

THE RIVER REGION MAGAZINE

MONTGOMERY LIVING

HOLIDAY 2006
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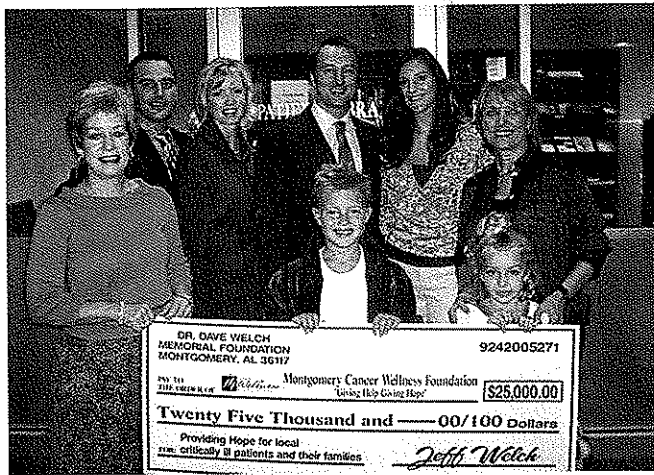


Celebrate
**THE
SEASON**

MAKE YOUR HOLIDAYS MORE MEANINGFUL

PLUS:

10 YEARS OF ALAGA SYRUP
SCHOOL REVIEW
GREAT LOCAL GIFT IDEAS



From left to right: Members of the Welch family Grayson Welch, Sydney Kate Welch, Jennifer Welch, Brian Welch, Jeff Welch, Jamie Welch, Donna Welch with Susan Bruchis of the Montgomery Cancer Wellness Foundation.

FAMILY FUNDING

The Dr. Dave Welch Memorial Foundation celebrated its 6th annual charity benefit at the Wynlakes Country Club in August. The event including cocktails, silent auction items, the Cary Frazier Band and a drawing raised over \$30,000 that went to fund The Montgomery Cancer Wellness Foundation, the Make A-Wish Foundation, Children's Harbor and other local charitable foundations dedicated to the "treatment and recovery" for critically ill patients and their families.

AUM RANKED WITH THE "BEST"

AUM is an outstanding business school, according to The Princeton Review. The New York-based education services company features the school in the just-published 2007 edition of its "Best 282 Business Schools."

According to Robert Franek, Princeton Review VP-Publishing, "We chose schools for this book based on our high regard for their academic programs and offerings, institutional data we collect from the schools, and the candid opinions of students attending them who rate and report on their campus experiences at the schools. We are pleased to recommend Auburn University Montgomery to readers of our book and users of our website as one of the best institutions they could attend to earn an MBA."

"Best 282 Business Schools" has two-page profiles of the schools with write-ups on their academics, student life and admissions, plus ratings for their academics, selectivity and career placement services.

The Princeton Review's 80-question survey asked AUM students about themselves, their career plans, and their school's academics, student body and campus life.

Visit www.princetonreview.com to learn more and view the 11 ranking lists of the top 10 schools in various categories.

TEACHING TOLERANCE AROUND THE GLOBE

In September, The Montgomery Academy's Upper School technology instructor Emily Vickery participated in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. She traveled to Serbia where she had been asked to facilitate the Ministries of Education, Health, and Labor in developing a national anti-bullying campaign to be implemented in schools.

Vickery, a native Montgomerian and Academy teacher for three years, brings 15 years of broad-based educational experience to the Serbian project from classroom teaching to program and policy development.

"When the U. S. State Department contacted me and asked if I would be willing to undertake this project, I was honored to be a part of such important work," said Vickery.

During the 1990's, the Balkan region experienced four ethnic wars following the breakup of the former Yugoslavia. "Implementing a national anti-bullying campaign in schools is a step toward resolving conflict and teaching tolerance," Vickery continued.

The conference Protection of Children Against Violence will be held in Belgrade. "The nuances of language are interesting," Vickery observed. "I've learned that there is no Serbian translation for the word 'bullying.' That presents a challenge, but one we're prepared to work through."

"Montgomery Academy believes in 'doing the right thing,' and the school's leadership is doing just that by supporting me in helping others," noted Vickery.

Academy Headmaster Archie Douglas agreed. "As a school, we are so honored that a member of our faculty has been chosen for such an important assignment on the international stage. I am not surprised, however, that Emily has been selected, because the same qualities that so impressed members of the State Department have been impressing our community since she arrived at MA."

A PLACE ALL THEIR OWN

Kids need their own space, so the developers at Winchester Ridge are giving them just that. The developers announced the inclusion of a picnic area, splash pool and special children's playground in the community. A peaceful, secluded neighborhood in Prattville, Winchester Ridge is currently the only development in the "preferred community" with these unique touches. Custom home-builders including TH Taylor Homes, Prime Home Builders, Gallops Construction, Cagle and Luster Construction and Hoyt Henley Builders are building in Winchester Ridge. For more information, call 467-1830.

