



# FAIRHOPERS

June 2026

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May your summer be filled with fun family festivals.

## In This Issue:

- A Message from FSTC President Lee Turner
- Completion of the 2026 Fairhope Volunteer Fire Department's new training facility by Debby Hackbarth

## News You Can Use:

The FSTC contributed \$150,000 for the renovation of the Bell Building at Coastal Alabama Community College.

The FSTC approved over \$78,000 for the maintenance of the Fairhope Colony Cemetery.

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[www.fairhopesingletax.com](http://www.fairhopesingletax.com)



## From the President: Lee Turner

Our young grandson is so obsessed with the Disney movie Frozen that he can sing every song and carries an Elsa doll around. Our family went to see the musical Frozen that was given on the Fairhope Bluff. It was an unbelievable night that unleashed an incredible vibe filled with cool people sitting under a beautiful sunset. The performance was "out of this world" that overflowed with awesome Fairhope talent.

Thank goodness our FSTC founders recognized the importance of that bluff for our community. We Fairhoppers should pay them tribute with our thanks and follow in their footsteps by providing future "gems" that can bless future Fairhoppers.

## Installation and Dedication of the New Modular Training Center for the Fairhope Volunteer Fire Department by Debby Hackbarth

In January of 2025, the FSTC contributed \$745,000 for this center. The old center was demolished and the new foundation was laid at the start of February, 2026. Finally, on 2/24/26 the containers arrived on huge long distance haulers that lined Thompson Hall Road. It was an amazing sight!



The units were installed in a few days in anticipation of the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on 3/9/2026 and their annual H.O.T. Training Event on 3/21/2026. The emotional ribbon cutting highlighted the Nelson family because the facility was named in honor of fire fighter Alfred Austin "Skeeter" Nelson who was seriously injured in 1954. Many of the family were there to participate and listen to the emotional speeches given by the department, our Mayor Sullivan, and Catherine King, who received the bell for the new FSTC building. Janet Nelson Helms thanked the FSTC again at our meeting on 5/12/2026.

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**Contact Us:**

336 Fairhope Avenue  
Fairhope, AL 36532  
251-928-8162  
[transfers@fairhopesingletax.com](mailto:transfers@fairhopesingletax.com)  
[www.fairhopesingletax.com](http://www.fairhopesingletax.com)

*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.

Do you have idea for an upcoming newsletter or want to serve on the FSTC Education Committee?

Email - Debby Hackbarth  
[helpme2spell@gmail.com](mailto:helpme2spell@gmail.com)



The annual H.O.T. Training included 65 trainees from 7 states. The primary instructor was from New York City.

