



March 2013

Volume 3 Number 3

Content Links

[Events](#)

[News](#)

Alerts

Alabama Historic Tax Credit Bills Pending - Take Action Now

Preservation advocates are pushing for a state Historic Tax Credit bill. House bill (HB140) and Senate bill (SB123), as written, will offer incentives for rehabilitation of historic homes and commercial buildings in Alabama. In the event that these bills pass, a state and Federal Historic Tax Credits can be combined to further benefit the redevelopment of Alabama's historic properties and drive economic development within local communities. HB140 has been unanimously passed by the House Ways and Means Education Committee. Mail letters of support to your local legislators district office or email your representative. To follow the status of the legislation and voice your support, visit the Legislature's website at <http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/acas/ACASLoginFire.asp> or Alabama Trust Advocacy website at www.alabamatrust.info/public-policy-legislative-alert.php.

Alabama's Wiregrass Hosts the Spring Preservation Lyceum, April 4-5

Save the date for the first 2013 Preservation Lyceum Weekend in Dothan, Friday, April 5 - Saturday, April 6. Take advantage of this spring weekend in the Wiregrass to explore the Peanut Capital's historic downtown with visits to Dothan's Cultural Arts Center, the former 1900's Southwood Elementary School; 1915 Opera House; Landmark Park; St. Andrews Market, the former 1912 Malone Motor Company building; and the Wiregrass Museum, the former 1912-1913 Water and Electric building...plus more. Experience the use of historic spaces for new purposes. Program with weekend details will be posted March 4th at <http://www.alabamatrust.info/>.

Last Call for 2013 Places In Peril Nominations

Nominations for the 2013 Places in Peril listing are due March 1st. A program of the Alabama Historical Commission and the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation, the annual listing of endangered historic places in Alabama brings attention to the importance of preserving Alabama's historic treasures. To nominate an endangered historic place or category, visit <http://www.alabamatrust.info/> today.

On Stage at Monroeville's Historic Courthouse and Museum - Mockingbird Tickets On Sale

To Kill a Mockingbird tickets are on sale to the general public beginning Friday, March 1. Tickets go quickly, don't delay. Now in its 23rd season, this annual production is based on Harper Lee's best-selling book by the same title. For more information, visit

Events



BALDWIN COUNTY

Saturday, March 16 - Sunday, March 17, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - The War of 1812 and the Tensaw Region

Learn more about the history of Fort Montgomery and the early days of the Tensaw region. Events include a living history encampment, an archeological dig, presentations on historic medicinal plants, wagon rides, basket making, blacksmithing, and lecture The War of 1812: Effects on the Tensaw County and Fort Montgomery. Admission: \$5. Location: Fort Mims State Historic Site, 7 miles west of Tensaw in Baldwin County off State Road 59. Sponsors: Baldwin County Archives and History, North Baldwin County Chamber of Commerce and Fort Mims Restoration Association. For more information, visit <http://www.fortmims.org/>.

CLARKE COUNTY

Friday, March 1 - Friday, March 15 - Alabama Folklife Exhibition

Don't miss Alabama In the Making: Traditional Arts of People in Places. Exhibition includes artifacts from the Alabama Center for Tradition and Culture, photographic collections, audio interviews, and video. Location: Kathryn Tucker Windham Museum, Alabama Southern College, Thomasville. Sponsors: Alabama Folklife Association, Alabama Humanities Foundation, Alabama State Council on the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities and Alabama Southern College. For more information, visit <http://www.alabamainthemaking.com/>.

DALLAS COUNTY

Saturday, March 16 - Sunday, March 17 - 37th Annual Historic Selma Pilgrimage

Enjoy a leisurely town and country tour of the Black Belt's historic homes in the heart of Alabama's old plantation region. The tour, along the Alabama River, includes sites in Cahawba, Orrville and Molette's Bend. Among other historic structures, visitors will see the Mabry-Jones House, Ben Ellis Dunaway House, Craig Wilson House, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Weaver Castle, and Tasso Plantation house. For ticket cost, tour times and other information, visit Facebook at Selmas' Historic Pilgrimage or email Info@SelmaPilgrimage.com.



MOBILE COUNTY

Friday, March 15 - Saturday, March 16, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Mobile Historic Homes Tour

Visit some of Mobile's interesting historic structures during the 2013 Mobile Historic Homes Tour. Six private homes will be open. Admission: \$20 in advance; \$17 for a group of 10 or more; \$25 the day of the tour event. For more information or purchase of advance tickets, visit <http://www.historicmobile.org/>. Tickets may be purchased the day of at homes on the tour. Proceeds benefit the Historic Mobile Preservation Society.

Thursday, March 21, 5:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - An Evening In History

Presentation The Future of Barton Academy, about the oldest school building in Alabama, by Jaime Betbeze of the Barton Academy Foundation. Wine is poured at 5:45; lecture begins promptly at 6:00. Location: Oakleigh Historic Home, 350 Oakleigh Place, Mobile. Admission: HMPS Members, Free; Non-Members, \$10. Sponsor: Historic Mobile Preservation Society (HMPS). To make reservations call (251) 432-6161 or email hmps@bellsouth.net.

MONROE COUNTY

Thursday, March 7 - Saturday, March 9, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Alabama River Festival

Visit the Alabama River Museum and enjoy this annual spring festival recreating the early 1800's frontier settlement of Franklin. Historic traditions, the Creek Indian "stick ball" game and "stomp dance" folkway, will be demonstrated. Observe more than 30 demonstrators and living history re-enactors. Guests are invited to bring found artifacts for examination and identification by University of South Alabama archeologists. Handmade crafts and other gift items will be available at the museum's Trading Post Tent and indoor gift shop. Food vendors will be on site. Thursday and Friday are for school groups, which are requested to register in advance. Saturday events are open to the general public. Location: 31 Isaac Creek Road Franklin, Ala. Admission: \$5. Sponsors: J. L. Bedsole Foundation and the Monroe County Heritage Museum. For more information, call 251-575-7433 or email mchm@frontiernet.net.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Thursday, February 28, Noon - 1:00 p.m. - Architreasts: Food for Thought

Presentation The Rise and Fall of Alabama's Textile Industry by David Seagraves. Location: Farley Auditorium, Alabama Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington Avenue, Montgomery. Admission: Free. Sponsors: Friends of the Alabama Archives and the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. For more information, call 334-353-4726 or visit <http://www.archives.alabama.gov/>.

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY

Saturday, March 16, 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - West Alabama Spring Ramble

Spend a spring day rambling through West Alabama's historic Marion, Greensboro, and Forkland communities. Tour includes visits to historic homes: Marion's historic Reverie mansion (1858) and Kenworthy Hall (1858-1860); Greensboro's Magnolia Hill (1855); and Forkland's Thornhill (1833). Admission: \$40 includes lunch at the Perry County Historical Society, transportation and snacks. Reservation Deadline: March 11. Tour Start: Battle-Friedman House, 1010 Greensboro Ave, Tuscaloosa. Sponsor: Tuscaloosa County Preservation Society. For more information, call 205-758-2238.

News

B.B. Comer Bridge Slated for Demolition

Advocates for the preservation of the B.B. Comer Bridge in Scottsboro will get to show their support sometime this summer when the Jackson County Legislative Delegation holds a public meeting on the matter. The delegation, consisting of Senator Shadrack McGill and Representatives John Robinson and Wayne Johnson, announced that the Alabama Department of Transportation director John Cooper and district engineer Johnny Harris will attend the meeting to be held in July. The B.B. Comer Bridge was completed in 1931. It is the last of 15 original toll bridges remaining, which were built by the Alabama State Bridge Corporation in the late 1920s through the early 1930s. The structure is slated for demolished in 2015.

For more information, visit http://thedailysentinel.com/news/article_b1b797fc-7c3d-11e2-bfe6-0019bb2963f4.html. To show support of the preservation of the historic B.B. Comer Bridge, go to www.facebook.com/groups/1232314444445454/.



Light Up the Lyric

The curtain has risen and the lights are on in a campaign to restore Birmingham's historic Lyric Theatre (circa 1914). Located in mid-downtown Birmingham in the historic theatre district, the Alabama, Carver and Lyric theatres stand in salute to the vitality of the Magic City's past. The Lyric is the last of these grand old ladies to be restored. Fortunately for the cause of historic preservation, the Lyric Theatre has had

little attention during the last 50 years -- its architectural and ornamental features are intact and waiting to be rediscovered by theatre buffs and the general public.

A goal of \$7M is set to provide the necessary funds to restore and reopen this historic, ornate vaudeville theatre in time for its centennial anniversary in 2014. A remarkable team of civic boosters, led by veteran Birmingham fundraiser Tom Cosby, is assembled to lead this fundraising effort. For more information on the campaign or to make a gift, go to <http://lightupthelyric.com/>.

Old Cahawba Archeological Park Will Host Civil War Historian and Trust

On Saturday, April 2, 2011, history buffs and preservationists from around the country will team up with the Civil War Trust to help clean and restore America's priceless battlefields, cemeteries and shrines. The nationwide effort - dubbed Park Day - is underwritten with a grant from History™, formerly The History Channel, and has been endorsed by Take Pride in America, a division of the U.S. Department of the Interior. At Cahawba, one such volunteer, novelist David Rothstein, a former University of Alabama professor, now living in Oregon, will present a sneak peek into his new novel, *Casualties*, which was inspired by and largely set in the very site, which the Old Cahaba Foundation is working to preserve.

Rothstein says in his novel, "If you go to Cahawba today and sit quietly under the cedars and live oak trees, you will feel the spirits of the people who lived and suffered and died there. If you stand in the center of the space that was the prison warehouse, you can trace the outlines of the place in the remains of the brick foundation where the prisoners were once kept, and they will speak to you. It feels as if Cahawba is still holding its breath." Copies of the novel will be on sale at the Park Visitors Center store and Rothstein will sign his book there. Store profits benefit the Old Cahawba Foundation.

Volunteer! Help clean brush and debris from the site of a Civil War prison. Volunteers should wear gloves, sturdy boots or shoes, and bring yard tools, lunch and bottled water. Where: Old Cahawba Archeological Park, 9518 Cahaba Road, Orrville (Near Selma). When: Saturday, April 2, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. For more information, contact Linda Derry, Site Director, Old Cahawba at 334-875-2579.



Saving Alabama's Historic Neighborhoods - A Good Idea Takes Root in Norwood

In Birmingham's historic Norwood, neighbors and friends gathered to break ground in late February at the historic Norwood Elementary School on the first of four planned community gardens. The gardens, collectively known as Norwood Learning Gardens, are an effort by the Norwood Resource Center and community members to help revitalize this historic community and also care for its residents. These gardens will ensure that fresh produce

and fruits will be available to Norwood residents within steps of their front doors.

Funding for the gardens was secured through a competitive grant process sponsored by the Center for Clinical and Translational Science at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Community Health Innovation Awards, such as this one, provide local communities with a unique opportunity to design, develop and implement innovative ideas for solving their most challenging community health needs. Five specific areas of concern were the foci of the inaugural grants: empty lots and abandoned homes; lack of sidewalks and walking trails; crime; high blood pressure; and diabetes.

The Norwood Learning Gardens will not just provide a community garden, but also will create a culture of family gardening in an urban setting. Neighborhood 4th and 5th-graders will complete the first garden as part of a Junior Master Gardener program, designed by U.S Department of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service. The remaining 3 gardens will be built on empty and neglected lots in the neighborhood. For more information, contact Mélodie Echols at 205/322-

7361 or email mdechols@norwoodresourcecenter.org.

Saving Alabama's Historic Places - Funds for Local Efforts

The Endangered Properties Trust fund of the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation is a revolving fund providing intervention and loan dollars to save historic structures in the state. For more information, visit www.alabamatrust.info/about.php. The Gwyndolyn Turner Endowed Fund, named for one of Alabama's lifelong preservationists, awards matching grants for preservation planning, heritage education, workshops, conferences and special interventions. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and require a 1:1 cash match. For more information about either fund, contact the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation at alabamatrust@athp.org.

Why Historic Preservation Matters - 199th Anniversary of Battle of Horseshoe Bend

On March 27, 1814, Major General Andrew Jackson's army of 3,300 men attacked Chief Menawa's 1,000 Red Stick Creek warriors fortified in a horseshoe shaped bend of the Tallapoosa River. Over 800 Red Sticks died that day. The battle ended the Creek War, resulted in Andrew Jackson elevation to national hero. To learn more about the Battle of Horse Shoe Bend, visit the National Park Service's Horseshoe Bend Military Park in Talladega County. For more information about the park, visit <http://www.nps.gov/hobe/index.htm>.

Why Historic Preservation Matters - 112th Anniversary of the 1st State Archives Nationally

On March 2, 1901, the Trustees of the Alabama Department of Archives and History met in Governor William J. Samford's office to organize the nation's first state archival agency. Charged with, among other responsibilities, the care and custody of official archives [and] the collection of materials bearing upon the history of the State, the department was housed in the capitol until 1940. It then moved across Washington Avenue to the War Memorial Building where it is now located. Visit the Archives at <http://www.archives.alabama.gov/>.

Why Historic Preservation Matters - 48th Anniversary of Selma to Montgomery Voter's Rights March

On March 7, 1965, 600 demonstrators make the first of three attempts to march from Selma to the state capitol in Montgomery to demand removal of voting restrictions on Black Americans. Attacked by state and local law enforcement officers as the marchers crossed Selma's Edmund Pettus Bridge, they fled back into the city. This dramatic scene, captured on camera and broadcast across the nation, resulted in a surge of support for the protestors. Historians view the 1965 Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March as one of the last great grass-root campaigns for human rights and the summit of the modern civil rights movement. To learn more about this historic event and to travel to route of the 1965 Voter's Rights marchers, visit <http://www.nps.gov/semo/index.htm>.

Help Preserve Alabama's Historic Treasures

Make a Gift to the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation

To make a contribution in support of preservation, call 205-652-3497 or donate online at <http://www.alabamatrust.info/>.

SHARE PRESERVATION NEWS AND STORIES STATEWIDE

To send EVENT information and NEWS stories for Preservation e-newsletter by March 20. Email alabamatrust@athp.org. Flag for Preservation E-News.

[Forward this email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to alabamatrust@athp.org by alabamatrust@athp.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation | Station 45 | Livingston | AL | 35470