

History Gram
The Newsletter of the
Metropolitan Historical Commission



March 2015

In This Issue:
**Old House Fair, 40th Annual Preservation Awards,
Memorial Day Dash 5K, River Talks
and more...**

What's New with the MHC and MHZC?

This Saturday! 2015 Old House Fair

Saturday, March 7, 2015

Sevier Park Community Center

3021 Lealand Lane

The Metropolitan Historical Commission Foundation and partners will host the 2015 [Old House Fair](#) on Saturday, March 7, 2015 at the Sevier Park Community Center, 3021 Lealand Avenue. The Old House Fair is a FREE day-long festival showcasing new ideas, practical advice, innovative materials, and quality services for homeowners to learn more about sustainable and historic products and services, and gain tips for planning and executing residential preservation projects.

The OHF will include presentations and hand-on demonstrations, such as:

- enhancing energy efficiency
- funding your rehab
- evaluations of defining features and replacement materials
- dealing with toxic substances such as lead paint and asbestos
- repairing windows and faux painting
- children's activities

Exhibitors will include companies, retailers, and artists experienced in working with homes of many ages and styles, from Antebellum to Mid-century Modern. As always, we'll have children's activities for young preservationists and great raffle items from our exhibitors and sponsors. Need a quick snack or staying for lunch? We'll have one of Nashville's most popular food trucks on hand, too.

If you have any questions, please contact Robin Zeigler at robin.zeigler@nashville.gov or 615-862-7970 ext. 79776.

Ongoing!

Love Research, Writing, and Nashville History? If so, Nashville Needs YOU!

The Metropolitan Historical Commission and Davidson County Historian, Dr. Carole Bucy, are teaming up with other Metro departments including the Mayor’s Office, Information Technology Services, Metro Government Archives, and the Nashville Public Library to embark upon a comprehensive on-line **Encyclopedia of Nashville and Davidson County**. We need your help! If you are interested in researching and writing one or more articles of approximately 500 words pertaining to people, places, or events significant in Nashville history, sign up to become a writer! Check out <http://writers.nashville.gov> for more information and the “Guidelines for Writers” -- then email encyclopedia@nashville.gov to sign up!

Save the Date! Memorial Day Dash 5K

Monday, May 25, 2015

Race begins at 8:00 am at Greer Stadium

Join us for a morning of food, fun, and patriotism at the annual [Memorial Day Dash 5K](#) to raise money for the restoration of the Nashville City Cemetery. Early registration (through 4/30) is \$25, May1- May 23 is \$30 and day of registration is \$35. Door prizes, individual race winners and Best Patriotic running attire will all be awarded. To register, click the link above, go to www.active.com or stop by the MHC office. For more information, contact Peter Pressman at (615) 293-8862.

2015 PRESERVATION AWARDS

New! Call for Nominations: 2015 Preservation Awards

We are now accepting nominations for the 2015 Preservation Awards. We’ll provide information about judging and the awards ceremony as it becomes available. In the meantime, feel free to nominate your favorite preservation project as soon as it is complete! Property categories include residential, infill, commercial, industrial-engineering, religious, and educational.

The deadline to submit nominations is **Friday, March 13, 2015**, so please plan accordingly. We will not extend the deadline for photographs or incomplete nomination packets.

To learn more about the awards program and to request a nomination form, please visit [Preservation Awards](#) or email jessica.reeves@nashville.gov

AROUND TOWN

Upcoming Events! River Talks—History of the Cumberland: An Educational Series at the Cumberland River Center

Lucius E. Burch III River Center at the Cumberland River Compact

The Bridge Building

2 Victory Avenue Suite 300

Fort Nashborough: Past, Present, and Future

March 5 at 11:30 am

We are pleased to co-host this panel discussion with the Daughters of The American

Revolution on the planned Fort Nashborough interpretive center. The discussion will be facilitated by Dr. William McKee, Chair of Metro Historical Commission. On our panel, David Currey, Principal of Encore Interpretive Design, historian Paul Clements, Tim Walker, executive director of Metro Historical Commission, and Chris Koster, Riverfront Park planner. They will discuss the importance of this historic site on Nashville's downtown riverfront. Come and learn about Fort Nashborough's important past, the current status of the planned interpretive center, and the progress we can expect to see in the coming years! *There are still a few seats available, so RSVP soon to reserve your spot!*

Sacred Waters: The Preservation of Native American Resources Along The Cumberland River

March 19 at 12:00 pm

Pat Cummins, a local Cherokee descendant and current President of the Native History Association of Nashville, will discuss the decades of struggle by local Native Americans to preserve and protect the last vestiges of the sacred ancestral sites along the Cumberland River, and the importance of preserving what remains of these irreplaceable cultural resources.

For more info and to RSVP, please visit www.cumberlandrivercompact.org/river-talks or call 615-837-1151.

Save the Date! Architecture and Tree Drawing Workshop with Charles Brindley

Saturday, March 28th 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Belmont Mansion

Enjoy a special workshop with renowned artist, Charles Brindley, in connection with his exhibition, Drawings and Paintings of Belmont Mansion, at Gallery 121 in the Leu Center for the Visual Arts. Spend several hours learning drawing techniques from an accomplished artist on Belmont Mansion's historic grounds.

The day will begin with a presentation discussing 'branchology' of trees, linear and dimensional space perspective, fundamentals of drawing, and creative process. If weather allows, a majority of the day will be outside, working directly from trees and/or architecture. The class will then return inside to concentrate on refining skills and techniques. Charles welcomes all levels of artistic development, from those who are beginning to artists with experience. You may bring your own drawings supplies or use materials provided for you.

Tickets are \$60. Click the link below to make your reservation.

<https://eventbrite.com/event/15623696898/> or call Kate Wilson at 615-460-5459.

Save these Dates! Events at Two Rivers Mansion

The Friends of Two Rivers Mansion have released their list of scheduled public events for 2015. The next community-wide event will be Phil the House with Art & Friends scheduled for May 17, with a special Garden Dedication to reveal the restored boxwood maze and the repaired fountain. Music at the Mansion will return with three dates on June 18, July 18 and August 15, and the Nashville Symphony is also booked to return for a special performance on Thursday, June 18. Halloween at the Mansion is slated for October 24 and Holiday Historical Tours will be on December 11, 12, and

13. Tours are offered throughout the year. A complete listing of those dates and times may be found on the [website](#).

Proceeds raised will fund the restoration of the mansion. Friends of Two Rivers Mansion is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization therefore all membership fees are tax deductible. For more information for upcoming events and membership visit the website at www.friendsoftworiversmansion.org or contact Events Manager Laura Carrillo at 615-862-8431 ext. 233.

Exciting News! Historic Bridge Abutments to be Documented by Federal Program

The Native History Association is excited to announce that the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) will be sending noted photographer Martin Stupich to photograph and document the two surviving stone abutments of the former 1823 “Stone Bridge” on the banks of the Cumberland River. The bridge was on the route used by thousands of Native Americans on the Trail of Tears in 1838.

The 1823 covered bridge was the first to span the Cumberland River, and is a rare example of a bridge structure designed by Lewis Wernwag of Philadelphia, Penn. The bridge was in use until 1851, when it was demolished to make way for a newer, taller bridge at the site of the modern Woodland Street Bridge, located just one block south of the former 1823 structure.

Both historic 1823 abutments are located on a state easement owned by the Tennessee Department of Transportation, adjacent to the Victory Memorial Bridge. The west abutment is visible from the Gay Street downtown Nashville greenway, just a few feet south of Victory Memorial Bridge near the green chain link safety fence. TDOT is also currently working with the National Park Service to design and place official Trail of Tears Interpretive signage at the site. In 2014, the Metro Historical Commission honored the Native History Association for its work on the Trail of Tears with its Commissioners’ Award at the 39th Annual Preservation Awards. Congratulations on another milestone and we look forward to learning more about this great project!

For more information about the Native History Association and the Trail of Tears in Nashville, please contact Pat Cummins at pbctsalagi@aol.com.

Back by Popular Demand! Registration Now Open! Nashville 101B: Nashville History- The Civil War Years

*Thursdays in April—10:30 a.m. to Noon
Fort Negley Visitors Center
1100 Fort Negley Blvd.*

Would you like to learn more about Nashville history? Davidson County Historian Dr. Carole Bucy will teach **a series of classes to help Nashvillians tie the historic places they see around town to the story of our history**. As the 150th anniversary commemoration of the Civil War is now winding down, Dr. Bucy will provide an in-depth look at Nashville during the decade from 1860-1870, looking at how the coming of the war affected Nashvillians as the state debated secession.

Classes will be held at the Fort Negley Visitors Center for four consecutive Thursdays, beginning on April 9, 2015 (9, 16, 23, and 30), from 10:30 to noon. Space is limited, so reservations must be paid in advance. The cost is \$25.00. All proceeds for this series will benefit the *Encyclopedia of Nashville and Davidson County* project.

Session 1: Secession & the Call to War

Session 2: Bad News Comes Quickly - The Union Occupation of the City Begins

Session 3: Living and Working in Occupied Nashville, 1861-1865

Session 4: The Meaning of the End of the War for Nashville

To register, make your check payable to the MHC FOUNDATION and mail or hand-deliver it along with your [registration form](#) to the MHC Foundation: 3000 Granny White Pike, Nashville, TN, 37204. For registration confirmation, please include an email address (preferred) or phone number with your check. Paying for multiple participants? Please include everyone's name and contact information with your check. Have questions? Please call the Historical Commission at 615-862-7970.

Ongoing! Historic Home for Sale

We rarely, if ever, feature historic home listings in our monthly newsletter, but 3111 Hydes Ferry Road is a special case, so we are making an exception! If you are looking for your next preservation project, consider the Stephens House on Hydes Ferry Road. Built by the Hyde Family, this amazing antebellum home totals 2,580 sq. ft. on a lovely .98 acres. Additionally, the home is known as one of the houses used by Jesse and Frank James during their time in the Bordeaux and Jordonville communities. The owner is very interested in selling the house to a preservation-minded individual or group. The sale price is \$75,000. For more information, call Barbara Wayman at 615-293-1882. Photos are available on our [Facebook page](#) or by request. As always, MHC/MHNC staff is available to offer preservation advice and resources, such as those offered at the annual [Old House Fair](#).

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 jessica.reeves@nashville.gov with E-NEWS in the subject line.

Metropolitan Historical Commission

Sunnyside in Sevier Park • 3000 Granny White Pike • Nashville, Tennessee 37204 • Phone: 615.862.7970

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