersection.

Fines may be incurred from the City for failing to adhere to these rules.

#### Dog Control

- Always keep your dog on a leash when outside your own fenced property
- When walking your dog, limit it to the area between the sidewalk and the street
- Do not walk your dog on someone else's lawn
- Always collect your dog's poop and dispose of it in your own garbage can
- Do not leave dog poop in your neighbors' cans
- Control excessive barking, especially during nighttime hours
- Refrain from keeping your dog chained. Chained dogs are regularly reported to the Humane Society/Animal Control.

Fines may be incurred from the City for failing to adhere to these rules.

#### **Nuisances and Noise**

- No overgrown grass/weeds, litter, junk, trash, stagnant water, abandoned and junk vehicles, auto parts, appliances, building materials, and household furnishings should ever be located or stored outside on the property
- Fireworks are illegal within the City of Montgomery
- Discharging a firearm into the air is illegal in the City of Montgomery.
- The City of Montgomery has a noise ordinance which prohibits, among other things, playing a radio, TV or musical instrument so loudly that it can be heard more than 25 feet from the source of the sound, which includes both devices in homes and in cars.
- You must get a noise permit from the city before holding any gatherings with music or noise
  which may disturb your neighbors. See <a href="https://www.funinmontgomery.com/i-want-to/apply-for/a-special-event-permit">https://www.funinmontgomery.com/i-want-to/apply-for/a-special-event-permit</a> for more information on a Special Events Permit.

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Garden
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Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984

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#### **Welcome New Neighbors And Old Friends!**

#### We are THRILLED to have you in the neighborhood!

Please join the association and be a part of what keeps the Garden District a great place to live!

If you are joining for the first time, get excited for a great year of social events and beautification of our great neighborhood!

If you are a returning neighbor, Thank You for your past support and renewing your dues today!

We have lots planned to include all our neighbors excitement and pride in our GDPA!

#### **Garden District Preservation Association • 2023 Membership Form**

#### **Garden District Resident Information:**

Please help us update our records if you are new to the Garden District, or have recently moved.

Providing complete information will help us keep you advised of important events. We have an active email list, facebook page, and join the Nextdoor app (just join, it will place you in the Garden District automatically), each will keep you up-to-date on current news and information concerning our neighborhood and surrounding areas. Your information will not be shared with anyone. It will only be used to communicate important Garden District information.

Name:	
Address:	
Montgomery, AL 36104	
Home Ph:	Cell / Work Ph:
Email Address(es):	
Sign me up!	☐ Renew my membership. My \$25.00 check is enclosed for the 2023 membership year. ☐ I want to join the GDPA. My \$25.00 check is enclosed for the 2023 membership year.
	☐ I am enclosing an additional amount of \$ for support of the GDPA
I would like to:	☐ Serve as a section captian
	☐ Serve on a committee: ☐ Social Events ☐ Membership ☐ Beautification ☐ Crime/Safety
	Serve in other ways, (a GDPA representative will contact you to discuss where you would most like to volunteer.)

Mail this form and make checks payable to: GDPA • P.O. Box 463, Montgomery, AL 36101

OR SECURLY FILL OUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP FORM AND PAY YOUR DUES ONLINE:

Online Membership Form: tinyurl.com/GDPAMemForm SECURE Stripe Online Payment Link: tinyurl.com/GDPAPay