

CITY HALL

2024

STATE OF THE CITY

HOMEWOOD, AL

2850

2850



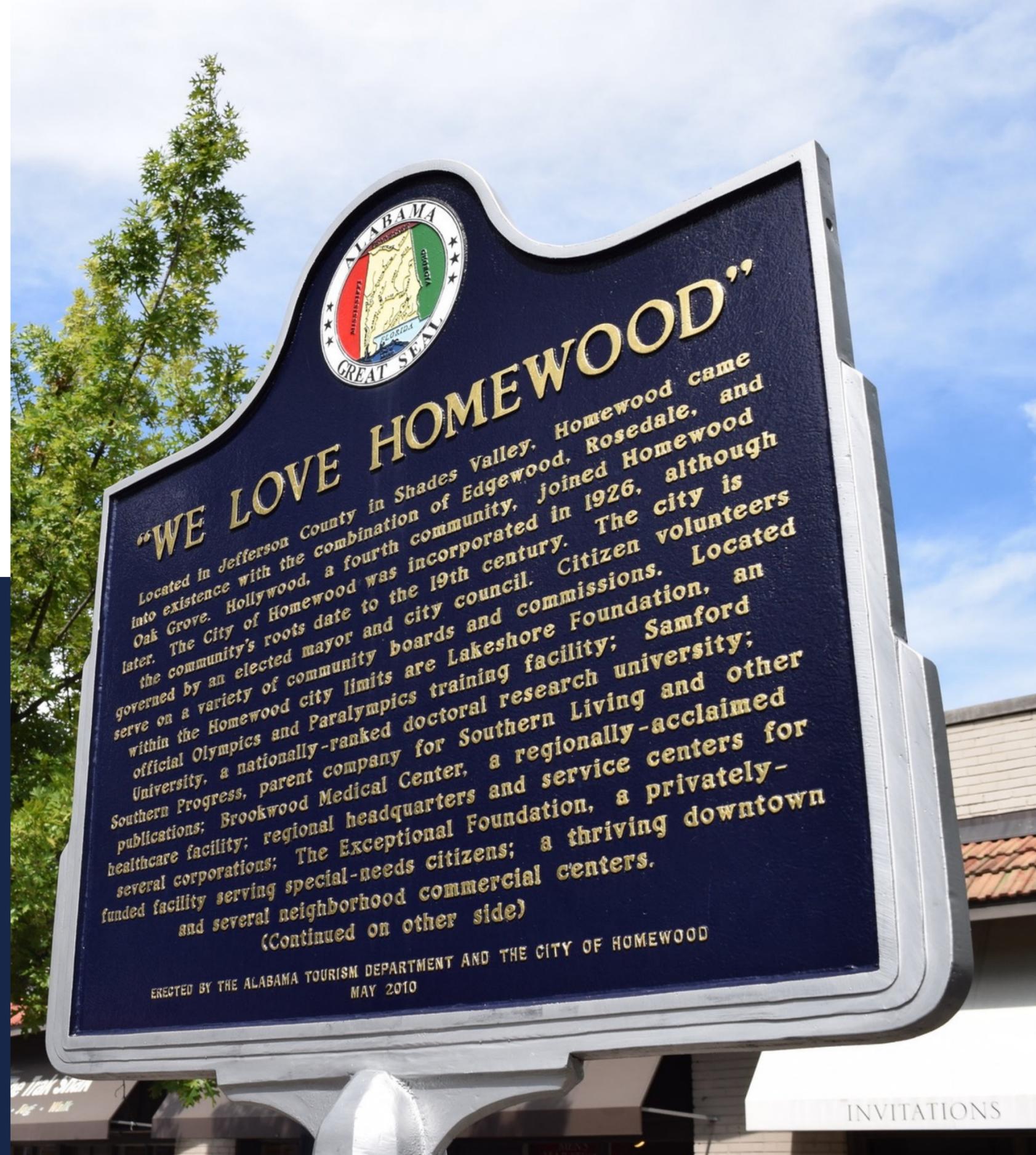
A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS...

Annual Fiscal Year-End Surplus Report

- Preliminary Unaudited Net Revenues over Expenditures for FY 22-23 is just under \$200,000. This is after expensing \$365k in employee bonuses.
- City approved a 4% COLA for all employees for FY 23'-24'
- City picked up health insurance increase for all employees
- Upgraded police and fire personnel 10% from JCPB regrades

Total Fund Balance: \$29,953,463

- This includes the Rainy Day Fund with \$10.6 million, Iberia savings account with \$7.4 million, and Bryant Bank savings with \$1.5 million.





FY 23' - 24' CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

Noteworthy Capital Savings

Because of bond refunding and ARPA, we have been able to save more in the capital projects fund, and as of 9/30/23 this account has \$3.8 million (unaudited)

Projects

- \$594,000 budgeted to use remaining ARPA funds for storm sewer repair and replacement
- \$375,000 for Delcris sidewalks in West Homewood
- \$170,000 for Central Ave TAP Project
- \$515,000 in police vehicles
- \$263,000 in fire building improvements
- \$414,000 in street vehicles
- \$1.2 million budgeted for Parks and Rec
- GOW Fund still has \$2.8 million for the Diverging Diamond over I-65, \$850,000 for the final piece of the Greensprings Revitalization, and \$430,000 for Reese Street project



HOMEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT



18% Decrease in overall crime based on a 10 year average

12% Decrease in overall crime last year alone

- Burglaries were down 30% last year, and down 41% based on the 10 year average
- Vehicle thefts were up 22% from last year (2nd year in a row of an increase) Lock those doors!
- Sex Crimes are down 10% (with great thanks to our SIU Department, 2nd year in a row for a decrease) Includes 11 subject arrests for crimes against children, and 36 subject arrests for human trafficking
- Homicides are down 66% from last year, and theft was down 18%.
- These decreases are especially noteworthy, since the calls for service went from 38,500 in 22' to over 47,000 calls in 23'.





Homewood Fire Department

Call Numbers:

- 109 fire calls in 2023
- 5 rupture / explosion calls
- 3,035 EMS / Rescue calls
- 74 calls for hazardous conditions
- 428 service calls
- 273 "good intent" calls
- 21 severe weather calls
- Other - 1 calls
- Total Calls for 2023 - 4,575



- Busiest time of the week, based on call reports, is Friday between 2:00pm - 3:00pm
- The Homewood Fire Department had a total of over 29,450 hours of training in 2023, with 72 hours of that deemed personnel training.
- Partnered with neighboring communities to create the OTM Regional Training Center, bringing more technical training to our area, and reducing travel time for our firefighters.
 - HFD Welcomed 5 new firefighters in 23'
- Expected delivery of Engine #2 in March of 24', replacing a 1996 engine.
 - Inspected over 732 fire hydrants (the most in the last decade, attributed to all the growth and construction we are seeing here in Homewood.)



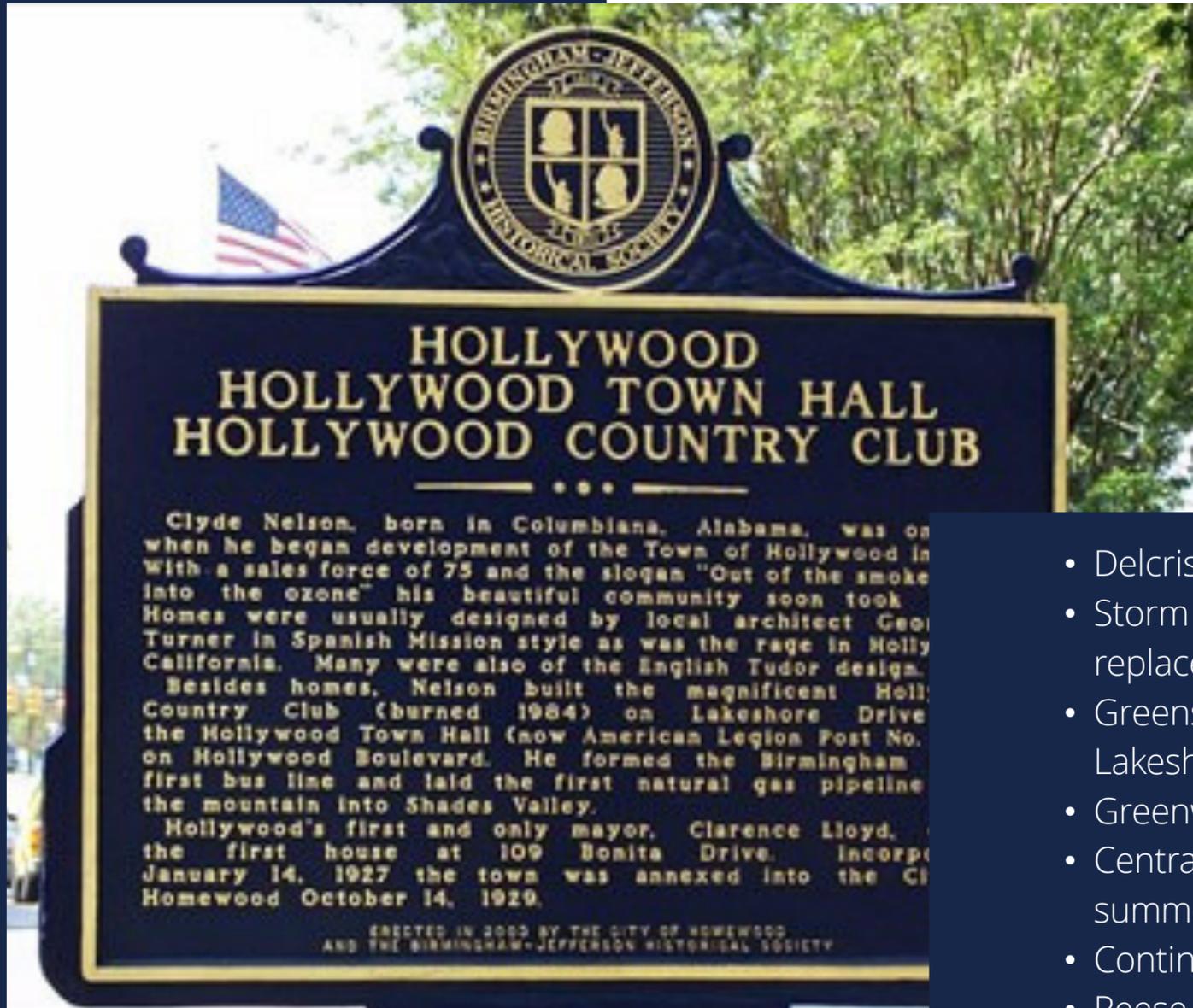
HOMEWOOD LIBRARY



- Homewood Library offered a new “Library of Things” in 23', which included a sewing machine, pressure washer, metal detector, air quality monitor, drums, guitars, and more to our citizens and members.
- Over 9,000 families participated in the Summer Reading Program this year.
- The Annual Library Block Party welcomed over 1,300 community members to support the library.
- Renovations are wrapping up which include updated restrooms, new carpet, and new lighting.

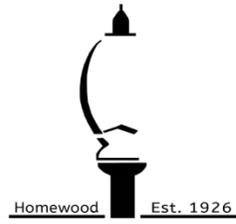
Annual State Statistical Report

- Homewood Library had the largest number of events in 2023 (1,300 events, with over 74,000 people in attendance)
- Highest number of attendance for those events
- Highest number of borrowed items for a library their size
- Over half a million items checked out in 2023



CITY WIDE PROJECTS AND UPDATES

- Delcris Sidewalk Project (Phase II) in Forrest Brook begins construction soon.
- Storm Water Master Plan is completed, and we continue work on repairs and replacement (ADEM Grant to help with major projects)
- Greensprings Phase II project (sidewalk on east side of roadway from Broadway to Lakeshore)
- Greenway Phase II (1.4 mile pedestrian facility) will open in the next few months.
- Central Avenue Multi-Modal Facility - currently under design, should start late summer.
- Continued paving projects around the city (totaling \$815,000)
- Reese Street sidewalk project begins Spring 24'
- City Manager discussion continues, and updates for special election should be out in the next month or so.
- Saulter Road Pocket Park is completed and grand opening is happening soon!
- Griffin Creek wall assessment is complete. Repairs and replacements will begin in the next few months.



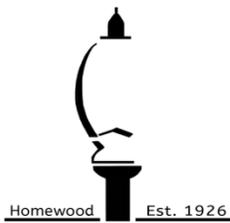
HOMEWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

- Once again named the #1 BEST SCHOOL DISTRICT in the Birmingham area, and the #1 District with the BEST TEACHERS in Alabama for 2023 by Niche.
- HCS named 1 of only 3 districts in Alabama to have more than 20% of its teachers achieving National Board Certification. Currently employing 45 National Board Certified teachers, and 23 teacher pursuing the same.
- Named Best Community for Music Education for the last 17 years by the National Association of Music Merchants.
- 480 students are enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP) courses in the 23'-24' school year, which is a record year.
- Homewood High School is ranked one of the Top 5 Best Highschools in Alabama by the U.S. News and World Report.
- HHS has 10 seniors who received National honors this year, including three students who were selected for the College Board National African American Recognition Program.
- 86% of Seniors entering 69 different colleges in 23'.
- 6A State Championships in Girls Soccer and Boys Track in 23'
- Capital Improvements of parking lot at HHS, and entrance and "home side" upgrades at Waldrop Stadium.





HOMEWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Highlights:

- 49 New Members in 2023
- 20 Ribbon Cuttings
- Started the NEW Small Business Spotlight Campaign this year, and have already awarded two retailers with this great distinction.
- 1 Retailer of the Year Awards for members
- Hosted 10 luncheons, 3 shopping events, and numerous Community wide events (Including Homewood for the Holidays, Taste of Homewood, Homewood Sidewalk Sale, and Hop and Shop.



HOMEWOOD PARKS AND RECREATION



Member Attendance

Homewood Community Center - 69,861, with 1,123 instructor classes in 2023

Homewood Senior Center - 8,936, while hosting 721 classes and programs in 2023. (Also served over 5,500 meals as a participant in the Jefferson County Senior Nutrition Plan)

Lee Community Center - Just under 9,000 visitors

Central Pool - Over 33,000 visitors

Patriot Pool - Over 23,000 visitors

Sports:

- Homewood Tennis Club - 95 teams, comprised of 489 members (including individuals). (18% increase over last year). 20 Area Championships, 4 State Champs, 1 Southern Region Champion
- Homewood Tackle Football - 106 players, and 250 cheerleaders (8% increase over 2022, with the addition of flag football cheerleaders). 2 of our 4 tackle football teams between 3rd and 6th grade competed in the championship game, with one crowned as champion.
- Homewood Soccer Club - 2,206 participants in 2023 with 1 State Champions, 2 runner-ups, and 2 third place teams.
- Patriot Youth Baseball and Softball - 573 baseball participants (increase of 3%), with 20 teams reaching the Regional Post Season, and crowning 10 Championship Teams or runners-up.
- Homewood Basketball - 926 participants (between girls and boys) in 2023) in rec basketball. 135 players in the OTM League. 135 teams in total between the leagues for 2023 (which is just 6 less teams than Hoover P&R, and we are 1/3 the size)
- Homewood Lacrosse - 107 participants in 2023. USA Lacrosse will be in Homewood to spotlight "Lacrosse in the South", with a focus on Homewood and Samford.
- Homewood Swim Team - 450 members, an increase of over 70 swimmers over prior year.



Homewood Real Estate

National Association of Realtors:

- The median estimated home value in Homewood is \$556,000
- We have seen a 3% increase in median home values in Homewood over the last year.
- The real estate market in 2023 was impacted by the highest interest rates in over a decade, These rates have decreased in the last month, and if they settle in the mid 5's to low 6's, it will have a positive impact on home sales.

Birmingham Association of Realtors:

- 323 homes sold in 2023, compared to 390 in 2022 (21% decrease)
- Avg sale price in 2023 was \$512,808 as compared to \$531,300 in 2022 (3% increase)
- Median days on market were 4 days
 - 108 of those homes were under contract within 48 hours as compared to 155 the prior year (44% decrease)

Local Realtor Opinions as to why people choose Homewood:

- Location and proximity to Downtown Birmingham
- Charm and character of home supply
- Award-winning school system
 - Family-centric, tight-knit community atmosphere
- Well-kept parks and recreation areas, and above average "walk score"



THANK YOU

WWW.CITYOFHOMEWOOD.COM