



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

FALL 2016

The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. Celebrates Tenth Anniversary!

Over the past several years dramatic improvements have emerged in the Spring Hill area of Mobile—but not by magic or by chance!!! Through the extraordinary efforts of our grass roots organization, sidewalks and other infrastructure upgrades have been added that enhance the beauty and safety of one of Mobile’s most charming neighborhoods. “Only with the overwhelming support of our community could we have accomplished so much in our 10 year history,” says Linda St. John, President of The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. (TVSH).

To bring about these much-needed changes, TVSH was established in 2006. First of all, the Board of Directors secured the services of nationally acclaimed urban planner Dover, Kohl & Partners of Coral Gables, Florida, to develop a master plan to guide growth, development, and redevelopment in Spring Hill. With the input of hundreds of residents and key stakeholders in the community and the strong support of City of Mobile officials, *The Blueprint for Spring Hill* was created. It was approved by the City Council and incorporated into the City of Mobile Master Plan and guides all projects that we undertake.

In its 10 year history, TVSH has secured funding from public and private sources to implement sidewalk and other infrastructure projects in the Village area and to provide aesthetic enhancements, especially in the area around the intersection of Old Shell Road and McGregor Avenue. Our organization has brought to the community over \$3,000,000 of improvements with funding secured from government grants, City and County monies, and the contributions of foundations, businesses, individuals and the annual Sidewalk-A-Thon.

Among the notable improvements initiated by TVSH are:

- Sidewalks along the north and south sides of Old Shell Road
- Roundabout at the intersection of McGregor Avenue and Museum Drive
- Reconfiguration of the intersection of Old Shell Road and McGregor Avenue
- Plaza at the Old Shell/McGregor intersection, complete with a Village clock
- Pocket park next to Regions Bank
- Courtyard with sculpture in front of the Moorer Library

- Planting of over 350 trees and seasonal flowers
- Over 50 signature Village lights installed in the core area
- Twenty (20) “Old Mobile” benches added along sidewalks
- Streetscape in front of Spring Hill College entrance
- Screen on the Green—free, family-friendly outdoor movies
- Village entrance signage



Sissy Hungerford, Vice President of The Village of Spring Hill, Inc.; Council Member Gina Gregory; Linda St. John, President of The Village of Spring Hill, Inc.; County Commissioner Connie Hudson; and Council Member Joel Daves attend the Anniversary celebration held at Byrne Hall on the campus of Spring Hill College, the site of our first community meeting ten years ago.

This newsletter was made possible by the generous contributions of



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IN LOVING MEMORY
Sara M. (Sissy) Hungerford

December 20, 1940 – July 11, 2016



It is with profound sadness that the Board of Directors of The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. mourns the death of our beloved friend and colleague Sissy Hungerford.

Sissy was a leader in the work and mission of The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. from its beginning in 2006. She was a member of the small group of individuals who established the organization with the intent of improving the Spring Hill community, not simply with beautification efforts alone but with a fundamental plan to

create a vision for the proper development and redevelopment of a truly walkable community.

Sissy's quiet but determined approach to her work for the Village inspired all. She tirelessly toiled on behalf of the Village with dedication and a relentless commitment to the vision. Her brilliant mind, meticulous attention to detail, sound judgment and esteemed wisdom contributed immeasurably to the accomplishments and successes enjoyed by The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. With charm and grace she selflessly maintained her focus on the "spirit of community" which defined her. Even in her final days, foremost in her mind were the well-being and future of The Village of Spring Hill.

The Board of Directors is most grateful for the life of Sissy Hungerford.



SAVE THE DATE!

THE VILLAGE OF Spring HILL **SIDEWALK-A-T-HON** 2017 MOBILE ALABAMA

Friday, April 28

Recognition in *Alabama Magazine*

The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. was the subject of a feature article that lauded our accomplishments in the September/October issue of *Alabama Magazine*! Based in Birmingham, the bimonthly publication showcases feature articles that cover the entire state promoting our people, places, culture, and heritage. We were mighty proud to be acknowledged!



Join the 15th Annual Santa Run

Saturday, December 24, 2016 @ 10 AM

The Santa Run is an annual 2 mile fun-run, walk, bike ride, dog walking, fun-for-the-whole-family charity event. **Holiday costumes are encouraged!** Registration forms and information available at Carpe Diem Coffee & Tea Co.

350 Trees...and Growing!

Nothing defines The Village of Spring Hill more than our beautiful trees—the Drake Elms in the commercial core showing their stunning lime green foliage in the spring, the stately live oaks finally developing an impressive canopy, and the dramatic display of the Okame Cherry trees blooming in the pocket park each spring.

The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. has continued beautification efforts by planting trees in the fall each year (the best time for tree planting). This year is no exception. We just completed the planting of 43 Ligustrum shrubs along the Emergency Management Agency fence line on North McGregor Avenue to screen their fence and parking area, adding a lush green backdrop for the newly completed roundabout. We also planted 12 live oak trees along the perimeter of the roundabout on the west side. These oaks continue the sequence of oaks planted down both sides of Museum Drive in partnership with **Keep Mobile Beautiful** over eight years ago! That was the first of the many beautification projects that we have implemented for our Village in the last 10 years. With your continued support we will plant more trees in the future, adding to the beauty and charm of our community.

The latest planting project was made possible through the generosity of **The Hearin-Chandler Foundation**, the **Samford Foundation**, and the **Mobile Tree Commission**.

Update on South McGregor Avenue Sidewalks



These hazardous walking paths will be replaced by our wonderful new sidewalks along South McGregor Avenue!



Last year we announced one of our largest and most exciting sidewalk projects to date—named “The McGregor Project.” This project, initiated by The Village of Spring Hill, Inc., is expected to span a three-year period. It will include curb, gutter and sidewalk infrastructure along both sides of South McGregor Avenue and will thereby extend sidewalks from Old Shell Road all the way to Dauphin Street. Lastly, the entire roadway will be resurfaced!

YES, the project is still very much on go, but because of the complexity of the project that includes engineering challenges, private property easements and utility relocation, it is taking a little longer than expected.

We want to thank the community for supporting our efforts to raise \$90,000 for TVSH’s commitment to the sidewalk portion of the construction. Also, we are especially grateful to **Council Members Gina Gregory and Joel Daves** for funding the bulk of the project with 2016 Capital Improvement Plan funds and also for their persistence in working through some of the obstacles we have encountered. The project, with all of the infrastructure improvements, will total over \$1 million. Construction is expected to start in the next few months and, when complete, will transform McGregor Avenue and the quality of life for thousands of Mobile residents!

You can follow any updates on our website at www.TVOSH.com

All good things take time, and we thank you for your patience!

Sidewalks Coming to Bit and Spur Road!

Construction to begin in the fall of 2017

The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. has been awarded another highly competitive sidewalk grant of \$200,000 to construct sidewalks along the north side of Bit and Spur Road! These sidewalks will begin at the commercial area at the intersection of Bit and Spur and Old Shell Road and continue west all the way to University Boulevard, furthering our ongoing efforts to build a truly walkable community. Construction is expected to begin around the fall of 2017.

The grant was awarded by the State of Alabama through the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP). The City Council just recently authorized the agreement for the TAP project, which was sponsored by **Council Member Joel Daves** and **Mayor Sandy Stimpson**. The grant requires that The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. provide the 20% matching funds, along with the preliminary engineering and surveying costs, for a total of approximately \$60,000. *Fund raising to cover these costs is ongoing.*

KUDOS TO:

SPRING HILL BAPTIST CHURCH on the completion of beautiful new landscaping along McGregor Avenue! The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. worked with church members and staff to incorporate the Village streetscape design into their landscape plan, which includes the signature lights and trees along the wide sidewalks installed, along with handsome fencing and lovely plantings. *Thanks to Spring Hill resident and Spring Hill Baptist Church member **Jimmy Arendall** for his assistance in facilitating the project.*

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA for the attractive new landscaping in the medians on University Boulevard along the campus frontage and at the Gaillard Drive and Old Shell Road entrances to the Village! The project was made possible by a partnership between the University of South Alabama and the City of Mobile, with **Council President Gina Gregory** designating Capital Improvement Funds toward the implementation of the beautification plan.

Over the past 10 years several **BUSINESSES IN THE CORE COMMERCIAL AREA** have incorporated TVSH streetscapes into their property improvements and landscaping. Thank you to these corporate partners for investing in our community in support of The Village of Spring Hill, Inc.!

- Alabama Power Company (substation)
- AT&T
- CVS
- Holiday Place
- Quinnelly Development on McGregor Avenue
- Regions Bank
- Servis First Bank
- Trustmark Bank



4358-B Old Shell Rd. #145

Mobile, AL 36608

www.TVOSH.com

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SAVE the DATE!
Sunday, Dec. 4
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
- * Children's Activities
- * Sales & Promotions!!!
- * Food Trucks
- * Art Walk featuring dozens of artists displaying their work in front of Spring Hill merchant storefronts
- * Old Shell Road Trolley making stops throughout the Village to help you get from place to place!

Visit the SHMA Facebook page at:
www.facebook.com/Springhillmerchantsassociation

Time to Renew for 2017!



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 +

2017 Donation in the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

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Mail form to:
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