

Newcomers Club of Montgomery



President's Message

Autumn to winter, winter to spring,
Spring into summer, summer into fall---
So rolls the changing year, and so we change;
Motion so swift, we know not that we move.

~ Dinah Mulock Craik

Since ancient times, September has been viewed as the beginning of the new year, a time for reflection and resolution. September resolutions only require that we be open to positive change. We can all do that! My September resolution is to make more of an effort to attend and enjoy many of the fall festivities Montgomery and the River Region have to offer. One such event is the spectacular Alabama National Fair which takes place right here in Montgomery on October 8-18!

Please join us at our September luncheon on September 24. The Kiwanis Club of Montgomery's Director of the Fair will be our guest speaker, and he will inform us on all the wonderful reasons we all should attend this fun and exciting event for all ages!

See you at the September luncheon!

Always grateful,
Diane Widmer
President, 2026-2027

Please Note: At the last two Board meetings, it was discussed and unanimously approved that all CLUB BUSINESS will be conducted after our Guest Speaker's luncheon presentation. This change will take effect at the August luncheon.

Also Note: Continue to be aware of scam emails, supposedly from past or present Board members, requesting help with money. Do not click on any links! Just delete it! Board members would never ask for donations in an email.



Executive Board 2026-2027

PRESIDENT:

Diane Widmer, newcomersmontgomery@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT - PROGRAMS:

Mary Taylor-Perry

VICE PRESIDENT - MEMBERSHIP:

Sandy Buchanan

VICE PRESIDENT - SOCIAL:

Judith Provencher

SECRETARY:

Janie Kennett

TREASURER:

Pam Stephan

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

Kate Wanschek

CHAPLAIN:

Janine Koslofsky



Connections and Contact Information

Facebook: See the latest photos from our luncheons, club activities, and social events. Search for "Newcomers of Montgomery Inc." and click "LIKE" to follow our page and stay up to date!

Web Site: www.newcomersofmontgomery.com

Email: newcomersmontgomery@gmail.com

Address: Newcomers of Montgomery | P.O. Box 241946 | Montgomery, AL 36124-1946

** If you have any "Friendship News" that you wish included in the *October* newsletter, please send the information to the Club President or Secretary by September 10th. If the information is about another member, please get their permission to share first.

SEPTEMBER NEWCOMERS LUNCHEON:

~ Thursday, September 24th ~

Luncheon Details:

Where: Arrowhead Country Club, 50 Ocala Drive, Montgomery

When: Thursday, September 24, 2026

Time: 11:30 am - Social Time / 12:00 noon - Meeting Begins

Cost: \$27.00

Important: If you RSVP that you will attend or you are on the standing reservations list, and you **do not CANCEL by NOON on Monday, September 21st**, then **YOU are responsible for the \$27.00 luncheon fee if you do not show.**

To make reservations or to cancel a standing reservation – contact Membership VP Sandy Buchanan, 757-718-1577, sndbuchanan@gmail.com, by noon on Monday, September 21st.

Program:

ALABAMA NATIONAL FAIR

Mr. Peden Barber, Director of Marketing and Sales

When was the last time you went to the Fair? When was the last time you rode a Ferris Wheel? When was the last time you perused the Art Exhibit, the Flower Show, or attended the nightly Entertainment?

Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club for over 72 years, the Alabama National Fair has all this and so much more! Having founded the Fair in 1954 as its primary annual fundraiser, the Kiwanis Club of Montgomery generously donates all ticket-sale proceeds that go into our children's communities. The Boys and Girls Clubs, Brentwood Children's Home, YMCA programs, The Sunshine Center, and many others are the benefactors of thousands of dollars each year. The Fair has generated over \$10 million for local children's charities and youth non-profits in the River Region.

To tell us more, we are happy to have Peden Barber come to speak to us about the history and all the fun things that will be happening at the Fair this year! We'll see y'all there!





<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
		1 MOW Meal Makers 7:30-9:30 am	2	3 Lunch Bunch 11:30 am	4 T.G.I.F. 6:30 pm	5
6	7 LABOR DAY	8 Book Club 10:00 am	9	10 Cooking Club 11:30 am	11 PATRIOT DAY	12
13 GRANDPARENTS DAY	14 Arts & Crafts Club 10:00 am	15 MOW Meal Makers 7:30-9:30 am ~~~~~ Sip 'n Social 10:00 am	16 Soil Sisters 10:00 am	17	18 Contract Rummy 10:00 am	19 Social: Great Chili Cook-Off 3:00 pm
20 Arts Alive! 1:30 pm Theater & Dinner in Prattville	21 Noon deadline to make/cancel luncheon reservations.	22 Explorers Club 10:00 am Trip to American Village	23	24 Luncheon Arrowhead CC 11:30 am	25	26
27	28 Bunco 1:00-3:00 pm	29	30			



A Community of Friends ...



Happy September Birthdays



- 03 ... Robin Agnoli
- 05 ... Judith Provencher
- 11 ... Mary Hampton
- 13 ... Donna Mulcahy
- 14 ... Mary Robinson
- 24 ... Kim Khouri
- 25 ... Ronda Scott
- 29 ... Janie Kennett



Friendship News

Marlene Harrington has been in the Baptist East Hospital, recovering from pneumonia. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. It would mean a lot to her to receive cards, which can be sent to her home address:
8224 Chadburn Crossing | Montgomery, AL 36116

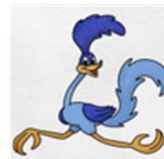


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*Please let the Club President or Secretary know of any Friendship News as soon as possible.*



# Activity Clubs



*For additional information on an Activity Club, contact the chair(s).  
Check the announcements, calendar, and Facebook for monthly information.*



## ARTS ALIVE!:

Jeanne Sellers - [jsellersmgm@outlook.com](mailto:jsellersmgm@outlook.com) and Ginny Anderson - [tiger4268@gmail.com](mailto:tiger4268@gmail.com).  
Arts Alive! invites you to experience live concerts, captivating plays, and immersive visual art exhibitions! With both day and evening activities, this monthly club offers a variety of cultural arts experiences here in the River Region and beyond.

## ARTS & CRAFTS:

Sandy Buchanan – 757-718-1557 / [sndbuchanan@gmail.com](mailto:sndbuchanan@gmail.com) and Robin Agnoli (New Co-Chair!) – 410-294-0867 / [rjagnoli@gmail.com](mailto:rjagnoli@gmail.com) - Come and make a craft (payment up front). Sign-up sheet at luncheons. We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month from 10:00 am-12:00 noon.  
Location: Pike Road Library, 9585 Vaughn Rd., Pike Road, AL 36064.

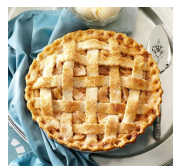


## BOOK CLUB:

Rona Reder – 334-318-1883 / [ronareder@hotmail.com](mailto:ronareder@hotmail.com). A lively discussion of the book selection of the month is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, at 10:00 am, at member's homes.

## BUNCO:

Sandy Buchanan – 757-718-1557 / [sndbuchanan@gmail.com](mailto:sndbuchanan@gmail.com). Join us the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday\* of each month, from 1:00-3:00 pm, for a fun game. The cost is \$5 per person. We are currently meeting at Venue 901 at 901 South Hull Street, Montgomery. **Please RSVP** to Sandy by the Friday prior to Monday's game.



## COOKING CLUB:

Cindy Russell – 603-490-5490 / [crrussell2006@yahoo.com](mailto:crrussell2006@yahoo.com). Come enjoy a fun time with our club on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month. We meet at 11:30 am at members' homes, with a different theme each month.

## CONTRACT RUMMY:

Sandy Buchanan – 757-718-1577 / [sndbuchanan@gmail.com](mailto:sndbuchanan@gmail.com). Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month at Sandy's home at 1203 South Perry Street, Montgomery from 10:00am-1:00 pm. Sandy will provide dessert and drinks. Bring a sandwich if you're hungry. **NOTE:** There are currently no openings for players. Contact Sandy if you want to add your name to a substitutes list.



# Activity Clubs, continued ...



## EXPLORER'S CLUB:

Carol Jean Jernigan – 773-339-1921 / [firstbornmj1979@gmail.com](mailto:firstbornmj1979@gmail.com).

Discover must-see destinations in Montgomery and beyond! Whether visiting a museum, enjoying a river cruise, or checking out a local winery, each quarter, you'll have an opportunity to explore. Sign up at luncheons or contact Carol.

## LUNCH BUNCH:

Irene Wetzal – 661-972-1334 / [ijwetzal@msn.com](mailto:ijwetzal@msn.com).

Come and meet other Newcomers as we enjoy lunch together at various area restaurants. We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 11:30 am. RSVP is required by noon on the Tuesday prior.



## MAH-JONGG: No meeting in September due to Labor Day.

Robin Agnoli – 410-294-0867 / [ragnoli@gmail.com](mailto:ragnoli@gmail.com). Join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month, at 11:00 a.m. Location: Woodland Creek Clubhouse, 8800 Crescent Lodge Drive, Pike Road.

## MOVIE MAVENS:

Robin Kehler (*New Chair!*) – 334-797-1596 / [meece.kehler@gmail.com](mailto:meece.kehler@gmail.com). Often on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month, the days and times may be different depending on the movie offerings that month. We usually meet for dinner afterwards. Watch your email or contact Robin.



## SOIL SISTERS:

Chela Kaplan – 334-718-7539 / [chelakaplan@gmail.com](mailto:chelakaplan@gmail.com) and  
Helene Bilyk – 609-376-1811 / [hbilyk50@me.com](mailto:hbilyk50@me.com).

For those who love plants, outdoor projects, or swapping gardening tips. We meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 10:00-11:30 am at member's homes. We'll discuss goals, gardens, successes, and failures. Wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes.

## TGIF:

Janet Williamson – 334-235-9418 / [pauljan48@gmail.com](mailto:pauljan48@gmail.com). Join us for TGIF (Thank God, It's Friday) the first Friday each month at 6:30 pm. Spouses are welcome. Bring a dish to share. BYOB. Hostess provides non-alcoholic drinks, plates, etc. Please RSVP to hostess the Monday prior.





## September Happenings in the Activity Clubs

**Arts Alive!** Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 pm, Theater and Pizza in downtown Prattville.

**1:30 pm** - The play, "Wait Until Dark," at Prattville's Way Off Broadway Theater. The play has been described by movie and theater critics as "an ingeniously crafted, suspenseful thriller."

**5:00 pm** - Dinner at Fox's Pizza Den

Sign-up at the August 27<sup>th</sup> Newcomers Luncheon. Tickets for the performance can be purchased three ways: 1) Purchase advance online ([cc.prattvilleal.gov](http://cc.prattvilleal.gov)), 2) In-person at Prattville's Cultural Arts Center, 203 West 4th St., or 3) By phone: 334-595-0854, Monday through Friday, 8 am-5 pm, with cash, check, MasterCard, or Visa.

Advance tickets - \$12 / tickets purchased on the day of the show - \$14, cash or check only. When purchasing tickets online, write ARTS ALIVE! in the "Comments" section of the form. Likewise, if you call to purchase your ticket, make sure to tell the box office that you are with the ARTS ALIVE! group.

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Arts & Crafts Club: Monday, September 14th, 10:00 am-12:00 noon

Location: Pike Road Library.

Craft: Fall Leaf Wreath

Contact Co-Chair, Robin Agnoli, to sign up. Phone/Text: 410-294-0867 or email: rjagnoli@gmail.com. You may also sign up at the August 27th luncheon.

Cost: \$10, payable in advance. 15 participants max.

Checks payable to Robin Agnoli or Venmo her @Robin-Agnoli

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**Book Club:** Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am

Book: Lady Tan's Circle of Women, by Lisa See.

Host: Pam Stephan

Address: 9419 Winfield Place, Montgomery, 36117 | Phone: 334-430-6758

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Bunco: Monday, September 28th, 1:00-3:00 pm

Location: Venue 901, 901 South Hull Street, Montgomery

RSVP to Sandy Buchanan by Friday, September 25th.

Phone: 757-718-1557 | Email: sndbuchanan@gmail.com

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**Cooking Club:** Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am

Theme: Labor Day! Labor of Love Recipes

Home of Cindy Russell

Address: 8812 Ryan Ridge Loop, Montgomery | Phone: 603-490-5390

# September Happenings, continued ...



## **Explorers Club: Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 am (must arrive by 9:45 am)**

Trip to the American Village, 3727 Highway 119, Montevallo, AL, 35115.  
Admission \$12, Military is free with identification. This is a walking tour.  
Contact Carol Jernigan to participate. Phone: 773-339-1921.  
Spouses and significant others are welcome.

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Mah Jongg: No meeting in September due to Labor Day.

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## **Soil Sisters: Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-11:30 am**

We will start off this fall with a visit to the garden maintained by the Alabama Herb Society. Meet at 10:00 am at Crump Community Senior Center, 1751 Cong W L Dickinson Dr., Montgomery, AL 36109. Come to the garden on the left side of the building. Afterwards, we'll have lunch at Eastbrook Deli, 446 Coliseum Blvd.

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TGIF: Friday, September 4th, 6:30 pm

Hosted by Cindy Russell
Address: 8812 Ryan Ridge Loop, Montgomery | Phone: 603-490-5390
Please bring an appetizer to share and your favorite beverage.
Please RSVP to Cindy or to Janet Williamson (TGIF Chair, 334-235-9418) if you plan on attending. A "no reply" means you will not be attending. This allows the host to know how many people to expect.
*For those who are new to TGIF, it is a casual evening with spouses/friends and held at members' homes on the first Friday of each month at 6:30pm.



~ Welcome New Members ~

DOROTHY NORWOOD

Email: dfnster@gmail.com

Phone: 334-318-0871

Birthday: July 31



DEBBIE O'BRIEN

Email: debbieobrien@yahoo.com

Phone: 251-454-7005

Birthday: February 23

CLUB-WIDE SOCIAL EVENTS

Tuesday, September 15th, 10:00 am-12:00 noon. Sip 'n Social

*A FREE coffee sponsored by the Newcomers Club of Montgomery.

Location: AKAY's Coffee, 9522 Vaughn Road, Pike Road, AL



Ladies, if you are looking for friendship and fun, representatives of the Newcomers Club will be available to answer questions and give you information about what our club has to offer. We have numerous activities plus a monthly luncheon. You don't have to be new to the area to join.
***Sign up at the August 27th luncheon or contact Sandy Buchanan, Membership V.P.*

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Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>: The Great Chili Cook-Off, 3:00-5:00 pm

Location: SweetCreek Farm Market, Pike Road



Get ready to bring the heat! We've reserved the SweetCreek pavilion so members can show off their fiercest chili-cooking skills in one deliciously heated contest. There is a cost to rent the pavilion, so once we know how many people are attending, we'll share the fee. There will be no cost for anyone entering chili in the contest. We're still cooking up the final details, so stay tuned for more information!

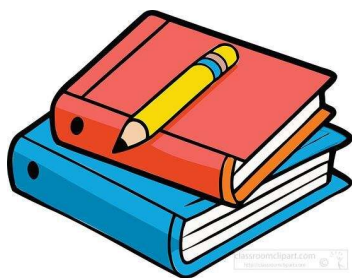
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Saturday, October 31st: Halloween Spooktacular

Location: Deer Creek Clubhouse

Stay tuned for more information about this annual event that everyone enjoys!



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Contact Judith Provencher, Social V.P., regarding the Chili Cook-Off or Halloween Spooktacular.



# **July 23<sup>rd</sup> Luncheon Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 12:00. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Our President, Diane Widmer, introduced herself and gave a brief history of her background.

The following new members were introduced: Debbie O'Brian, Dorothy Norwood, and Cissy Harper.

Our activity for today will be "Getting to Know You".

## **CLUB BUSINESS**

A motion to approve the May luncheon minutes was made by Lynda Smitherman. Motion passed.

A motion to accept the May Treasurer's Report was made by Susan Beacham. Motion passed.

June and July birthdays were announced.

Sandy Buchanan, Membership Vice President, announced the names of thirty-year members, Mary Taylor Perry, Rona Reder, and Emerine Sweeney. Janine Koslofsky was recognized as a twenty-year member.

The following friendship news was given: Elouise Brooks broke her wrist and she also will be turning 88 this month; Vicki Strickland is having health issues. Both ladies would appreciate cards.

Details were given about the Chili Cook-Off, Arts Alive attending the "Grease" Singalong, and Explorers Club activities.

Janine Koslofsky gave words of wisdom and blessed our meal. Thanks were given to Mary Taylor Perry for providing our table decorations.

We all participated in the "Getting to Know You" activity.

Door prizes were awarded. The 50/50 raffle was won by Ginny Anderson.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.



# July 2026 Treasurer's Report

|                                           |             |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|
| BEGINNING BALANCE                         | \$4,214.80  |
|                                           |             |
| INCOME                                    |             |
| Membership Dues                           | \$625.00    |
| July Luncheon                             | \$1,242.00  |
| July 50/50 Raffle                         | \$86.00     |
| Social ASF Tickets to "Beautiful"         | \$180.00    |
|                                           |             |
| TOTAL INCOME                              | \$2,133.00  |
|                                           |             |
| EXPENSES                                  |             |
| Check #3348: Jeanne Sellers (ASF Tickets) | \$180.00    |
| Check #3349: Arrowhead CC (Luncheon)      | \$1,200.00  |
|                                           |             |
| TOTAL EXPENSES                            | -\$1,380.00 |
|                                           |             |
| ENDING BALANCE                            | \$4,967.80  |



# *Support & Visit Our Generous Sponsors*

**Chairperson for Sponsors and Door Prizes:**

**Carol Brenging**

**Alabama Dance Theater**

(Kate Smith)  
1018 Madison Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36104

**Alabama Shakespeare Festival**

(Leigh Owen)  
1 Festival Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36117

**Angel Nails Spa**

(Phuong Nguyen)  
2988 Carter Hill Road  
Montgomery, AL 36106

**Arrowhead Country Club**

(Nancy Hilburn, GM)  
50 Ocala Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36117  
*(Inquire about membership)*

**Bates House of Turkey**

(Keri Hartley)  
2938 Carter Hill Road  
Montgomery, AL 36106

**Explore Media**

(Courtney Lowry)  
7956 Vaughn Rd. #331  
Montgomery, AL 36116

**Marqurette's Exquisite Jewelry**

(Lyle Fields)  
8163 Vaughn Road  
Montgomery, AL 36116

**Montgomery Cardiovascular Associates  
Health & Fitness Center**

(Wilson Scott)  
7917 Vaughn Road  
Montgomery, AL 36116

**Montgomery Whitewater**

(Sam Marsal)  
1100 Maxwell Boulevard  
Montgomery, AL 36106

**Peppertree Steaks and Wines**

(Allison Norton)  
8101A Vaughn Road  
Montgomery, AL 36116

**Periwinkle Distinctive Gifts**

(Caryn Davis)  
8193 Vaughn Road  
Montgomery, AL 36116

**Prevail Union Coffee Shop**

(Tim Pinkham)  
39 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36104

**Sommers Place Restaurant**

(Brian Stilwell)  
7972 Vaughn Road  
Montgomery, AL 36116

**Tea Town**

(Brandy Trieu)  
7929 Vaughn Road  
Montgomery, AL 36116

**Tipico de Mexico**

(Jose Vazquez)  
3441 Malcolm Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36116

**Tucker Pecan Company**

(David Little)  
1935 Mulberry Street  
Montgomery, AL 36106

**Vintage Olive**

(Carly Gannon)  
8101B Vaughn Road  
Montgomery, AL 36116



{Check# \_\_\_\_\_} or {Cash}

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_

## **THE NEWCOMERS CLUB OF MONTGOMERY, INC.**

### **Membership Form/Renewal Form**

**Club Year 2026-2027**

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact # \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDAY (month/day): \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: The information provided above will be printed in the membership directory)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Check here ONLY if you are a prior member rejoining.**

### **LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS**

(Please check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ **STANDING RESERVATION: I will attend every luncheon** unless I notify the reservation chairperson no later than NOON the Monday prior to the luncheon.

\_\_\_\_\_ **I WILL CALL:** I will notify the reservation chairperson **IF I wish to attend** no later than NOON the Monday prior to the luncheon.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Notifying the reservation chairperson **AFTER the Monday NOON deadline** that you are unable to attend the luncheon **will result in a charge of the price of the luncheon** regardless if you are on the Standing Reservation list (we are expecting you) or on Will Call (reservation called in by you). After one missed Standing Reservation, you will be moved to the Will Call list.

### **ACTIVITIES**

(Please check the activities that you would like to participate in)

\_\_\_\_\_ ARTS ALIVE \_\_\_\_\_ ARTS & CRAFTS \_\_\_\_\_ BOOK CLUB \_\_\_\_\_ BUNCO \_\_\_\_\_ CONTRACT RUMMY

\_\_\_\_\_ COOKING CLUB \_\_\_\_\_ EXPLORERS CLUB \_\_\_\_\_ LUNCH BUNCH \_\_\_\_\_ MOVIE MAVENS \_\_\_\_\_ TGIF

\_\_\_\_\_ MAH JONGG \_\_\_\_\_ GARDENING

### **HOBBIES and INTERESTS**

What sort of hobbies or special interests do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in starting a special interest Activity Group? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what type of group would that be? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be interested in serving on a future Newcomers Board? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### **NEW MEMBERS ONLY**

Where did you move from? \_\_\_\_\_ When did you move? (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about Newcomers? \_\_\_\_\_

### **PAYMENT INFORMATION**

Dues for the full year (June 1 to the following May 31) - **\$25.00**. Dues from January 1 to May 31- \$12.50.

Please return this completed form **no later than July 31<sup>st</sup>** for full year membership with your check made out to "Newcomers Club" and mailed to the following address:

Newcomers Club of Montgomery  
P.O. Box 241946 | Montgomery, AL | 36124



**The Newcomers Club of  
the Greater Montgomery Area**  
P.O. Box 241946  
Montgomery, AL 36124