

ketches

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2024



# **Fairhope Mardi Gras**

Laissez les bons temps rouler! The Fairhope Mardi Gras season is back! Prepare to bag some Moon Pies, beads, and trinkets! And if you are a pet lover, do not miss the Mystic Mutts of Revelry dog parade on February 3 at 3 PM, supporting The Haven No-Kill Animal Shelter.

The fun will continue February 3 with KOER and "The Wizarding World of the Knights" at 6:45 PM. The Maids of Jubilee parade will celebrate 40 years with the "Ladies of the 80s" on February 9 at 6:45 PM, followed by the Order of Mystic Magnolias parade featuring "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" on February 12 at 6:45 PM.

No matter which parade you attend, you will have an unforgettable time. The streets will be filled with music, laughter, and excitement as floats and marching bands make their way through downtown.





# NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

State of the City Expo

Arbor Day Celebration

Ecumenical Ministries Chili for Charity

### - City Sketches

### Join the Fairhope Recreation Center for a Healthy 2024!

Looking for a way to kick off the new year in a healthy way? Look no further than the Fairhope Recreation Center! With a variety of features including pickleball and group classes like barre, spinning, and yoga, you will find everything you need to start 2024 on the right foot.

Group fitness classes have numerous benefits for members, including finding motivation; being part of a community; adding variety to a workout; and holding yourself accountable. With the Fairhope Recreation Center open from 5 AM to 8 PM Monday-Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM Saturday, and 12 PM to 6 PM Sunday, there's never been a better time to try something new and join the community. Make this the year you prioritize your health and wellness and join the Fairhope Recreation Center. *For more information, call* 251-928-7270.







## State of the City Expo

### Thursday, January 25

The State of the City Expo is just around the corner, and it is an event that should not be missed! On January 25 at the Fairhope Civic Center, Mayor Sherry Sullivan will host an interactive, all-access event where city leaders and departments will provide residents with updates on their plans for 2024. This casual forum provides an excellent opportunity for residents to ask questions and get information about city services.

At the expo, each city department will have a booth or table set up, allowing residents to visit and learn more about the services they offer. Additionally, attendees can expect to receive updates on city financials and participate in giveaways throughout the event. A light dinner will also be provided.

# Are you receiving the City of Fairhope bi-weekly e-newsletter?



Get signed up today so you don't miss out! Each newsletter features important updates and announcements from City departments, project updates, construction progress, upcoming meetings, events and more.

Visit fairhopeal.gov to sign up today!

# **Holiday Schedule**

The City of Fairhope Administrative Offices and Operations will be CLOSED on:

January 1: New Year's Day

January 15: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 13: Mardi Gras

There will be no garbage, trash, or recycling pickup. Services will resume on the next scheduled pickup day.

# **Arbor Day Celebration**

Mark your calendar for February 24 at 10 AM! Come down to the Coastal Alabama Community College campus and celebrate Arbor Day, the event that highlights the importance of trees in our community. The winners of the Arbor Day poster contest will be announced during the program. Additionally, the individual and business beautification awards will be presented to those who have made significant contributions to the beautification of our community.

The event is a great opportunity to learn more about trees and their benefits. The program will feature informative and educational activities, all aimed at raising awareness about the crucial role trees play in our environment. And that's not all – a tree seedling giveaway will follow the main program, where attendees can take home a seedling to plant.

# **Ecumenical Ministries Chili**

## for Charity

The 18th Annual Chili for Charity event for Ecumenical Ministries is coming soon, and it promises to be a fun-filled festival that has something for everyone. This event will take place at Oak Hollow Farm in Fairhope on Saturday, February 24 from 11:30 AM to 2 PM. Attendees will be able to sample some of the best chili that Baldwin County has to offer while enjoying live music from local favorite Blind Dog Mike and the Howlers, as well as a performance by the Fairhope High School Encore Group.

In addition to the delicious chili and music, there will be plenty of other activities to enjoy. The bake sale will feature homemade baked goods that are out of this world, and the hayride, inflatables, and balloon artistry by Dr. Gee will keep the kids entertained. Antique tractors will also be on display, and there will even be a mechanical bull ride for all ages.

This is a perfect recipe for a great afternoon of family fun that supports EMI's many worthwhile service programs. *To learn more about tickets for the event, you can call* 251-928-3430 or visit www.baldwinemi.org.





### **LETTER FROM THE MAYOR**



Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season and is ready for 2024!

I am excited to kick off the new year with a few projects that are nearly completed: Gaston Plaza, Fairhope Arts Alley and the new Track and Field at Founders. It is also that time of year again for the State of the City Expo at the Fairhope Civic Center. This is a great opportunity to visit with City staff and ask questions and get an update on the City's plans for 2024. Then, join the City for the fun of Mardi Gras and the Arbor Day celebration in February, a tree seedling giveaway will be part of the program. Weather you are on the new track at Founders, at the Rec Center, taking a selfie in the Fairhope Arts Alley, be sure to get out and about and enjoy all Fairhope has to offer.

Sherry Sullivan, Mayor

## **Contact your** elected officials

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Mayor & City Council mailing address: City of Fairhope P.O. Drawer 429 Fairhope, AL 36533



### Public Meetings Listings

**The Fairhope Planning Commission** MEETS AT 5PM | *City Council chambers* FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

The Fairhope City Council MEETS AT 6PM | City Council chambers THE SECOND AND FOURTH MONDAYS