



April 2014

Volume 4 Number 4

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## Alerts



### **Alabama Preservation Conference 2014 Program Posted**

The **2014 Alabama Preservation Conference: Finding Your Historic Rhythm** program and registration form are posted to the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation website. Watch the mail for conference packets the second week of April. Early Bird Registration fee is available through Friday, April 18. For more information, see CONFERENCE NEWS or visit [www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info).

### **Call for Two-Minute Preservation Presentations - Songs of Success - Deadline April 14**

The Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation invites submissions of successful preservation projects to be presented during the Friday Luncheon of the Conference, April 25, at the 2014 Alabama Preservation Conference. Projects may include successful fundraising events, marketing campaigns, streetscape programs, historic site event/celebrations and restoration/re-adaptive projects. For more information, visit [www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info) or email [alabamatrust@athp.org](mailto:alabamatrust@athp.org).

### **Call for 2014 Preservation Awards Nominations - Deadline April 1**

Nominations are sought to honor preservation efforts in Alabama. Categories include awards for preservation projects in small towns, cities and downtowns; restoration projects; re-adaptive use projects and lifetime service. Award recipients will be recognized at the Alabama Preservation Conference. For more information and online nomination form, visit [www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info).

### **Conference Hotel Rate Deadline Extended to April 10**

Make your hotel reservations for the Alabama Preservation Conference now. For the conference hotel rate at \$119 per night, contact the Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa at (800) 593-6450. Ask for the group rate for Alabama Preservation Conference.



### Road Show Call for Volunteers

Alabama Public Television will host the Number One reality TV show this summer - everyone's long-standing favorite, *Antiques Roadshow*. The film crew and stars of *Antiques Roadshow* will be in Birmingham Saturday, June 21, to film for the 2015 season. More than 100 volunteers are needed to assist with the Roadshow production. Don't miss this opportunity to be on the inside of *Antiques Roadshow* by volunteering to help. For more information, visit <http://www.aptv.org/story.asp?StoryID=79>.

## Events

### MOBILE COUNTY

#### Saturday, April 5, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Mobile Medical Museum Girl Scout Patch Day

Girl Scouts, cadettes, ambassadors and seniors will experience firsthand the medical practices of our ancestors used. The day includes a scavenger hunt and tour to learn the significance of Mobile County's place in medical history. A special feature of this program will be the opportunity to do a "Take Action Project" with the USA Children's and Women's Hospital. Location: Mobile Medical Museum, 1664 Springhill Avenue, Mobile. For late registration availability, fee and other information, contact Mary Anne Brutkiewicz at [mbrutkiewicz@girlscoutssa.org](mailto:mbrutkiewicz@girlscoutssa.org) or call (800) 239.6636, extension 1202.

### MONROE COUNTY



#### Tuesday, April, 10:00 a.m. - On Sale General Admission Tickets for *To Kill A Mockingbird*

The Mockingbird Players of Monroeville open the 25th season of the acclaimed two-act play based on Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. The annual performance occurs at the historic Monroe County Courthouse, film site for the classic movie *To Kill A Mockingbird* starring Gregory Peck. Tickets by phone at (251) 575-7433 or walk-in only at the Monroe County Heritage Museum. For more information,

visit [www.monroecountymuseum.org](http://www.monroecountymuseum.org).

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY

#### Tuesday, April 1 - Wednesday, April 30 - Exhibition *Black Women During Reconstruction*

Exhibition includes mural *We Who Believe in Freedom Cannot Rest* by Vincent Morgan and juried works by NAAHBCU members. A Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture, free to the public, is scheduled for noon on Wednesday, April 9, "My Grandfather's Teacher" by Dr. Jackie Trimble. Location: National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African-American Culture, Alabama State University, 1345 Carter Hill Road, Montgomery. Admission: Free. For more information, email [civilrightscenter@alasu.edu](mailto:civilrightscenter@alasu.edu) or call (334) 229-4824.

#### Thursday, April 17, 8:30 a.m. - Noon - Civil Rights Symposium

The program "The Role of Montgomery in the Alabama Blacks' Struggle for Voting Rights" will include two panel discussions: "Student Activism in 1965" and "Alabama State University (ASU) and the Voting Rights Movement." Speakers and panelists include Willie Ricks, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC); Gwen Patton, former Senior Class president, Tuskegee Institute Advancement League; and Dorothy Frazier Piedrahita and Doug McCants, former ASU student leaders/SNCC. Location: Denise Chapman Auditorium, John L. Buskey Health Sciences Building, Alabama State University campus, Montgomery. Sponsor: National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African-American Culture. For more information, contact Barbara J. Weatherly

at [bweatherly@alasu.edu](mailto:bweatherly@alasu.edu) or visit [www.lib.alasu.edu](http://www.lib.alasu.edu).

### **Thursday, April 17, Noon - 1:00 p.m. - Architreasts: Food for Thought Lecture**

Presentation "The Resettlement of Jewish Refugees in Alabama, 1938 - 1941" by Dan Puckett. 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 [www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov).

## **TUSCALOOSA COUNTY**



### **Saturday, April 5 - Wednesday, April - Exhibition Museum on Main Street**

A traveling Smithsonian exhibition *The Way We Work* focuses on how Alabamians worked over a period of time and place. The exhibition highlights the work experience of Alabamians as a part of the national story. Enhancing the exhibition is an oral history component training local teachers and high schools students how to conduct interviews with local community members.

These oral histories, when collected, will assist in the documentation of Alabama's history.

Location: Northport Heritage Museum, 1991 Park Street, Northport. Sponsors: Alabama Humanities Foundation and Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service. For more information, visit <http://www.museumonmainstreet.org/theWayWeWorked/>.

## **SUMTER COUNTY**

### **Saturday, April 5, 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. - 2014 York Homecoming**

Join the City of York in celebrating 130 years of community. Beginning at 9:00 a.m., enjoy a variety of food and craft vendors; health program booths and free mini-art classes for all ages. Bring your dancing shoes and a chair as the downtown Music Fest street dance begins at 3:30 p.m. through 8:00 p.m. Local cooks can try their skills at the York Station Pie Baking Contest and Chili Cook-off. Location: Downtown York, Hightower Center Gazebo and First Avenue. Sponsor: City of York. For more information, call (205) 392-5231 or follow on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/YorkAlabama>.

### **Tuesday, April 8, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Black Belt Symposium**

The Black Belt Symposium promotes the unique life ways of Black Belt residents and celebrates the history of the region by emphasizing the literary contributions, sparking literary conversations and analysis, and introducing the public to the hidden vitality of the region. Location: Bell Conference Center, University of West Alabama, Livingston. Sponsors: Department of Languages and Literature, Center for the Study of the Black Belt, University of West Alabama. For more information, call (205) 652-3828.

### **Saturday, April 19, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Sucarnochee Folklife Festival**

The Sucarnochee Folklife Festival is dedicated to the preservation and celebration of the unique life ways of Black Belt residents with demonstrations of traditional crafts including pottery, metal works, quilting, and more from artists throughout the State. Bring a chair or blanket and enjoy live music and folksingers, storytelling, historical tours of local sites including a Walking Ghost Tour and tasty traditional food. Locals also vie for bragging rights in the Blue Ribbon competitions for pie baking, BBQ sauce and the cornbread cook-off. Location: Sumter County Courthouse Square, Livingston. Sponsors: Center for the Study of the Black Belt, University of West Alabama. For more information, call (205) 652-3828 or visit [www.centerforblackbelt.org](http://www.centerforblackbelt.org).



### **Saturday, April 19, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - *Sucarnochee Revue***

*The Sucarnochee Revue* celebrates the Folklife Festival by providing musical and literary artists from the Black Belt region, preserving original music and the works by original artists while capturing the evolution of that music and its current generation of performers. Join Jacky Jack White and guests for an evening of live entertainment.

Location: Bibb Graves Auditorium, University of West Alabama, Livingston. Sponsor: Center for the Study of the Black Belt, University of West Alabama. For more information, call (205) 499-9988 or visit [www.jackyjack.com](http://www.jackyjack.com).

## News

### CONFERENCE NEWS



### **Alabama Historical Association Conference - April 10 - 11**

Program highlights for annual conference of the Alabama Historical Association in Scottsboro include: workshop on making history public and tours of the historic Cowan House, Fort Harker, Russell Cave National Monument, Stevenson Railroad Museum and the Scottsboro-Jackson Heritage Center. For more information, contact Mark Wilson at [mwilson@auburn.edu](mailto:mwilson@auburn.edu) for visit

[http://issuu.com/markwilson2012/docs/spring\\_2014\\_aha\\_newsletter](http://issuu.com/markwilson2012/docs/spring_2014_aha_newsletter).

### **Alabama Preservation Conference: Finding Your Historic Rhythm - April 24 - 26**

The 2014 Alabama Preservation Conference will be rocking to the rhythm of historic preservation. The conference, scheduled for Thursday, April 24 through Saturday, April 26, will be held in the nation's rhythm and blues capital - the historic Shoals of Alabama. With the remarkable revival of the area and its influx of creative minds and forward-thinking community leaders and advocates, the Shoals is a living laboratory to examine the cultural and economic benefits of preservation.

The 2014 Alabama Preservation Conference has three very distinctive tracks for participants: Track 1 - *The Rhythm and Beat of Restoring Alabama: Historic Tax Credits and Economic Incentives*; Track 2 - *Main Street Plus and All That Jazz: Reviving Alabama's Historic Downtowns and the Power of Transformation*; and Track 3 - *Preservation's Solos: Sessions to Strengthen Our Skill Set*.

Track 1 - *The Rhythm and Beat of Restoring Alabama: Historic Tax Credits and Economic Incentives* features a hands-on workshop addressing the application process for Alabama's Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, complete with a full-complement of guest speakers discussing everything from planning successful projects, assembling application funding packages, meeting the Alabama Historical Commission's tax credit requirements, and an update on current legislation.

For Track 2 - *Main Street Plus and All That Jazz: Reviving Alabama's Historic Downtowns and the Power of Transformation* offers a full day with Main Street Alabama executive director Mary Helmer. This session includes the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Four-Point Main Street approach to downtown revitalization, a Social Media workshop, a panel discussion about business incubators and a walking tour of Main Street Florence businesses.

Track 3 - *Preservation's Solos: Sessions to Strengthen Our Skill Set* is made for those who enjoy exploring new concepts and ideas applied to historic preservation. Featured programs of this session include archiving and curating historic collections, a panel discussion about the benefits of heritage trails as cultural and economic engines as well an early glimpse at Alabama's forthcoming Bicentennial Celebration plans commemorating the 200th anniversaries of Alabama

becoming a U.S. Territory and state. A session on insuring historic properties is also on the slate.

New at this year's conference is Saturday morning's look at the building trades and how education can support historic preservation through curriculum development and linkage. Guest speakers will address the importance and need for the building trades and share success stories from their communities.

Opportunities for fun fill the refrain of the conference with a Merchant Stroll and Open House hosted by Florence Main Street, bus tours of the Shoal's famous music industry sites and studios, tours of period house museums, and some truly delicious food highlight the organic farm-to-table movement - a growing culinary trend involving heritage farms throughout the nation, especially in Alabama.

For the Alabama Trust Benefit Dinner on Thursday evening, visit one of the state's most historic privately owned farms for an alfresco dinner featuring cocktails, a wild game sampling, and dinner prepared by one of the Shoals most talented chefs, Alan Phillips of Red Clay Epicurean. Tickets are \$75 per person and reservations are required.

Don't miss the Friday night special screening of the much-applauded documentary *Muscle Shoals on the UNA campus*.

### **National Trust for Historic Preservation's Partners Network Retreat - April 15 - 18**

Registration is now open for the NTHP's Partner Network Spring Retreat in New Orleans. This year's retreat is being held in conjunction with Tulane University School of Architecture's *Preservation Matters III - The Economics of Authenticity: How US Cities Have Reversed Decline through Historic Preservation Programs*. For more information, visit <http://architecture.tulane.edu/event/2013/699>. To register, click [here](#).



### **Third Alabama Trails Conference - April 10 - 11**

*Celebrating 75 Years of Service of Alabama State Parks* conference will be held at the beautiful Lake Guntersville State Park Lodge located in Guntersville. The conference will highlight Alabama's top trails from the initial development through the entire growth process. Participants will learn how trails become successful across the state and beyond. Speakers include Jeffrey Lusk of the nationally known Hatfield-McCoy Trails in West Virginia, William Prince of

the Great Allegheny Passage in Pennsylvania and Edwin McBrayer of the Path Foundation in Georgia. Learn more and register online by visiting [www.landoftrails.org](http://www.landoftrails.org).

### **Sixteenth Annual Your Town Alabama Workshop - May 14 - 16**

*Your Town Alabama* to be held at Camp McDowell offers a workshop of highly informative presentations and problem-solving activities for participants. It is also a great opportunity to network with other community leaders and make contacts with presenters who work throughout Alabama in the planning, design, economic development, and resource preservation fields. The workshop introduces small town and rural technical assistance providers and decision makers

to the role of design in community planning. Former participants remark that the workshop is fun and invigorating; it opens minds to many possibilities. Those interested in registering for *Your Town Alabama* should complete the application on-line by April 25, 2014. The number of participants accepted is limited, apply early. For the online application and information, visit [www.yourtownalabama.org/workshop/](http://www.yourtownalabama.org/workshop/).

## **PRESERVATION NEWS**



### Preservation of B.B. Comer Bridge - Update

Attorneys for the Comer Bridge Foundation (CBF) and The N. Skunk River Greenbelt Association (NSRGA) are drafting an agreement that will authorize the two bridge-preservation groups to work collaboratively to save, preserve and repurpose the B.B. Comer Bridge, which crosses the Tennessee River near Scottsboro. When agreement is reached, the organizations will collaborate in submitting a plan for purchase to the Alabama

Department of Transportation, which currently owns the bridge.

Public support and interest in plans for re-adaptive uses of the bridge includes, among other, organizations the Alabama Department of Commerce, Alabama Film Office and Made In Alabama. Planners envision the B. B. Comer Bridge as a venue supporting human and wildlife habitats.

The B. B. Comer Bridge, completed in 1930, is the last of the 15 memorial toll bridges enacted by legislation in 1927 and built by the Kansas City Bridge Company under contract with Alabama State Bridge Corporation. Selected for the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage in October 2013, the historic bridge is being submitted for national recognition by the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

### Form Based Code for Historic Downtown Development - Yea or Nay

The Downtown Mobile Alliance is definitely on the yea side of this debate. Recent forums on the application of a Form Based Code for the redevelopment of a downtown neighborhood argues for a broader, yet more comprehensive approach to city planning. According to the Downtown Mobile Alliance, Form Based Codes represent a change in approach by focusing as much on the physical form of a building as it does on its use. This focus enhances the pedestrian experience by creating harmonious transitions between intensities of uses; it fosters an environment that encourages innovation and connected communities. It is an approach being adopted by municipalities across the country determined to create vibrant, competitive 21st century cities. To learn more, visit <http://www.downtownmobile.org/downtown-news.php?detail=360>.

### Historic Mentone Spring Hotel Lost to Fire

The 130-year old Mentone Springs Hotel burned the night of March 1. Preservationists throughout Alabama mourn the loss of this grand nineteenth-century mountain resort as many fondly remember times spent in its embracing ambiance. The Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation was fortunate to visit this National Register site during its fall Lyceum Weekend in 2012. The loss of the hotel reminds us, once again, of the vulnerability of Alabama's historic places. Stories and memories of this historic icon can be posted

at [http://blog.al.com/breaking/2014/03/share\\_your\\_favorite\\_memories\\_o.html](http://blog.al.com/breaking/2014/03/share_your_favorite_memories_o.html).

For more information about the hotel and fire, visit

[http://blog.al.com/breaking/2014/03/owners\\_residents\\_mourn\\_130-yea.html](http://blog.al.com/breaking/2014/03/owners_residents_mourn_130-yea.html).



### Journey Proud Ends Season with Jubilee

Alabama Public Television (APT) documents Mobile Bay's *Jubilee* history and tradition. This month *Journey Proud* airs *Jubilee*, the last of nine episodes produced by Alabama Public Television (APT) and hosted by Alabama's beloved folklorist Joey Brackner. The series documents Alabama's historic, cultural traditions and sites. *Jubilee* premieres on Sunday, April 6 at 6:00 p.m. followed by a repeat of *Gourd Houses*, which kick-off the series.

*Jubilee* repeats on Monday, April 7 at 9:00 p.m. A second season of *Journey Proud*, to premiere in the fall, is in production. For more information, visit <http://journeyproudalabama.com/show/>.

### Muscle Shoals Documentary To Be Featured on APT and PBS

The internationally acclaimed documentary *Muscle Shoals* will be broadcast nationally on PBS on the *Independent Lens* series, Monday, April 21 at 8:00 p.m. The film explores the musical roots and legacy of the phenomena that came to be known as The Muscle Shoals Sound - a sound that brought performing artists from around the world (Greg Allamn, Bono, Aretha Franklin, Mick Jagger, Etta James, Alicia Keys, Percy Sledge and others) to record in Shoals' studios. *Muscle Shoals* also will air on Alabama Public Television on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, April 24, 26, and 27 and back to back with the *Alabama Music Hall of Fame 2014 Induction Ceremony*. For

more information, visit

[www.aptv.org/episodes/26739/Independent-Lens/Muscle-Shoals/](http://www.aptv.org/episodes/26739/Independent-Lens/Muscle-Shoals/) and [www.aptv.org/story.asp?SpotlightID=1244](http://www.aptv.org/story.asp?SpotlightID=1244).



## Web-Interactive Field Trips Teach Students about Alabama Civil Rights Events

The last of three live, webcasts using important Birmingham Civil Rights events is scheduled for April 10 at 10:00 a.m. and noon. Designed for middle and high school civics, government and history classes, *Project C: Lessons from the American Civil Rights Movement*, is a Web-interactive experience spanning three years - the first year featuring Birmingham events, the second and third years will focus on Selma and Montgomery events.

Produced by Alabama Public Television, *Project C* takes students and teachers online using historic Alabama Civil Rights events to teach the importance and practice of civic engagement. Participation in October and February webcasts totaled more than 382,000 in Alabama, 2.3M national, and 123,000 international students. For more information or to register for the April webcast, visit <http://aptv.org/Project-C/index.asp>.

## SHARE PRESERVATION NEWS AND STORIES STATEWIDE

### Send Event Information and News Stories to the ATHP

For spring issue of the Trustee newsletter, send information by April 15. For the ATHP's Preservation e-Newsletter, send submissions by the 20 of each month for publication in the next month's issue to [alabamatrust@athp.org](mailto:alabamatrust@athp.org). For May *Preservation E-newsletter*, send information by April 20.

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