

# ALABAMA Trust for Historic PRESERVATION

*Historic Places Make Life Better*

# eNews

August 2017

Volume 7 Number 6

## ALERTS



### Alabama Historical Commission Announces 2018 Grant Program - Deadline August 15

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) is administering a \$300,000 state-funded Grant Program in fiscal year 2018 (October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018) for capital improvements at historic sites throughout Alabama. Grants will be awarded to historical skills centers, cultural heritage parks, sites, commissions, boards, agencies, authorities, any historic school structure, or any publicly-owned battlefield or structure constructed prior to 1840 that is on the National Register of Historic Places. Also, entities must reflect an education-based mission, concentrate on educational programming and reflect the geographical diversity of the state. Grant amounts will not exceed \$50,000 for any one entity. Applications must be hand-delivered or mailed to Tryon McLaney, Contracts and Grants, Alabama Historical Commission, by **August 15, 2017**. Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted. The AHC will announce the grant awards on October 2, 2017. For grant application and guidelines, visit [www.preserveala.org/news\\_detail.aspx?ID=12301](http://www.preserveala.org/news_detail.aspx?ID=12301).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Alabama Bicentennial Commission Regional Workshops Continue

The Alabama Bicentennial Commission's planning workshops to help local municipalities and organizations plan commemorative events and celebrations continues through September of 2017. The regional workshops include presentations of funding opportunities. For schedule of workshops, August - September in Demopolis, Opelika and Gadsden, visit [www.alabama200.org/communities/communityworkshops/](http://www.alabama200.org/communities/communityworkshops/).



### Save The Date - Alabama Trust Fall Lyceum - A Bicentennial Ramble - September 22-24

Join the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation as we begin a three-year ramble through Alabama's past. Come with us to celebrate and commemorate 200 years of Alabama history with the Alabama Bicentennial Rambles, which begin this fall.

During the fourth weekend in September, Bicentennial Ramblers will explore the early history of the Poarch Creek Indians and frontier settlers with a visit to the reconstructed Fort Mims - the site of the massacre that ignited the Creek Wars. Oral histories told by descendants of settlers and a tour of the Poarch Creek Indian Museum will bring to life the culture and heritage of those living in the early days of Alabama as a territory and state. Glimpses of Alabama's early Creek culture at the Baldwin County Bicentennial Park includes re-constructed structures of early tribal life. Ramblers will end their excursion into Alabama's frontier history with a seafood buffet at the Stage Coach Restaurant. Diners will be entertained by stories of the Old Federal Road, Alabama's first

interstate highway, which brought frontiersmen to Alabama's shore and Black Belt lands.

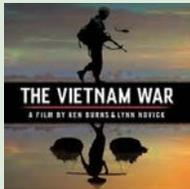
For those interested in extending their Ramble excursion, maps for self-guided tours will be included in the Bicentennial Ramble packet. Watch for program and registration information to be posted September 1 to [www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info).

## Hold the Date - 6th Annual Preservation Roundtable & Luncheon - January 18, 2018

Mark calendars now for the 6th Preservation Roundtable and Luncheon. All who are interested in preserving Alabama's historic places, artifacts and culture are welcome to attend this one-day event. Location: Alabama Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington Ave., Montgomery. Sponsors: Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation; Alabama Bicentennial Commission; Alabama Department of Archives and History.

## EVENTS

### Lee County



### Tuesday, August 29, 6:00 p.m. - Preview Screening, *The Vietnam War* & Panel Discussion

A premier screening of excerpts from the highly anticipated award-winning Ken Burns' documentary, *The Vietnam War*. Ken Burns and Lynn Novick's ten-part, 18-hour documentary tells the epic story of one of the most consequential, divisive, and controversial events in American history. Visceral and immersive, the series explores the human dimensions of the war through revelatory testimony of nearly 80 witnesses from all sides - Americans who fought in the war and others who opposed it, as well as combatants and civilians from North and South Vietnam. The documentary includes rarely seen and digitally re-mastered archival footage from sources around the globe, photographs taken by some of the most celebrated photojournalists of the 20th Century, historic television broadcasts, evocative home movies, and secret audio recordings from inside the Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon administrations. A panel discussion moderated by Dr. Blake Busbin, Auburn High School, Veterans Project, will follow the screening. Admission: Free. Location: Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities, Pebble Hill, 101 S. Debardeleben Street, Auburn. Sponsors: Alabama Public Television (APT); Auburn University, College of Arts & Humanities. For information about screenings in Birmingham, Huntsville and Montgomery, visit [www.aptv.org/Events/index.asp](http://www.aptv.org/Events/index.asp).

*The Vietnam War* series will begin airing statewide on APT, Sunday evening, September 17.

### Madison County

### Tuesday, August 15, 6:00 p.m. - Preview Screening, *The Vietnam War*

A premier screening of excerpts from the highly anticipated award-winning Ken Burns' documentary, *The Vietnam War*. Ken Burns and Lynn Novick's ten-part, 18-hour documentary tells the epic story of one of the most consequential, divisive, and controversial events in American history. Visceral and immersive, the series explores the human dimensions of the war through revelatory testimony of nearly 80 witnesses from all sides - Americans who fought in the war and others who opposed it, as well as combatants and civilians from North and South Vietnam. The documentary, a ten-year project, includes rarely seen and digitally re-mastered archival footage from sources around the globe, photographs taken by some of the most celebrated photojournalists of the 20th Century, historic television broadcasts, evocative home movies, and secret audio recordings from inside the Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon administrations. Cash Bar: 5:00 p.m. Admission: Free. Location: US Space Rocket Center, 1 Tranquility Base, Huntsville. Sponsors: Alabama Public Television (APT); US Space & Rocket Center. For reservations, email [carmenm@spacecamp.com](mailto:carmenm@spacecamp.com). For information about screenings in Auburn, Birmingham and Montgomery, visit [www.aptv.org/Events/index.asp](http://www.aptv.org/Events/index.asp).

*The Vietnam War* series will begin airing statewide on APT, Sunday evening, September 17.

## Mobile County



### Tuesday, August 12 - USS ALABAMA Living History

See the USS ALABAMA Living History Crew aboard ship. The crew will reenact life aboard ship during WWII. Observe emergency drills, call to battle stations, air attacks by vintage enemy airplanes and daily jobs. Hear the 20mm and 40mm guns fire! Learn about radio operations from the Deep South Armature Radio Club. Air attack scheduled at 1:00 p.m. on the main deck. Location: USS ALABAMA Battlefield Memorial Park,

2703 Battleship Parkway, Mobile. For admission and event information, visit [www.ussalabama.com/events/](http://www.ussalabama.com/events/).

## Montgomery County



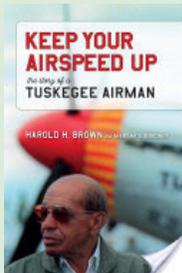
### Tuesday, August 1 - Sunday, September 10 - Exhibition, *Sketching the Skies: Penrose Vass Stout, Alabama's WWI Artist-Aviator*

Montgomery native son Penrose Vass Stout left a richly illustrated history of his service as a World War I aviator through his sketchbook and his letters home. A member of the 1st Pursuit Group, 27th Aero Squadron; he was shot down near Charny during the Meuse-Argonne

Offensive in September 1918 and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for attacking a German artillery installation and battling five enemy pilots. Grandson Nathaniel Stout donated his grandfather's sketchbook and letters to the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Exhibited for the first time during the centennial of World War I, this unparalleled collection features detailed sketches of military training, humorous aspects of camp life, the architecture of the French countryside, and Stout's view from the cockpit. Together, they provide an honest, deeply personal glimpse of the wartime experience through Stout's unique artistic perspective. Admission: Free. Location: Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Museum Drive, Montgomery. Sponsors: Alabama Bicentennial Commission; Alabama Department of Archives and History. For more information, visit <http://mmfa.org/exhibitions/sketching-the-skies-penrose-vass-stout-alabamas-wwi-artist-aviator/>.

### Saturday, August 10, 9:00 a.m. - noon - Workshop, *African American Genealogy: The Basics and Beyond*

Learn how to effectively navigate potential research roadblocks and address challenges specific to African American genealogical research. Following the workshop, participants will have the opportunity to conduct hands-on research in the Archives' EBSCO Research Room. This workshop is suited for all levels of research experience. Location: Alabama Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington Ave., Montgomery. For more information and fee, call 334-242-4364 or visit, <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ee950s72c9328a75&llr=rmg54lcab>.



### Tuesday, August 15, noon - 1:00 p.m. - Book Talk & Screening

Co-authors Harold Brown and Marsha Bordner will discuss their publication *Keep Your Airspeed Up: The Story of a Tuskegee Airman*. Brown flew 30 missions as a bomber-escort fighter pilot, was shot down on a strafing mission and held as a German POW. Liberated by General George Patton's forces in 1945, he continued to serve in the U.S. Air Force, retiring in 1965 as a Lieutenant Colonel. The newly-released memoir by Brown and his wife Bordner chronicles his wartime experiences as one of the famed Tuskegee Airmen, fighting two wars at once: one against Hitler's fascist regime overseas and one against racial segregation at home.

Admission: Free. Location: Alabama Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington Ave., Montgomery. For more information, visit [www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov).

### Thursday, August 17, noon - 1:00 p.m. - Food for Thought, Lunchtime Lecture Series

Presented by Brent Aucoin, *Thomas Goode Jones and the Quest for Racial Justice* in the New South. Jones' career reflects the unsettled history of Alabama and the Deep South at the turn of the

twentieth century. A Civil War hero, Jones served as governor from 1890 to 1894, fighting tenaciously against efforts to disenfranchise African Americans. His efforts garnered the attention of Booker T. Washington and Theodore Roosevelt, who made Jones a federal judge in 1901. Admission: Free. Location: Alabama Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington Ave., Montgomery. Sponsor: Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. For more information, visit [www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov).



### Tuesday, August 22, 6:00 p.m. - Exhibition & Preview Screening, *The Vietnam War*

Recently acquired artifacts and records related to the experiences of Alabamians during the Vietnam War from the Alabama Archives' collection will be on display at the premiere screening of excerpts from the highly anticipated award-winning Ken Burns' documentary, *The Vietnam War*. Ken Burns and Lynn Novick's ten-part, 18-hour documentary tells the epic story of one of the most consequential, divisive, and controversial events in American history. Visceral and immersive, the series explores the human dimensions of the war through revelatory testimony of nearly 80 witnesses from all sides - Americans who fought in the war and others who opposed it, as well as combatants and civilians from North and South Vietnam. The documentary includes rarely seen and digitally re-mastered archival footage from sources around the globe, photographs taken by some of the most celebrated photojournalists of the 20th Century, historic television broadcasts, evocative home movies, and secret audio recordings from inside the Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon administrations. Admission: Free. Location: Alabama Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington Ave., Montgomery. Sponsors: Alabama Department of Archives and History; Alabama Public Television (APT). For more information, visit [www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov). For schedule of other screening dates, locations and times, visit [www.aptv.org/Events/index.asp](http://www.aptv.org/Events/index.asp).

*The Vietnam War series will begin airing statewide on APT, Sunday evening, September 17.*

## NEWS



### Historic Mill Exhibits Alabama Artist

Last week the PBS NewsHour ran a segment about the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (Mass MoCA) located in the North Adams, a historic mill and manufacturing town. There among very large exhibitions sat Alabama self-taught artist Lonnie Holley talking about his art to the PBS journalist Jeffrey Brown. What viewers learned was that some things can be adapted, such as historic textile mills, and some things can be learned from neighbors - even those more than 1,200 miles away. The old 19th century factory, now re-purposed as the a very large venue for contemporary art, has become the economic force revitalizing this New England town that once lay dying when the textile and manufacturing industries went elsewhere. Now an up-and-coming creative community, mill village bungalows are repurposed for overnight stays for museum and heritage tourists and other once-silent industrial buildings are home to artists and their studios.

Massachusetts is not alone in this trend of re-purposing industrial buildings into arts venues. Huntsville has two such with the Merrimack Hall Performing Arts Center, formerly the textile plant of the Merrimack Manufacturing Company of Lowell, Massachusetts and Lowe Mill Arts & Entertainment, an old cotton mill of the Lowe Manufacturing Company, also of Massachusetts. In the Black Belt, the Arts Revive building is an art gallery contributing to the economic development of Selma. It began life as the Carneal Auto Service Building.

The lesson learned is why demolish an old building, when it can contribute to the arts, culture and economic life of a community? Or to quote an often used NewsHour phrase, "making sense of cents" seems to tell us that old buildings are not worthless - just the opposite.

For the PBS NewsHour interview, visit [www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/can-contemporary-art-mecca-anchor-industrial-town/](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/can-contemporary-art-mecca-anchor-industrial-town/).

## Alabama Mourns Two Beloved Preservationists

During the month of July, two of Alabama's beloved and revered stalwarts of historic preservation died. Of **Gwyndolyn (Gwyn) Turner**, *The Birmingham News* and *The Demopolis Times* wrote "with keen intellect and extraordinary vision, Gwyn championed historic preservation in Alabama and throughout the South. She spearheaded many efforts, including the preservation of Bluff Hall, the acquisition of Lyon Hall and the move of the Public Library to the (historic) Ulmer Furniture Store in downtown Demopolis." In 2004, she was awarded a Lifetime Achievement award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and was named Alabama's Grande Dame of Historic Preservation." The Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation's "Gwendolyn C. Turner Award" honors her service to the preservation of Alabama's historic places. The Gwyn Turner Preservation Fund at the National Trust for Historic Preservation pays tribute to her commitment to historic preservation by awarding grants for consulting and planning needs for preservation projects in Alabama.

**Robert Thrower**, the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for Alabama's Poarch Creek Indians, was well-known for his dedication to the preservation of historic sites and tribal culture and heritage. Since 1991 when he began working with the Poarch Creek Indians by following in the "footsteps of his mother Gail Thrower, the Tribe's first historian," Robert Thrower became known for his historic knowledge of the Tribe. His commitment to preservation included service on the United South and Eastern Tribes Culture and Heritage Committee, where he served from 2004-2008.



### *Making Alabama - A Bicentennial Traveling Exhibition*

As Alabamians, our story is being crafted by the moments that both define and refine who we are. A tightly woven tapestry of trials, triumphs and transformations, this vibrant tale celebrates our commonalities and honors our individualities. It is an epic adventure, twisting its way through the peaks and valleys of the past and taking hopeful turns for the future. Its plot is steeped in little-known secrets and monumental events forever carved in history. Its setting spans every county in the state and features a full and fascinating cast of local, unsung heroes and world-famous champions of change.

For exhibition schedule, visit [www.makingalabama.org/schedule/](http://www.makingalabama.org/schedule/). Sponsors: Alabama Humanities Foundation in partnership with Alabama Department of Archives and History and the Alabama Bicentennial Commission.

*Excerpted from the Alabama Humanities Foundation website, Making Alabama.*

### *In Celebration of Alabama's Justices - An Alabama Bicentennial Exhibition*

Coming in 2019, a traveling exhibition *Alabama Justice: The Cases and Faces that Changed a Nation* will tour the state during the final year of Alabama's bicentennial commemorations. Based on the research and writings of Auburn University's Professor of Political Science Steven Brown, the exhibition about centers on three United States Supreme Court justices appointed from Alabama and eight landmark cases that arose from Alabama. *Alabama Justice* will make appearances in museums, libraries, universities and public buildings throughout the state. The three-dimensional multimedia exhibition is tentatively designed to have 35 display panels, five pop-up panels, video monitors and audio components to allow visitors to learn more about these cases, the justices, the Supreme Court and the Constitution. Brown is also working on an accompanying exhibition book. Sponsors: Alabama Humanities Foundation, Auburn University Intramural and College of Liberal Arts Summer Research grant programs.

## SHARE PRESERVATION NEWS AND STORIES STATEWIDE

Send historic preservation announcements, events and news to the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation at [alabamatrust@athp.org](mailto:alabamatrust@athp.org). Please submit information by August 20th for inclusion in the September issue of the Alabama Preservation E-Newsletter.



Join us on Facebook at  
[Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation](#)



Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation, UWA Station 45, Livingston, AL 35470

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward This Email to a Friend](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [alabamatrust@athp.org](mailto:alabamatrust@athp.org) in collaboration with



Try it free today