

THE BLACK BELT CONNECTION

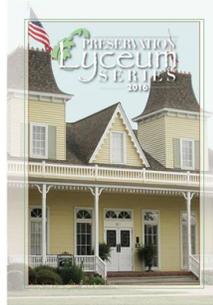
where education and community meet

The Division of Economic Development and Outreach at The University of West Alabama
Volume 6 - Number 4 - November/December 2016

ATHP'S FALL LYCEUM IN CULLMAN

Sat., Nov. 12 - Sun., Nov. 13

All day events



Join the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation for a weekend in Cullman, Alabama's authentic German Community which survived a catastrophic tornado in April of 2011, despite the destruction of 1000 buildings in the historic part of town. The Trust has partnered with the Cullman County Historical Society and Museum to produce a program that presents Cullman's history intertwined with the story of the storm that changed the face of their community. Everything in Cullman is designated as before or after the tornado. The tornado forced Cullman to rethink itself as a community. We examine how the community pieced together the fragments of their historic buildings and repurposed them to be an integral part of the community and commerce of Cullman.

This Fall Preservation Lyceum has much to offer preservation-minded and southern culture devotees. We hope to see you there! To register, visit www.alabamatrust.info.

Register Now: Certified Interpretive Guide Training Course in Montgomery

December 5-8

The Alabama Department of Archives and History, in partnership with the Black Belt Museum, Division of Economic Development and Outreach at the University of West Alabama and the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) is offering a training course for individuals who work at museum, parks, historic sites and help educate them about the importance of their site or institution.



FACEBOOK LINKS

[Division of Economic Development and Outreach](#)

[Center for the Study of the Black Belt](#)

[Black Belt Garden](#)

[Black Belt Archives](#)

[Black Belt Museum](#)

DEDO Partners

Alabama Black Belt Heritage Area

Alabama's Black Belt: Where the Culture is as Rich as the Land. The Alabama Black Belt Heritage Area comprises 19 counties in central and western Alabama that are working together to attain designation as a National Heritage Area. Visit them on Facebook [here](#).

Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation

The Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation is the voice for the future of Alabama's historic places. Visit them on Facebook [here](#).

Hometown

Hosted at the Department of Archives and History facility in Montgomery from Dec. 5-8.

The Certified Interpretive Guide program is designed for anyone who works with the public in an educational setting or interpretation.

The course combines the theoretical foundations of the profession with practical strategies in delivering quality interpretive programming to your visitors. The 32-hour course includes history, definition and principles of interpretation, techniques on how to make programs more purposeful, enjoyable relevant and organized, plus much more.

Taught by Black Belt Museum Public Historian Brian Mast, he has many years of experience working with a variety of public and private institutions including the National Park Service.

"This course is a great way to expand your knowledge of your profession while learning new skills and techniques to take home with you," said Mast.

Cost for the course is \$380 including certification or \$230 without certification. Participants must sign up through the NAI website (www.interpnet.com). For more information, contact Brian Mast at 205-652-5528 or bmast@uwa.edu.

UWA's Division of Economic Development and Outreach launches Certified Nursing Assistant Program



The University of West Alabama's Division of Economic Development and Outreach will host a Career Pathways for Youth Certified Nursing Assistant Program for qualifying young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 beginning Wednesday, Dec.7.

Participants who complete the program will be able to take the National Nurse Aide

Assessment, which certifies

individuals to work as nursing assistants in nursing homes, group homes, hospitals and other health care facilities.

In addition, participants will take the ACT Workkeys assessment to obtain National Career Readiness Certificate.

"There is a demand for qualified CNAs in our region and the state of Alabama," said Dr. Tina Jones,

Teams Exhibit was a winner!



UWA's Division of Economic Development and Outreach, in cooperation with Alabama Humanities Foundation, celebrated "Hometown Teams: How Sports Shape America," a traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street program, was held Sept. 14 through Oct. 31. Click [here](#) to view event opening pictures

As part of the exhibit, Woodlawn author, Todd Gerelds and NFL player, Freddie Scott, spoke with students before and after the showing of "Woodlawn," at University Cinema in downtown Livingston. Click [here](#) to view "Woodlawn" pictures.

The Black Belt Museum thanks everyone for helping to make this event a success!

Executive Director of UWA's Division of Economic Development and Outreach. "We are fortunate to be able to partner with UWA's Division of Nursing with this program. Their facilities and instruction will provide our participants with a great opportunity to receive hands-on instruction in a real world environment." This free program is possible through funding made available to the State of Alabama from the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The grantor is the U.S. Department of Labor and the program is administered by the Alabama Department of Commerce, Workforce Development Division, AWDA Section.

Interested participants should pick up an application and eligibility requirements at the Division of Economic Development and Outreach office located at the University of West Alabama, Kelly Land Hall, or go to www.centerforblackbelt.org to download information. To inquire by phone, call Jordan Mahaffey, program coordinator at (205) 652-3828 or email her at jmahaffey@uwa.edu.

Click [here](#) for CNA Application.

Food and Farm Forum at UWA on December 1

The Alabama Sustainable Agriculture Network's (ASAN) annual series of Regional Food & Farm Forums will convene farmers, gardeners, community leaders, and good food advocates to "cross-pollinate" and learn from one another, at The University of West Alabama (UWA) on Thursday, Dec. 1, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., at the Tutwiler Conference Center at Lyon Hall on the UWA campus. The Regional Forums held throughout the state are ASAN's anchor events series.



WHAT: Tour, lunch, roundtable discussions, networking, exhibits, and more!

WHO: Farmers (sustainable, organic, and family-scale), aspiring farmers, gardeners, homesteaders...

Plus, anyone interested in traditional skills and folkways (like seed saving and herbal medicine), rural communities, environmental justice, community health, alternative economies, and/or grassroots organizing!

COST: \$5 for ASAN members, \$20 for nonmembers. Scholarships available!

Registration required.

Open to all! Childcare provided (must pre-register).

Thursday 12/1/16
8:30am-4:30pm
Registration 8:30-9:00

Livingston, AL

Tutwiler Conference Center (Lyon Hall), Univ. of West Alabama

For more information and to register:

<http://asanonline.org/RFFF16>

UWA Division of Economic Development and Outreach

Sponsored By:



"We have exciting speakers and exhibits coming to campus for this exhibit," said UWA's Division of Economic Development and Outreach Executive Director Dr. Tina Jones. "Food connects us all. From economic development to quality of life, the foods we eat matter."

The Regional Forum is a training and networking event that brings together small-scale and sustainable farmers, gardeners, community leaders, and good food

advocates. Anyone interested in traditional skills and folkways (like seed saving and herbal medicine), rural communities, environmental justice, community health and alternative economies is invited to attend. The event consists of roundtable discussions on a wide variety of food- and farming-related topics, a tour, networking, exhibits, and a locally-sourced meal. Roundtable discussion topics will touch on everything from cooperatives to accessing capital, soil microbes to medicinal herbs.

According to Alice Evans, executive director of the Alabama Sustainable Agriculture Network, the Forum is planned in collaboration with a local planning committee, providing on-the-ground capacity for all aspects of the event planning process. This process ensures that the Forum event is grassroots, both reflective of and responsive to the community.

For more information on the Forum and to register, visit the following link: <http://asanonline.org/RFFF16/> or contact UWA's Director of Economic Development Allison Brantley at abrantley@uwa.edu or call (205) 652-3828.

Leadership Sumter Development Program underway



The University of West Alabama's Division of Economic Development and Outreach and Alabama Power are embarking on a Leadership Development Program: Leadership Sumter. It is the mission of Leadership Sumter to identify, educate and train potential and current leaders in Sumter County; to develop these leaders through an effective network and interchange of ideas; and to gain a better understanding of our economic, political and social conditions so that we progress by working together as a county.

The participants get a chance to meet regional and state leaders in fields such as economic development, healthcare, education, law enforcement, and government. This is a special opportunity for participants to enhance their leadership skills and help the citizens of our community achieve shared goals

through community and personal development.

Click [here](#) to view event pictures.

For more information, contact Allison Brantley at abrantley@uwa.edu.

UWA welcomes area mayors



The West Alabama Mayors Association held their October meeting on the UWA campus. UWA President Dr. Ken Tucker welcomed the group and UWA's Director of Economic Development Allison Brantley was the guest speaker. York Mayor and UWA Public Relations Specialist Gena Robbins was host for the bi-monthly meeting. The officials enjoyed a tour of Fort Tombecbe with guide, Assistant Professor of Anthropology Dr. Ashley Dumas. The visit completed with a tour of the Black Belt Museum's Hometown Teams exhibit where DEDO Executive Director Dr. Tina Jones gave a history of the exhibit.



UWA Division of Economic Development and Outreach |
centerforblackbelt@uwa.edu

Station 45 * Livingston, AL * (205) 652-3828