



*Mission: To make the Village of Spring Hill a neighborhood center by improving the pedestrian, aesthetic and commercial amenities of the area*

FALL 2015

## Roundabout Finally a Reality!!

### Five Years in the Making and a 1.1 Million Dollar Investment

After five years of planning, engineering, designing and construction, the Village of Spring Hill finally has a roundabout to replace the dysfunctional intersection at McGregor Avenue and Museum Drive. This solution to a major traffic problem was initially put forth in the master plan for the Village, *The Blueprint for Spring Hill*, developed by our urban planners—Dover, Kohl & Partners—with the input of residents and stakeholders. In an unprecedented effort, The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. partnered with both Mobile County and the City of Mobile to build the first roundabout inside the city limits on a major city street.

TVSH began the process five years ago by funding preliminary engineering and a feasibility study showing that the project was viable for this location and then presenting the findings to County and City officials. Securing funding for the estimated 1.1 million dollar project was the next step, and we found the support we needed from **County Commissioner Connie Hudson** with the assistance of **Council Member Gina Gregory**. Commissioner Hudson included most of the needed funding in the Mobile County 2014 Transportation Pay-As-You-Go Program. Additional financial support came from the City of Mobile.

The center of the roundabout presently features grass sod, but plans are in the works for an effective landscape design, with the assistance of **Paul Fontenot** of GDSI (Garden Design Solutions, Inc.). The project has at long last become a reality for our Village and for Mobile.



*Linda St. John, President of The Village of Spring Hill, Inc.; County Commissioner Connie Hudson; Sissy Hungerford, Vice President of TVSH; and Council Member Gina Gregory review plans for the roundabout at McGregor Ave. and Museum Dr.*

### LOOKING AHEAD...

The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. will be 10 years old next spring! Watch for details about the anniversary celebration! Also, plans are being made for the 2016 Sidewalk-A-Thon to raise money for more sidewalks in the Village. Stay tuned to our website, Facebook page and email blasts for further details as plans are finalized.

*This newsletter was made possible by the generous contributions of*



# Walk This Way!

## More Sidewalks and Lights on Old Shell Road

Another great sidewalk project was completed in the Village this summer on the north side of Old Shell Road from Spring Hill Village Shopping Center to Myrtlewood Lane. These charming sidewalks connect the commercial area to the adjacent residential neighborhood as they meander around trees and power poles, stretch through a wooded area, and squeeze between historic rock walls.

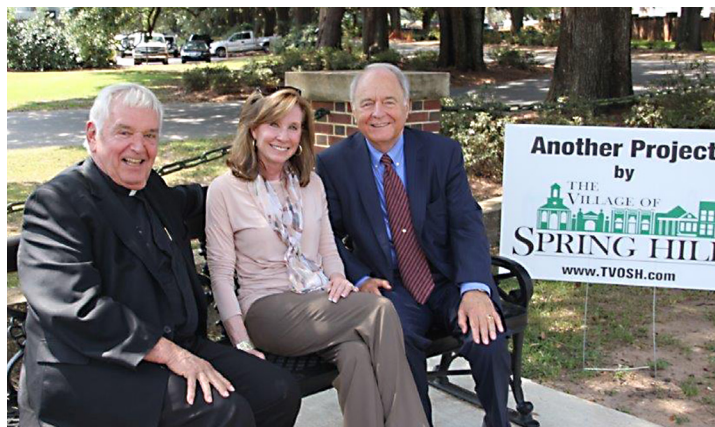
This \$200,000 project was made possible by a state grant initiated by The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. and applied for by the City of Mobile. The required 20% matching funds were provided by TVSH through a generous donation from The J. L. Bedsole Foundation and funds raised in the 2014 Sidewalk-A-Thon. We are most grateful to the donors and sponsors of last year's Sidewalk-A-Thon for helping to make these sidewalks in the Village possible.

Limited funds from the grant and additional funds from TVSH allowed the installation of eleven signature Village lights to illuminate the path from the shopping center east to Debra's Boutique, enhancing the safety and charm of our neighborhood center.

With the completion of these sidewalks on Old Shell Road, TVSH has initiated the construction of \$800,000 in sidewalk infrastructure in the effort to make Spring Hill a truly walkable community.



The title sponsors of the 2015 Sidewalk-A-Thon, who contributed \$2,500 each, are shown with Sidewalk-A-Thon chairs and TVSH board members Bonnie Fuchs and Buff Teague at the site of Village sidewalk construction. These leaders are to be commended for joining the children and residents of the Village in giving back to the community. Over \$35,000 was raised from the 2015 Sidewalk-A-Thon. Pictured are, left to right: Bonnie Fuchs; Casey Wright (Joe Bullard Automotive); Ryan Dunagan (Ryan Studio); Gayle Grabert (Roberts Brothers); Chris Fuchs (Budweiser Busch); Kevin Carey (Trustmark Bank); Doug Klyce (Bebo's Spring Hill Market); Scott Delaney (Delaney Development); Buff Teague.



*Rev. Gregory Lucey, S.J., Linda St. John (President of The Village of Spring Hill, Inc.), and Dr. Christopher Puto (newly inaugurated President of Spring Hill College) enjoy the streetscape bench in front of Spring Hill College.*

## Spring Hill College Entrance Sports a New Look

### Another Streetscape Project by The Village of Spring Hill, Inc.

The Village of Spring Hill streetscape project along the main entrance to Spring Hill College fronting Old Shell Road brings memorial "Old Mobile" benches, Chinese Drake Elm trees, and signature Village lights to the gateway of Alabama's oldest institution of higher learning. The installation of 11 new Village lights, from the college entrance to the SHC dormitory (formerly Portier Place), provides beautiful illumination at night, adding to the beauty of the area and to the safety of students and walkers. Spring Hill College added to the project by installing an irrigation system and replacing sod on the City right of way.

Securing funding for the project was a significant challenge for The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. But the community embraced the vision and allowed the project to be totally funded by private donations. Major donors such as **The Ben May Charitable Trust, The Samford Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Elcan, Mr. and Mrs. Toulmin Greer, Mr. and Mrs. James Grodnick, Dr. and Mrs. Matthew Mosteller, Dr. and Mrs. Dan Reimer, and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sullivan** contributed to the streetscape project, with many residents, alumni, and other interested parties following their lead. The Board of Directors of TVSH is most grateful for the generous support of each and every donation that made possible the improvements which visually brought these properties into the Village streetscape plan.

The 11 lights on the north side of Old Shell Road, the 11 lights along the Spring Hill College frontage, and the 2 lights installed by **ServisFirst** make a total of **24 lights added to the Village center this year**. Combined with those already in place, there are now 47 signature lights illuminating our Village!

# South McGregor Avenue Sidewalks

## City Council Members Gregory and Daves Partner with TVSH

There is no need to travel out of the country for an adventurous experience; just walk along South McGregor Avenue! Some of you have already faced the obstacle course of exposed tree roots grabbing at your toes or having to balance on a narrow ledge just above the endless traffic or even squeezing between a guardrail and the road inches from oncoming cars!

Recognizing that South McGregor Avenue is indeed too dangerous for pedestrians and continuing our efforts to build a safe sidewalk network throughout the Village, TVSH appealed to Council members **Gina Gregory** and **Joel Daves** to partner with us to make major improvements to the street and improve the safety of our community. They agreed to join us in this infrastructure project, which will include not only sidewalks but also curbing and gutters on both sides of McGregor.

Council members Gregory and Daves will provide the bulk of the funding needed using 2016 Capital Improvement Plan funds. These funds will be combined with seed money raised for TVSH from the 2015 Sidewalk-A-Thon, a grant from **The J. L. Bedsole Foundation**, and money secured through the extraordinary efforts of TVSH supporter **Joy Grodnick**.

Plans are for the McGregor project to be done in phases, beginning in 2016 on the east side of McGregor Avenue from the Moorer Branch of the Mobile Public Library to Dauphin Street. Phase two sidewalks on the west side of McGregor will be constructed at some time the following year. This extensive infrastructure project will bring the road up to current City standards and improve safety for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

When the total project is complete, it will not only transform the aesthetics of McGregor Avenue but will also give thousands of Spring Hill residents safe access to other sidewalks in the Village!

## A Child Leads the Way...

Tuthill Lane was not bicycle safe or friendly and prevented a young girl from riding her bike to school. Eight-year-old **Lee Vella Courtney** (below) and her friends decided to take action and raised \$2,631 from friends and neighbors and Atlanta-based **LexisNexis Risk Solutions** for sidewalk repairs and curb cuts\* on Tuthill Lane!



Lee Vella's impressive commitment to improving her community inspired **Council Member Gina Gregory** and others in the community, including **Hancock Bank** and **Burton Property Group LLC**, to give generously to the much-needed project, which totaled \$17,000.

The City Public Works Department, through the coordination of City Traffic Engineer **Marybeth Bergin**, provided the demolition work required for the sidewalk repair.

What an eight-year-old spearheaded to make her neighborhood safer and more connected is to be commended. She is an example of The Village of Spring Hill's motto: "Together We Can" improve our community. *TVSH thanks the children who helped raise money for this project. You are an inspiration to us all!*

\*Note that a curb cut is a small ramp built into the curb of a sidewalk to ease passage to the street, especially for bicycles, pedestrians with baby strollers and people using wheelchairs.

## Screen ON THE Green

Very popular in the Village have been the outdoor family oriented movies presented by The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. and sponsored by **Rouses Supermarkets**. The Saturday night movies were extended this year to one each month from March through October.

Popular pre-movie activities, sponsored by **Spring Hill Comprehensive Dentistry**, included balloon art, costume competitions and prizes for the children.

To find out about upcoming movies and receive text reminders sign up on our website: [TVOSH.com](http://TVOSH.com)

Pre-movie sponsorships for each movie in 2016 are available. Email [sotg@thevillageofspringhill.com](mailto:sotg@thevillageofspringhill.com) for details and availability.



TVSH board members Sherry Pierce (L) and Bradley Sanders (R) are the driving force behind Screen on the Green along with Carolyn Miller (ctr).



4358-B Old Shell Rd. #145

Mobile, AL 36608

[www.TVOSH.com](http://www.TVOSH.com)

**Board of Directors**

Linda St. John

*President*

Sissy Hungerford

*Vice President*

Bryan Thames

*Secretary*

Carolyn McKean

*Treasurer*

Ruth Austill

Bonnie Fuchs

Guy Helmsing

Carolyn Miller

Kimi Oaks

Sherry Pierce

Kelsey Russell

Bradley Sanders

Buff Teague

**Ex-Officio Members**

Gina Gregory

*City Council, District 7*

Joel Daves

*City Council, District 5*

Carol Hunter

*Downtown Mobile Alliance*

NON PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #435  
MOBILE AL



**SAVE the DATE!**  
Sunday, Dec. 6  
1:00-5:00 p.m.



Christmas shopping—and more—on the Hill! Christmas on the Hill is the annual family event created and promoted by the Spring Hill Merchants Association and the individual merchants of the area. Celebrate the season amidst the festive ambiance of your Village!

- \* Special Store Hours
- \* Holiday Refreshments
- \* Carriage Rides
- \* Photos with Santa
- \* Holiday Music
- \* Art Walk
- \* Children's Activities
- \* Sales & Promotions!!!
- \* Food Trucks 1-5 p.m.
- \* Old Shell Road Trolley will make stops throughout the Village to help you get from place to place.

Be a part of the real meaning of Christmas by dropping off a new toy at one of the toy drop off locations throughout the Village. Toys will be donated to Ransom Ministries for their Candy Cane Christmas event for needy families. For more info on Candy Cane Christmas visit [www.ransomcafe.com](http://www.ransomcafe.com)

# Time to Renew for 2016!

Your generous yearly donation invests directly in the community where you live when you support The Village of Spring Hill, Inc., and is KEY to continuing success in improving our Village.

Friend:	\$35 – 99
Contributor:	\$100 – 249
Supporter:	\$250 – 499
Sustainer:	\$500 – 999
Patron:	\$1,000 +

**2016 Donation in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**Mail form to:**

The Village of Spring Hill  
4358-B Old Shell Rd. #145  
Mobile, AL 36608-2011

OR

Donate online at  
**TVOSH.com**

*The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.*

