

Metropolitan Historical Commission

Newsletter ▪ November 2012



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MHC UPDATE

New! Caring for Davidson County's Cemeteries

Did you attend a living history tour at one of Nashville's historic cemeteries in October? From the City Cemetery to Mount Olivet, from Greenwood to Temple, Nashville's cemeteries offer a fascinating glimpse into our city's history any time of year!

In addition to these well-known cemeteries, as the Davidson County Cemetery Survey demonstrates (www.davidsoncocemeterysurvey.com), countless cemeteries of varying size are scattered across the county. If you have questions about how to best maintain your family graveyard or would like to know more about the symbolism and monument forms found there, check out our latest publication "Caring for Davidson County's Cemeteries." We've compiled our best tips and tricks for cemetery care and appreciation into one handy guide:

www.nashville.gov/mhc/docs/EnjoyingDavidsonCountysCemeteries.pdf. Need more in-depth guidance? Our website also features links to handy videos from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training and other organizations: www.nashville.gov/mhc/nashville_city_cemetery.asp.

IN THE NEWS

New! War Memorial Auditorium Documentary

The historic War Memorial Auditorium, long considered to be one of Music City's premier performance and civic venues, recently released a five-minute documentary to highlight the auditorium's deep connections to the city's musical and political history. The short film can be seen at the auditorium's new website, www.wmarocks.com.

Narrated by 650 AM WSM Radio personality Eddie Stubbs, the film is the result of a year-long research collaboration with numerous city and state archives and other partners. Over its five-minute run time, the film takes the viewer on an entertaining journey through the history of the auditorium from before its opening in the early 1900s, its dedication in 1925, the Nashville Symphony years, the Grand Ole Opry years, the countless political and civic events and, finally, the significant contribution

as a music venue for a broad spectrum of music artists and genres over the years.

For more information or request a copy of the documentary please contact Tony Marks at tmarks@tpac.org, or (615) 782-4095.

Since its dedication in 1925, the historic War Memorial Auditorium has become popular with artists and audiences for its world-class acoustics, open floor and seated configurations, and charming Neoclassical aesthetic. The venue has served as home to the Nashville Symphony (1925-1980) and the Grand Ole Opry (1939-1943), and it remains a premier concert venue for Nashville.

Ongoing! Metro at 50!

Metro at 50 is hosting a reception and celebration on Friday, November 2, 2012, to recognize all current and past members of the Metropolitan Council. Fifty years ago on this date Nashville residents elected the first Metropolitan Mayor and Council. The event will be held at the Nashville Public Library at 4:00 p.m., and Memphis City Mayor A.C. Wharton is the guest speaker. To RSVP, please call Tam Gordon at 880-3349 or email her at tam.gordon@nashville.gov.

Find "Metro at 50" on Facebook or visit www.MetroAt50.org to join in the celebration!

CONFERENCES, EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

New! Target Nashville: Middle Tennessee and the Cold War

*October 26 – November 16, 2012
Metropolitan Government Archives
3801 Green Hills Village Drive*

October marked the 50th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis, October 19-28, 1962. Stop by Metro Archives to view a new exhibit featuring President Kennedy's October 26th speech to the nation, plus see examples of the Civil Defense literature of the time as well as transcribed stories and anecdotes from Nashvillians who remember the event. The free exhibit is open during business hours, Monday-Friday.

New! Modern Home Tour

Saturday, November 3—11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Explore Nashville's modern residential architecture at your own pace on this self-guided tour. Properties are located across Nashville, from Kendall Drive to Eastland Avenue, and range in style from contemporary designs to historic Mid-Century Modern architecture, including the National Register of Historic Places-listed Dr. Richard and Mrs. Margaret Martin House. For tour information, including participating properties and ticketing details, visit <http://nashville.modernhometours.com>.

New! Buchanan Log House Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 3—10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
*Buchanan Log House
2910 Elm Hill Pike*
Enjoy a day at the Buchanan Log House and get a jump start on your holiday shopping. Shop handcrafted jewelry, stained glass art, dried flower arrangements, soaps, and other crafts. The admission fee of \$5.00 benefits the preservation of the Buchanan Log House. For more information, visit www.buchananloghouse.com or call

871-4524.

New! Garrison Days at Fort Negley

Candlelight Tour of Fort Negley

Saturday, November 3—7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Bring a flashlight and wear comfortable walking shoes. Suitable for all ages. Please contact the Fort Negley Visitors Center to make reservations (required).

Garrison Days at Fort Negley

Saturday and Sunday, November 3 and 4—10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This special two-day event will commemorate the Tenth Illinois' service at Fort Negley 150 years ago with living history encampments, infantry and artillery demonstrations, special presentations, and performances by the Battlefield Balladeers.

These events are free and open to the public. For more information and a detailed program schedule, contact Fort Negley Visitors Center at 862-8470 or find us on Facebook. Presented by the Tenth Illinois, Fort Negley Visitors Center, and Metro Parks.

New! First Tuesday at the Archives

Tuesday, November 6—2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Metropolitan Government Archives

3801 Green Hills Village Drive

The "First Tuesday at the Metro Archives" for November will feature Bill Traughber who will discuss his latest book, *Vanderbilt Basketball: Tales of Commodore Hardwood History*. Seasoned Nashville sports history researcher and Vanderbilt athletics historian Bill Traughber brings to life the star players, outstanding teams, beloved coaches and remarkable games that shaped this treasured institution. Presented by Friends of the Archives. This event is free and open to the public.

"First Tuesday at the Metro Archives" is always the first Tuesday of the month, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Please contact the Archives at 862-5880 or Ken.fieth@nashville.gov for more information.

***Be sure to "like" Metro Nashville Archives on Facebook!

New! In the Footsteps of Sergeant York

Opening November 8, 2012

Tennessee State Museum, Military Branch

War Memorial Building

Visit www.tnmuseum.org for branch hours.

Speaker's Forum, November 10—9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Fort Negley

1100 Fort Negley Visitors Center

In the Footsteps of Sergeant York opens at the Tennessee State Museum's Military branch on November 8, 2012. As a kick-off to the exhibit, Fort Negley will host a speaker's forum on November 10th from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. featuring the organizers of the expeditions to France to locate where Alvin York won his medal of honor, and the York exhibit. Dr. Stanley D. M. Carpenter, Professor of Strategy and Policy at the United States Naval War College, will discuss the American involvement in World War

One and the Meuse Argonne Offensive. Additional speakers include Dr. Tom Nolan, Dr. Michael Birdwell, and David Currey. The speaker's forum and the exhibit are sponsored by the Museum of the Military Experience. For more information about the exhibit or the speaker's forum, please contact David Currey at david@encoreinterpretive.net.

New! Institute of Classical Architecture and Art

Thursday and Friday, November 8 and 9, 2012

Nashville

The Tennessee Chapter of the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art will hold its third Annual Meeting on November 8 and 9; this year the meeting returns to Nashville. Join the state's foremost designers, builders, craftspeople, and artists for this annual celebration of timeless architecture and art. Participants will be treated to lectures by Tennessee State Museum Curator Jim Hoobler, Artist and Art Historian Ed Nash, and Hermitage Hotel controller and historian Tom Vickstrom. The keynote speaker will be ICAA Chairman and renowned architect Peter Pennoyer. Tickets are \$100 for ICAA members & employees of professional member firms; \$140 for non-members. For more information and to register, visit www.tennesseeclassicist.org.

New! Nashville City Cemetery Civil War Tour

Saturday, November 10—10:00 a.m.

Nashville City Cemetery

1001 Fourth Avenue South

Learn more about this free tour at www.thenashvillecitycemetery.org

New! 25th Annual Seminar of the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society

Saturday, November 17—9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Brentwood Public Library

8109 Concord Road, Brentwood

Sponsored by the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, the Tennessee Historical Society, and the Brentwood Historic Commission, the all-day seminar will address "Discovering Our Ancestors: Maps & Newspapers." Featuring guest speakers Pamela Boyer Sayre, CG, CGL, and Richard G. Sayre, CG, M.A., instructors and lecturers at Samford University, AL, the program will include presentations on Google Earth for Genealogists, Using Topographic and Other Maps, and Newspapers & Periodicals at the Library of Congress. Charge: \$40.00 for Members, \$45.00 Non-Members. Lunch included—if registered before the deadline. Visit www.mtgs.org for registration and event details.

Ongoing! Civil War Book Series

This fall the Tennessee Historical Society will release two new titles in the series, *Tennessee in the Civil War*, a twelve-volume series drawn from the best of almost 400 articles on the war from the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, which were published between 1942 and 2010. Look for Volume 4, *The Battle of Stones River: The Fight for Middle Tennessee* in mid-October, and Volume 5, *Nathan Bedford Forrest and His Military Campaigns* in mid-November. January 2013 will see the release of Volume 6, *The Fight for Freedom: African Americans in the Civil War and Reconstruction*.

To learn more about the series and to purchase your copy of one or more volumes, please visit www.tennesseehistory.org/TennesseeintheCivilWar.htm or email info@tennesseehistory.org

Save the Date! Nashville Conference on African-American History and Culture:
February 8, 2013—Topics will include the Emancipation Proclamation, 50th
Anniversary of the Metropolitan Government, and more!

The Metropolitan Historical Commission publishes this monthly newsletter to keep you informed on events and happenings at the MHC. If you have questions, comments, or news to pass along, please email scarlett.miles@nashville.gov, with E-NEWS in the subject line.

Metropolitan Historical Commission

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Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County • Karl F. Dean, Mayor