February 2018

ALERTS

**Alabama 2018 Legislative Session**
Keep abreast of what’s happening regarding historic preservation in the Alabama legislature. For up-to-date news of bills forthcoming during the 2018 legislative session, visit the Alabama Historical Commission webpage at [www.preserveala.org/Legislative%20Updates/LegislativeUpdateWeek2.pdf](http://www.preserveala.org/Legislative%20Updates/LegislativeUpdateWeek2.pdf).

**Alabama Commemorates The Great War**
One hundred years later, Alabama's role in WWI is being commemorated during this Bicentennial year. In preparation, the Alabama Dept. of Archives and History has pulled stories about the war from its collection and assembled selected pieces into a commemorative script. Alabama communities with existing period train stations, places where the home troops departed for and returned from war, are invited to use the collected script for commemorative events. For more information, visit [www.worldwar1centennial.org/alabama-in-wwi-home](http://www.worldwar1centennial.org/alabama-in-wwi-home).

**Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation Announces Spring Bicentennial Ramble - May 4 & 5**
The Alabama Trust's spring Bicentennial Ramble goes to Huntsville, named one of America’s "Distinctive Destinations" by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Incorporated in 1811, Huntsville is one of Alabama's earliest towns and showcases an impressive array of historic sites ranging from planter's houses, to textile mills, to houses of worship, to NASA's Marshall Space Center. Mark your calendar now to join the ATHP in kicking off National Historic Preservation Month as we visit some of these properties that display Huntsville's indomitable spirit. Next month watch for Alabama Trust announcements with more details next month.

**Mark Calendars for the 17th Cultural Crossroads - Early Alabama Historians - February 10**
This year's annual symposium is part of a series of celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of Alabama's statehood. Sponsors: Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery; the Alabama Dept. of Archives and History; and the Caroline Marshall Draughan Center for the Arts & Humanities, Auburn University with support from the Alabama Humanities Foundation. Registration Deadline: February 1. For more information and to register, click [here](http://www.alabamatrust.info).

**Call for Nominations - 2018 Places in Peril**
Places in Peril, a joint program of the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation and the Alabama Historical Commission, annually recognizes Alabama's most endangered historic resources. Each submission is evaluated for its significance and threat. Please provide clear photographs of the site. Nominations require at least one visual representation for consideration. To nominate a site, go to [www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info) and click on the 2018 PIP link. Deadline for nominations: Friday,
ANNOUNCEMENTS for EDUCATORS

Alabama History Day Competition
See NEW section below, Alabama Humanities Foundation Announces

AHF-NEH Institute for Teachers - July 8 - 28 - "Stony the Road We Trod . . ."
Explore Alabama's Civil Rights Legacy in this National Teacher Institute during summer 2018. Teachers will work with scholars, travel to landmark sites, meet movement participants and develop a curriculum designed to help students understand and appreciate the role of the individual in making the promises of the Constitution a greater reality for all people. Dr. Martha Bouyer, Institute developer and director. Sponsors: The Alabama Humanities Foundations (AHF) with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). To learn more, visit www.stonytheroad.org. To apply, visit www.neh.gov/divisions/education/summer-programs.

Trekking Through History - Traveling Backpacks for Students
Teachers, reserve backpacks now for your classes. All backpacks correspond with the Alabama Course of Study standards and promote cross-curricular engagement. Backpacks support one of eight Alabama History Themes: Southeast Indians; Archaeology; Alabama Statehood; Cotton; Civil War, Civil Rights; World War I; and Flight & Space. For more information, visit www.archives.alabama.gov/backpack/index.cfm.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Learning Adventure - March 8
Streaming live, this second in a series of four Alabama Bicentennial web-interactive field trips will take students on visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. where they will learn about the war from a veteran visiting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Plaza. The Plaza includes the memorial wall, MIA-POW flag and Three Soldiers and Vietnam Women's sculptures. Student reporters will conduct interviews with veterans. From their classrooms, viewing students will experience a virtual draft, visit the memorial wall and consider the lasting effects of the Vietnam War. Students also will learn how to do an oral history interview with a Vietnam War veteran. A production of the APT IQ Learning Network, the learning adventure is suitable for 7th - 12th grade students and is free to educators, students and the public. Sponsors: Alabama Public Television; Alabama Bicentennial Commission; Alabama Humanities Foundation; Malone Family Foundation; U.S. Space & Rocket Center; and Wells Fargo. To register for The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Learning Adventure, visit www.aptiq.org/adventure.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR HISTORY & PRESERVATION

Alabama Bicentennial School
The Alabama Bicentennial Commission will award grants to 200 schools interested in being designated as an Alabama Bicentennial School. Applicant schools are asked to submit proposals for projects that connect classrooms to local communities. Grant awards will be $2,000 each for chosen schools. Final Proposal Deadline: March 31, 2018
Website: www.alabama200.org/educators/bicentennial-schools

Alabama Humanities Foundation
Funding for projects that serve a wide variety of audiences including library and museum patrons, teachers and scholars and youth, among others. Grants are awarded solely for public humanities projects. For examples of funding categories, visit http://www.alabamahumanities.org/grants/qualifications/. For questions, contact Thomas Bryant at (205) 558-3997 or tbryant@alabamahumanities.org. Final Proposal Deadline: February 15, 2018
Website: www.alabamahumanities.org/grants/
The EPT Fund of the Alabama Trust provides loans and small grants for the emergency rescue of significant properties and/or acquisition, covenanted resale, preservation and rehabilitation of threatened landmarks. Created in 2005 by funding provided through the Alabama Historical Commission, Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation and charitable contributions, the EPT accepts application requests year-round. Current projects include a loan for the preservation of the historic Selma Y.M.C.A. building and Fort Payne's Manitou Cave.

Deadline: Application Process Open
Website: www.alabamatrust.info/endangered-properties.php.

**EVENTS**

**Dallas County**

*Saturday, February 3, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. - Cemetery Walking Tour*

The decaying ruins of Old Cahawba's historic cemeteries provide an opportunity for a deeper understanding of the richly layered history surrounding the events that occurred at the site of Alabama's first state capital. Don't miss this one-hour guided tour to explore these early cemeteries and the personal accounts of many of those who lived in the town. Comfortable walking shoes recommended. Admission: $8 per person. Location: Old Cahawba Archaeological Park, 9518 Old Cahawba Road, Orrville. Sponsors: Alabama Historical Commission; The Cahawba Foundation. For more information, email Jonathon Matthews at cahawbam@bellsouth.net or call the park at (334) 872-8058.

**Montgomery County**

*Thursday, February 1 - Friday, January 12, 9 a.m. - 4: p.m. - Exhibition, Timeless Toys: Favorites from the Permanent Collection*

Travel in time through the eyes of children. Enjoy this trip exploring children's toys and how they have changed from one century to another and appreciating those that time has little changed. Admission: Free. Location: Loeb Reception Center, Old Alabama Town. 301 Columbus St., Montgomery. For more information, visit www.landmarksfoundation.com/events/current-exhibit/.

*Thursday, February 15, noon - 1:00 p.m. - Food for Thought Lecture Series*


**Sumter County**

*Tuesday, February 27 - 7:00 p.m. - Making of a Drum*

A look at the influence on history of drums and song. Admission: Non-members, $10 adults and $2 students; UWA students admitted free with student ID. Location: Livingston Civic Center, Country Club Road, Livingston. Sponsors: Sumter County Fine Arts Council. For more information, visit http://scfac.uwa.edu/scfacevents.htm.

**Talladega County**
Saturday, February 10, 5:30 p.m. - Valentine Mardi Gras Gala
Don't miss this 23rd Gala event billed as "the largest Mardi Gras party north of Mobile." The evening includes a "Big Easy" inspired dinner catered by Classic on Noble, silent and live auctions and the Gala band for the evening, The Peytones, performing dance hits from four decades. Tickets: $85 individual; $170 couple; $680 table of 8. Location: Fox Sports 1 Dome, Talladega Superspeedway, 3366 Speedway Blvd, Lincoln. Proceeds benefit the Historic Ritz Theatre of Talladega. Sponsor: Friends of the Historic Ritz Theatre. To purchase tickets online, visit www.talladegamardigras.com or call (256) 315-0000.

Walker County

Thursday, February 1 - Friday, February 23 - Smithsonian Water/Ways Exhibition
The exhibition, a traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street (MoMS) program examines water as an environmental necessity and a key element of Alabama history, culture and everyday life. Water/Ways brings forth public conversations local water stories - the history, diverse cultural links, land changes over time, current stresses on water - and most importantly, the future story being created. Admission: Free. Location: Bankhead House and Heritage Center, 800 7th Street West, Jasper. Sponsors: Alabama Humanities Foundation; Smithsonian Museum on Main Street. For more information, visit www.alabamahumanities.org/programs/museum-main/ and www.wacf.org/bankhead-house--heritage-center.html.

NEWS

Alabama Bicentennial Launches New PastPort Program
Last week, the Alabama Bicentennial Commission and Mercedes-Benz U.S. International, Inc. officially launched the Alabama Bicentennial PastPort program, a guide to historical destinations in each of Alabama's 67 counties. For each county, the PastPort includes historical information, original artwork and a list of destinations - historic sites, museums, landmarks - where heritage visitors can have their books stamped. For more information and to pre-order your Alabama Bicentennial PastPort, visit www.alabama200.org/participate/pastport.

Alabama Humanities Foundation Announces Alabama History Day
The Alabama Humanities Foundation (AHF) has a new partnership with Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM) to produce Alabama History Day, a statewide history competition for middle and high school students. This year's contest will be held at AUM on Friday, April 6. Division winners have the opportunity to compete in the National History Day Contest, June 10-14 at the University of Maryland. The theme for 2018 is Conflict and Compromise in History. For more information and registration, visit alabamahumanities.org/programs/alabamahistoryday or email T.C. McLemore at tcmclemore@alabamahumanities.org.

Gadsden Hosts Exhibition of Alabama's Architectural History

Mobile's Historic Seamen's Club Building Secures a Life Line
The Mobile Downtown Alliance reports that the long-vacant Seamen's Club building, known historically by that name, has a new lease on life. The Seaman's Club of Mobile originated in 1843
and was incorporated in 1845 to service seamen of all nationalities. The present building was completed at a cost of $1.3 M and opened October 3, 1949. At it's opening, it was considered the finest of its kind in the world with air-conditioned throughout. Developer Tellus Partners out of Atlanta will acquire the building, located at 350 St. Joseph Street, and plans to convert the former hotel rooms for sailors into 70 new downtown apartments. A $7M project, the conversion into apartments is expected to be completed in late 2018. To read more, visit www.fox10tv.com/story/36091782/downtown-mobile-eyesore-to-become-70-unit-apartment-building.

U.S. Mint Announces 2018 World War I Centennial Silver Dollar
The U.S. Mint released a new 2018 WWI Centennial Silver Dollar and companion silver medals to commemorate the 4.7M American men and women who served during The Great War. The commemorative coins and medals went on sale January 17. For more information, visit www.usmint.gov/coins/coin-medal-programs/commemorative-coins/world-war-i-centennial and https://catalog.usmint.gov/coins/commemoratives/.

SHARE PRESERVATION NEWS AND STORIES STATEWIDE
Send historic preservation announcements, events and news to the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation at alabamatrust@athp.org. Please submit information by February 20 for inclusion in the March issue of the Alabama Preservation E-Newsletter.

Join us on Facebook at Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation

Donate

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