



FAIRHOPERS

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Have a superb summer!

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- A Message from FSTC President Lee Turner
- News on the 2025 Fairhope Volunteer Fire Department training facility by Debby Hackbarth

News You Can Use:

The FSTC donated \$20,000 to the Rotary Sunset for a disaster trailer.

Fairhope High School received \$50,000 from the FSTC to renovate the basketball locker rooms for both the boys and the girls.

For [links](#) to the online archives and past newsletters visit the FSTC website:

www.fairhopesingletax.com



From the President: Lee Turner

The FSTC has a long history of doing great projects for the Fairhope community. As you will note in this newsletter; the preparation for the new training facility at the fire station on Thompson Hall Road has been started.

Another exciting project is the renovation of the "old library" on Summit Street. When the City of Fairhope had no more need of this building, its ownership reverted to FSTC under a reversionary deed. A great committee, spear headed by Oliver Gilmore, has been working with architect Michael LeBatard for over a year. We have chosen a builder and renovations will start soon. We will be moving our office to this new location because it allows us to have more space for the following: our office, the archives and the archives committee, the education classes, the annual meeting, orientations, and committee meetings. All of these functions can operate under the same roof, without competing for space. It is a very exciting time and I look forward to the functionality that the new building will allow.

The New Modular Training Facility at the Fairhope Volunteer Fire Department by Debby Hackbarth



The Fairhope Volunteer Fire Department (FVFD) has been operating since 1936. They service over 48 square miles and have an ISO rating of 4, which places them in the top 26% of all departments in AL.

The training facility located at Station #2 on Thompson Hall Road has been in operation since 1992 or 33 years. Fire fighters receive 120 hours of hands-on training yearly. They partner with the Alabama Fire College to facilitate certification courses through the year. The current training facility building and tower were in need of replacement. Operating funds come from fundraisers, ad volarem tax, the city, and the public. The FVFD is a 100% volunteer department.

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Fairhoppers and the History Lecture Series are brought to you by the **FSTC Education Committee:** Jim Estes, Debby Hackbarth, Kris Lafferty, Wayne Miller, and Margaret Neely.

Have a story idea for an upcoming newsletter or want to serve on the FSTC Education Committee?

Email – Debby Hackbarth
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In October, 2024, the fire department asked the FSTC for a donation of \$745,000 to fund a new modular training facility. Because the structure consists of modular units, damaged areas can be replaced at a lesser cost than replacing the entire building. Their request was granted in January, 2025. We are so grateful for their devotion to our community and were pleased to be able to help them continue to offer training to the fantastic fire fighters who serve us.

The following photos feature the progress on the demolition from the original structures to the cleared area for the new concrete pad. Earl did a superb job carefully taking the structure apart and sorting scraps for recycling or sending to the dump. The concept drawing shows the final product to be installed this summer. The official opening ceremony will follow the installation. The next Fairhoppers will highlight the new structure.

