



**Vol. 1, Issue 4**  
**August 2011**

## **ALERTS**

### **Call for ATHP Board Nominations**

Know someone who is passionate about preservation and who would make a good board member for the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation (ATHP)? The ATHP's Nomination Committee is accepting recommendations. A slate for officers and board members-at-large will be submitted by the committee for a vote of approval during the ATHP fall board meeting. Deadline for nomination submissions: Thursday, Sept. 1. For more information or to send a nomination for consideration, visit [www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info).

### **Jacksonville's Historic Forney House for Sale**

Jacksonville State University (JSU), which owns the historic Forney House, has announced its intention to sale the 1850's two-story home for removal and relocation. Built by a Forney relative, the house was the home of Confederate General John H. Forney and his wife Septima Rutledge from 1884 until 1902. Located at 117 West Mountain Avenue, bids on the house are being entertained by the university. Interested parties should contact the JSU Purchasing Office at 256-782-5151. For image, visit [www.annistonstar.com/view/full\\_story/14780962/article-JSU-to-sell-historic-home-%E2%80%94-and-make-it-go-away?instance=home\\_news](http://www.annistonstar.com/view/full_story/14780962/article-JSU-to-sell-historic-home-%E2%80%94-and-make-it-go-away?instance=home_news).

## **EVENTS**

### **ALEXANDER CITY**

#### **Thursday, August 4 – Field Trip & Tour, Robinson Iron Works**

*(For details, see Mobile, Field Trip, Robinson Iron Works below.)*

### **BIRMINGHAM**

#### **Monday, August 1 – Wednesday, August 31 – A Stitch In Time: Southern Quilts in the African-American Tradition**

Exhibition of quilts by African-American fiber artists of the Deep South. Quilts on exhibit are drawn from the permanent American quilt collection held by the Birmingham Museum of Art. Quilt artists featured include, among others, Alabama's Nora Ezell, Yvonne Wells, Chris Clark and the Freedom Quilting Bee artists. Admission Free. Birmingham Museum of Art, 2000 Rev. Abraham Woods, Jr. Blvd (formerly 8th Avenue North). Exhibition runs through December 31. For more information and museum hours, call 205-254-2565 or visit [www.artsbma.org](http://www.artsbma.org).

#### **Monday, August 1 – Friday, August 26 – The Music Lives On: Folk Song Traditions Told by Alabama Artists**

Exhibition of visual works by Alabama artists Lonnie Holley, Joe Minter, Charlie Lucas and Thornton Dial depicting Alabama's musical traditions and performers of blues, bluegrass, jazz and country. Admission: Adults \$6, Seniors \$5, Children 5 - 12 Yrs. \$4, Children 4 Yrs and younger Free. Vulcan Park and Museum, 1701 Valley View Drive, Birmingham. Sponsored by Vulcan Park and Museum and the Alabama Humanities Foundation. For more information and museum hours, call 205-933-1409.

### **DECATUR**

#### **Sunday, August 8, 2:30-3:30 p.m. – 2- Sunday Cemetery Strolls**

Enjoy a Sunday afternoon strolling through the city's historic graveyard. Tour led by Cathy Vogel. Comfortable shoes and bottled water recommended. Sponsored by the Friends of Decatur Cemetery. For more information, contact 404-371-4444. *(2- Sunday Strolls continue through October.)*

### **DEMOPOLIS**

#### **Friday, August 26, 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – “Creating Small Businesses in Alabama's Black Belt” Workshop**

Learn how to revitalize the main streets of Alabama's small towns. Registration Fee: \$20 includes lunch.

Historic Rooster Hall, Courthouse Square. Sponsored by the Alabama Black Belt Heritage Area, First United Security Bank and Main Street of Alabama. For more information or to register, call (205) 652-3828.

## **GREENSBORO**

### **Saturday, August 27 – Field Trip, Moundville Archeological Park**

*(For details, see Mobile, Field Trip, Moundville Archeological Park below.)*

## **GULF SHORES/FORT MORGAN**

### **Tuesdays, August 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 – 1861 Civil War Candlelight Tours**

A summer evening walking tour in historic Ft. Morgan - most famous for its role in the Civil War Battle of Mobile Bay. For admission fee and times, call 251-540-7127. *(Tuesday Candlelight Tours continue through the summer.)*

## **HUNTSVILLE**

### **Monday, August 1 – Thursday, August 7 – Edward Weston: Leaves of Grass**

Exhibition of 53 iconic black and white images created by master American photographer Edward Weston in 1941 to illustrate a deluxe edition of Walt Whitman's poem *Leaves of Grass*. The images depict scenes from 24 states covering 25,000 miles. Huntsville Museum of Art, 300 Church Street SW. For more information and museum hours, call 256- 535-4350 or visit [www.hsvmuseum.org/](http://www.hsvmuseum.org/).

## **JASPER**

### **Monday, August 1 – Thursday, August 27, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Mon. – Sat.) – Museum on Main Street Exhibition: Journey Stories**

The traveling exhibition examines the crossroads between the historic modes of travel and America's desire to travel using images, audio and artifacts to tell a collection of individual stories. Bankhead House and Heritage Center, 800 7<sup>th</sup> St. Sponsored by the Alabama Humanities Foundation, Alabama Power and the Smithsonian Institute. For exhibition schedule of future locations and dates in Alabama, visit [www.ahf.net/journeystories/index.html](http://www.ahf.net/journeystories/index.html).

## **MOBILE**

### **Thursday, August 4 – Field Trip & Tour, Robinson Iron Works**

Join the Mobile Historic Development Commissions for a tour of Robinson Iron Works, internationally known for its restoration of historic iron work, including Birmingham's Vulcan statue. Mobile's Bienville Square Fountain and Iron Deer sculpture. The field trip will include a tour of the foundry and observation of the casting process related to the restoration of Mobile's historic Washington Square Fountain.

Reservations are limited. Tour participants are required to wear hard-toed shoes and clothing appropriate for an industrial site. Tour includes lunch. Van departs Mobile at 7:45 a.m., arrives Alex City at 11:45 a.m. Event fee including transport from Mobile and lunch: \$35. Without transport from Mobile: \$15. Sponsored by Mobile Historic Development Commission. For reservations or more information, call: 251-208-7281 or email [mhdc@cityofmobile.org](mailto:mhdc@cityofmobile.org).

### **Thursday, August 11, 6:30 p.m. – Party & Paint for Historic Preservation**

Join the fun at Historic Oakleigh Mansion and release the inner child by painting a portrait of a historic house to take home, sipping on chilled wine, dining on hors d'oeuvres and enjoying good company. Event Fee: \$35. Proceeds benefit the Historic Mobile Preservation Society and Oakleigh Historic Complex. Historic Oakleigh Mansion, 300 Oakleigh Place. For more info call, 251- 432-6161.

### **Thursday, August 18, 5:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – An Evening in History Lecture Series**

David Anderson, CEO and Director of Operations for Fathom Precision LLC will present a lecture on the Amstel, a British shipwreck Anderson discovered off the coast of Alabama. Refreshments will be served at 5:45 p.m. and the lecture will begin at 6:00 p.m. Admission is free to all Historic Mobile Preservation Society (HMPS) members; Guests and Non-Members: \$10. Historic Oakleigh Mansion, 300 Oakleigh Place. Sponsored by Historic Mobile Preservation Society. For more information call 251-432-6161.

**Saturday, August 27 – Field Trip, Moundville Archeological Park**

Field trip will include a visit to the Moundville Archeology Park and its newly renovated Jones Museum currently spotlighting the *Lost Realm of the Black Warrior*. Artifacts in the exhibition are ones discovered at Moundville and currently on loan from the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian. Among these, is the prized Moundville Duck Bowl, cited as the most beautiful piece of prehistoric Native American art discovered in the United States. Field trip participants also will visit historic Greensboro's Pie Lab and Rural Heritage Center as well as Thomaston's Alabama Folk Art Gallery. Event fee including transport from Mobile, lunch at the Museum Café, museum admission and a private tour of the park: \$48. Fee without transport: \$25. Sponsored by Historic Mobile Preservation Society. For more information, call 251-622-7110.

**MOUNDVILLE**

**Saturday, August 27 – Field Trip, Moundville Archeological Park**

(For details, see *Mobile, Field Trip, Moundville Archeological Park* above.)

**MONTGOMERY**

**Wednesday, August 3, 10:30 a.m. – Alabama Historical Commission Finance and Historic Sites Committee Meetings**

Meetings are open to the public. Carriage House, AHC, 468 South Perry Street. For more information, call 334-242-3184.

**Thursday, August 18, Noon – 1:00 p.m. – ArchiTreats Lecture, “Race Relations in Alabama, 1965-1968: A Photojournalist’s Perspective.**

Lecture by photojournalist Jim Pepler former staff photographer for *Newsday* and the weekly *Southern Courier*. Admission Free. Alabama Power Auditorium, Alabama Dept. of Archives and History, 624 Washington Avenue. Sponsored by the Alabama Dept. of Archives and History and Friends of the Alabama Archives. For more information, call 334-353-4726.

**August 27, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Exhibit Opening, Museum of Alabama Phase I, *The Land of Alabama and The First Alabamians***

First two exhibitions of the museum open to the public with family activities throughout the day including gallery talks, lectures by guest curators John Hall and Craig Sheldon and hands-on activities for children. Admission Free. Alabama Dept. of Archives and History, 624 Washington Avenue. For more information, call 334-242-4364 or visit [www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov).

**THOMASTON**

**Saturday, August 27 – Field Trip, Moundville Archeological Park**

(See *Mobile Field Trip, Moundville* above.)

**NEWS**

**Two Huntsville Sites Named to the National Register of Historic Places**

Huntsville has reason to celebrate. The Lowe Mill and Mill Village Historic District and the Dallas Mill Village Historic District were recently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. These districts join two other similar districts that were listed in 2010: the Lincoln Mill and Mill Village Historic District and the Merrimack Mill Village. The Historic Huntsville Foundation joined forces with the City of Huntsville and local residents to complete the nominations. Recognition on the National Park Service's Register of Historic Places will help local efforts to preserve these important resources and neighborhoods.

Other Alabama sites added to the Register include the Wadley train depot; a boundary increase for Birmingham's Southside Historic District; and Mobile's Davis Avenue Recreation Center and International Longshoreman's Association Hall. To learn more, visit, [www.cr.nps.gov/nr/](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/).

**Historic Elizabeth Church Transferred to Sumter County Historical Society**

To prevent further deterioration of the church, members of the Elizabeth Church Cemetery Association will

deed the building to the Sumter County Historical Society. The University of West Alabama (UWA) will then move the historic Elizabeth Church (circa 1858) to its campus to be placed next to the Christian Valley Baptist Church (circa 1860), which also will be moved to campus within the next year. Together, these buildings will serve as a chapel for the campus. Joining these two buildings will be Hale County's Cedarwood (circa 1818). The group of nineteenth century buildings will form a complex of historical significance for Sumter County and the Black Belt region.

The Elizabeth (Presbyterian) Church was founded in 1838. The original log structure for whom the church was named was built on land donated by Elizabeth Knox. In 1845, the log building was moved to its current site near Gaston and replaced with the present frame church in 1858. The church ceased to function as house of worship during the 1980s. Though the building and adjacent cemetery have been maintained, vandals have removed all of the fixtures and pews from the church. Through the transference of ownership and removal to a new location, the Elizabeth Church will be preserved and protected from further destruction.

#### **Cullman's Treasured Parker House Lost**

Cullman's Historic Parker Home is another victim of April's devastating tornadoes according to Jasef Wisener of the Cullman County Museum. While tornados passed through a number of communities in Cullman County, in the city of Cullman much of the devastation was limited to structural damage. The Parker House, one of the most historic homes in Cullman, was heavily damaged and in May was subsequently brought down to its foundation due to its weakened structure. Originally owned by its namesake, George Parker, the historic house was built in 1877. An important landmark in Cullman, it will be sorely missed.

#### **First White House of the Confederacy Celebrates Sesquicentennial**

In commemoration of the Sesquicentennial of The War Between The States, the First White House of the Confederacy, located at 644 Washington Ave in Montgomery, is now open to the public six days a week: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 - 4:00. Admission is free to the public. Self-guided tour booklets, which are available for \$3 each, enable visitors to tour at their leisure. Proceeds from the sale of the booklets benefit the White House Association of Alabama, which is the sponsoring non-profit organization responsible for the house museum. The museum is closed on Sundays and State Holidays. For more information, visit [www.firstwhitehouse.org](http://www.firstwhitehouse.org).

#### **SUPPORT THE ALABAMA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

##### ***Historic Places Make Life Better!***

To join the ATHP, renew your membership or send a contribution, call **205-652-3497** or donate online at [www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info).

##### ***Deadlines for Preservation E-Newsletter***

Send events and news submissions for the ATHP e-newsletter to the [alabamatrust@uwa.edu](mailto:alabamatrust@uwa.edu). Deadline for submissions is the third Friday each month for distribution the following month. Deadline for information to include in the September issue of **Preservation E-Newsletter** is August 19.