Five Elected to Mississippi Hall of Fame

The first woman elected lieutenant governor of Mississippi, a pioneering transplant surgeon, a civil rights leader and legislator, the “king of rock and roll,” and a successful journalist and women’s rights advocate have been elected to the Mississippi Hall of Fame. The board of trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History chose Evelyn Gandy, James Hardy, Aaron Henry, Elvis Presley, and Ida B. Wells as the 2016 inductees at a special December board meeting.

“The contributions and accomplishments of these five Mississippians are astonishing, and a true testament to the character of the people of the state,” said MDAH director Katie Blount. “The Hall of Fame is enriched by the addition of these men and women.”

Evelyn Gandy

Edythe Evelyn Gandy was the most successful woman in the history of Mississippi politics. Gandy was born in 1920 in Hattiesburg and attended Mississippi Southern College (now the University of Southern Mississippi). In 1943 she graduated from the University of Mississippi School of Law. Gandy was elected to the state legislature in 1947 and went on to become the first woman to serve as assistant attorney general, commissioner of public welfare, state treasurer, commissioner of insurance, and lieutenant governor. She ran unsuccessfully for governor twice. During her decades of public service Gandy supported advances in education, women’s rights, health care, and other human services. She died in 2007.

William “Brother” Rogers, associate director of the Stennis Center for Public Service in Starkville, nominated Gandy for the Hall of Fame. “Evelyn Gandy was the most successful woman in the history of Mississippi politics. Gandy was born in 1920 in Hattiesburg and attended Mississippi Southern College (now the University of Southern Mississippi). In 1943 she graduated from the University of Mississippi School of Law. Gandy was elected to the state legislature in 1947 and went on to become the first woman to serve as assistant attorney general, commissioner of public welfare, state treasurer, commissioner of insurance, and lieutenant governor. She ran unsuccessfully for governor twice. During her decades of public service Gandy supported advances in education, women’s rights, health care, and other human services. She died in 2007.

$2M in Preservation Grants Awarded Statewide

At a special meeting on December 2 the MDAH board of trustees awarded nearly $2 million in grants from the Community Heritage Preservation Grant (CHPG) program to seventeen preservation and restoration projects throughout the state. The CHPG program, authorized and funded through the Mississippi Legislature, helps preserve and restore historic courthouses and schools and, in Certified Local Government communities, other historic properties. Over the life of the program the department has awarded more than $37 million to 300 projects.

“The Legislature has saved hundreds of significant Mississippi properties through this program,” said MDAH Historic Preservation division director Jim Woodrick. “The Department of Archives and History is grateful for the Legislature’s support and pleased to be able to help preserve these local treasures.”

The grant awards are as follows:

- Temple B’nai Israel, Natchez, Adams County—$105,795. For roofing and electrical repairs and interior rehabilitation.
- Temple B’nai Israel, Natchez, Adams County—$105,795. For roofing and electrical repairs and interior rehabilitation.
- Shaw High School, Shaw, Bolivar County—$120,000. For interior restoration, structural stabilization, and conducted facilities study.
- Okolona Elementary School, Okolona, Chickasaw County—$117,600. For building renovation and restoration of barrel roof.
- West Point Colored High School, West Point, Clay County—$67,210. For repair of roofing.
the most significant trailblazer for women political leaders in Mississippi and a strong, effective leader for us all,” Rogers said. “This honor is a fitting tribute to her lifetime of public service. Her outstanding career shows why we need more women to seek public office in our state.”

James Hardy
James D. Hardy was born in 1918 in Newala, Alabama. He earned his MD in 1942 from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, then served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps during World War II. In 1955, Hardy became the founding chairman of surgery at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. In 1963 he led the team that performed the world’s first lung transplant. The following year Hardy and his team transplanted the heart of a chimpanzee into a dying man, predating the first human-to-human heart transplant by three years. Hardy authored 24 books and 466 papers, while also producing more than 200 medical films. He retired in 1987 from UMMC and died in 2003.

“Dr. James Hardy was a towering figure in the history of medicine. He was one of the world’s pioneers in the field of organ transplantation, boldly performing two historic, first-of-their-kind transplants right here at UMMC,” said Dr. LouAnn Woodward, dean of the UMMC School of Medicine. “He was also in many ways the father of professional surgery in Mississippi, training several generations of surgeons who worked in every corner of the state.”

Aaron Henry
Aaron Henry was the longest serving, most sustained leader for interracial politics and social change in Mississippi history. Henry was born in 1922 in Dublin, Mississippi. After serving in the United States Army, he earned his pharmacological degree from Xavier University and opened a pharmacy in Clarksdale. In 1951 Henry helped found the Regional Council of Negro Leadership, which promoted a program of civil rights, voting rights, and business ownership. Henry organized the Clarksdale branch of the NAACP, and in 1959 was elected state president of the organization. He started the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and the Council of Federated Organizations. In 1962, Henry organized a mock state gubernatorial election and was the candidate for governor in that “freedom vote.” Henry served in the Mississippi House of Representatives from 1982 until 1996. He died in 1997.

“This is a well-deserved honor for one of Mississippi’s most distinguished leaders,” said Minion K.C. Morrison, author of the biography Aaron Henry of Mississippi: Inside Agitator. “Henry’s contribution as a social movement leader and political official over a sustained period makes him one of the citizens of Mississippi.”

Elvis Presley
Elvis Aaron Presley was one of the most celebrated and influential cultural icons of the twentieth century, becoming known as “the king of rock and roll.” Presley was born in 1935 in Tupelo, and his parents bought him a guitar for his eleventh birthday. Presley would develop a musical style that combined his influences of pop, country, gospel, and R&B in a way that blurred and challenged social and racial barriers. Presley would go on to release seventeen chart-topping albums during his lifetime, selling more than thirty Hollywood films, winning multiple Grammys and the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, and be inducted into multiple music halls of fame—as well as serving honorably in the U.S. Army. Worldwide sales of Elvis Presley records exceed one billion units, more than any other artist. Elvis died at his Memphis home, Graceland, in 1977 at age 42.

“From country to gospel to rock and roll, whatever the musical genre, one name—Elvis—says it all. Elvis Presley’s amazing talent took his music to the world, and it has brought the world to Mississippi.”

Donna Kaye Randle
Elvis Presley Memorial Foundation

From country to gospel to rock and roll, whatever the musical genre, one name—Elvis—says it all. Elvis Presley’s amazing talent took his music to the world, and it has brought the world to Mississippi.

Ida B. Wells
Born into slavery in Holly Springs in 1862, Ida B. Wells would go on to become one of the most outspoken and important civil rights advocates of the nineteenth century. Wells attended Rust College and became a teacher, first in north Mississippi and later in Tennessee. She won a lawsuit against the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad in 1887 after she was forcibly removed from a first-class car for which she had purchased a ticket. Wells purchased a stake in a small newspaper and began a public campaign against inequitable school funding, lynching, and segregation, and supporting economic boycotts and women’s rights. She eventually moved to New York City and then Chicago, where she continued to write exposes of lynchings in the South.

In 1909, Wells helped form the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and in 1930 she became one of the first African American women in the nation to run for public office with an unsuccessful attempt at a seat in the Illinois legislature. She died in 1931.

“Ida B. Wells was a women’s rights activist, anti-lynching crusader, civil rights pioneer, journalist, teacher, and—I believe—one of the most overlooked historical figures of nineteenth century America,” said Em Hall, member of Chicago’s Ida B. Wells Commemorative Art Committee, which nominated Wells for the Hall of Fame. “The causes for which she advocated still resonate today. I hope this honor continues to bring more awareness to her story and struggles for equality in the many facets of her life.”

The Hall of Fame contains 136 distinguished Mississippian. Any Mississippian—native or adopted—deceased at least five years may be nominated for the Hall of Fame. Elections are held every five years and only five people may be inducted each cycle. Portraits of members of the Hall of Fame hang in the Old Capitol Building.

Members of the MDAH board of trustees are Kane Ditto, president; E. Jackson Garner, vice president; Reuben V. Anderson, Jackson; Nancy Carpenter, Columbus; Valencia Hall, Natchez; Betsy Hamilton, New Albany; Web Heidelberg, Hattiesburg; Hilda Cope Povall, Cleveland; and Roland Weeks, Biloxi.
Grants Offered, Events Planned for Bicentennial

The yearlong celebration of Mississippi’s bicentennial is underway. Mississippi First Lady Deborah Bryant kicked off festivities in December to a crowd of more than 100 people at the annual Statehood Day program at the Old Capitol. Bryant’s remarks focused on her experiences welcoming visitors to the Mississippi Governor’s Mansion, and preparing to celebrate 175 years of the mansion’s continuous occupation.

The Mississippi Humanities Council is partnering with Mississippi Development Authority’s Visit Mississippi to oversee a $500,000 bicentennial grant program, which will award up to $10,000 toward individual public events celebrating the state’s historic year. “We hope to inspire and empower organizations throughout the state to produce public programming documenting community culture,” said MHC executive director Stuart Rockoff. For more information, including how to apply, go to www.mshumanities.org/index.php/grants.

Visit Mississippi is hosting a series of free, public events across the state to celebrate the bicentennial. A concert will be held at Centennial Plaza in Gulfport on April 1. Another concert will be at the Gertrude C. Ford Center at the University of Mississippi on June 24. The third and final event will be held in Jackson in conjunction with the opening of the Museum of Mississippi History and Mississippi Civil Rights Museum on December 9. For more information on bicentennial events, visit www.MS200.org.

An exhibit featuring the 1817 Mississippi Constitution and 20-star U.S. flag is traveling the state for the bicentennial—see the story on page five for a full schedule—and the Mississippi Historical Society is celebrating the bicentennial at its annual meeting in Gulfport March 2-4—story on page six. To learn more about any of these events, call 601-576-6998 or email info@mdah.ms.gov.

GRANTS, continued from p. 1

- Meadville Armory, Meadville, Franklin County—$39,600. For stabilization of the structure, foundation repair, and plasterwork.
- Bailey School, Jackson, Hinds County—$370,000. For stabilization of the structure and restoration of the classrooms and auditorium.
- LaPointe-Krebs House, Pascagoula, Jackson County—$210,480. For Phase IV of building rehabilitation and preservation of its mid-18th century characteristics.
- Poplar Hill Museum of African American Culture, Fayette, Jefferson County—$29,904. For exterior and interior restoration and ADA compliance.
- Jones County Courthouse, Ellisville, Jones County—$156,894. For roof repair and drainage improvement.
- Wechsler School, Meridian, Lauderdale County—$85,824. For roofing renovation of the 1951 section of the building.
- Columbia Waterworks, Columbia, Marion County—$69,483. For electrical repair and interior renovation.
- Aberdeen M&O Depot, Aberdeen, Monroe County—$160,000. For restoration of the interior and exterior.
- Newton City Hall, Newton, Newton County—$51,840. For roofing repairs and treating interior water damage due to roofing leaks.
- Union County Courthouse, New Albany, Union County—$148,800. For restoring metal roof cornice and masonry.
- Walthall County Courthouse, Tylertown, Walthall County—$59,648. For repairing the roofing, improving the drainage, and restoring interior windows.
- Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation Convent, Vicksburg, Warren County—$75,447. For rehabilitation of the exterior and porch.
- Yazoo City Hall, Yazoo City, Yazoo County—$128,916. For repairs to the gutters, roof, and bell tower.

Grant awards are paid on a reimbursable basis upon the successful completion of the entire project or at the time of the completion of pre-established phases of the project. Prior to application all buildings must have been designated Mississippi Landmarks.

To become a Certified Local Government, a community must adopt a preservation ordinance establishing a preservation commission in accordance with federal and state guidelines. MDAH works closely with local government officials and citizens to help them create and manage a workable local historic preservation program. To learn more, contact Barry White, 601-576-6940.
Work on the 2 Mississippi Museums project continues on schedule and on budget. The facades of the Museum of Mississippi History and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum are essentially complete, and installation of interior walls, flooring, lighting, and cabinetry is underway.

A concrete sidewalk is being poured across the length of the block and will connect the new museums with the state archives. Landscaping has begun and will be completed when sod is laid in the spring.

At the conclusion of the construction phase, set for April, exhibits and artifacts will be installed and staff will begin to move into the buildings. Exhibit designs for both museums have been finalized. Nashville’s 1220 Exhibits is fabricating the exhibits for the Museum of Mississippi History, while Dayton, Ohio’s Exhibit Concepts is responsible for producing exhibits for the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum.

Museum division staff recently traveled to view ongoing work at both fabrication companies. In Nashville they inspected prototypes of sets for the First Peoples gallery, wire sculptures representing key structures across the state, and panels and signage for other galleries.

The visit to Exhibit Concepts focused on cases, signs, graphic and exhibit panels, as well as finishes for the church and schoolhouse environments in the museum’s A Closed Society and I Question America galleries.

When the exhibits are fabricated, they will be packed and shipped to MDAH in summer 2017 for installation. At the same time, the artifacts that have been in local climate-controlled storage will be moved into the new buildings and integrated into the exhibits.

The museums will open on Saturday, December 9, 2017, with a ceremony beginning at 11 a.m. The day will consist of food, musical performers from across the state, public officials and other speakers, a giant ribbon-cutting, and free admission that day.

To stay up to date on progress or donate to the museums, visit www.give2mississippimuseums.com or call 601-576-6850.

The former head of the Electronic Archives section has been named the new director of the MDAH Archives and Records Services division. David M. Pilcher succeeds division head Julia Marks Young, who retired after eleven years in the position.

Pilcher earned his B.A. in history from Belhaven College in 1985 and holds two certificates from the Mississippi Certified Public Manager program. He has been employed at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History since 1985, first in the Official Records Section working with archival records generated by state and local government agencies, then as manager of the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission records imaging project.

In 2000 Pilcher became the first director of the department’s new Electronic Archives section. There he oversaw the implementation of standards and guidelines for the management of digital records, and led the work to catalog and provide access to electronic government records and digitally reformatted materials of the department.

“David Pilcher has been a leader in the field of digital records and will be a strong leader of the Archives and Records Services division,” said MDAH director Katie Blount. “His experience with the department has given him a deep understanding of the work of the division.”

The Archives and Records Services Division oversees the state archives and public reading rooms, where documents, photographs, and other items from the collection are processed and made available free of charge to the public. The Government Records section helps state agencies, counties, municipalities, school districts, libraries, and other local government entities manage their records. The division currently holds 57 tera-bytes of electronic materials, including digitized and born-digital records received from government agencies and officials and reformatted items from MDAH collections.
On January 8 and 9, Historic Jefferson College will host Mississippi’s first constitution, which was drafted on those very grounds in 1817. The constitution and a rare, 20-star U.S. flag that flew over the nation after Mississippi became a state, will be on public display as part of a commemoration of the state’s bicentennial.

The flag and constitution will be in Prospere Hall from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, January 8. A program beginning at 1 p.m. will feature remarks from Senator Bob Dearing and a presentation by staff of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History on the artifacts. The first governor of the state, David Holmes, will be portrayed by living historian Don Verstace, and staff will offer children’s activities throughout the day, as well as a 200th-birthday cake.

The flag and constitution will again be on display on Sunday, January 9, from 1 to 5 p.m., during which time the public can enjoy living history portrayals of Governor Holmes by Verstace and children’s activities. At 2 p.m. MDAH staff will give their presentation on the history of the two artifacts, and refreshments will be available from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

“It is exciting to have this 199-year-old document that essentially established Mississippi as a state returning to its birthplace,” said Historic Jefferson College director Robin Person. “Delegates to the constitutional convention assembled at the Methodist meeting house that stood here on the grounds of Jefferson College.”

On March 1, 1817, President James Madison signed legislation enabling inhabitants of the western portion of the Mississippi Territory to form a constitution and state government, while the eastern part would become a new territory. Forty-eight convention delegates assembled in Washington on July 7, drafting the constitution and, after weeks of deliberation, adopting it on August 15.

“It’s amazing to look at the actual paper with the signatures of those early Mississippians,” said Person. “There is no substitute for the firsthand connection to history that original documents like this can give us.”

The rare 20-star flag is one of only a handful known to exist. It was acquired by MDAH in 2001 after having been discovered in an antique shop in Massachusetts. An extensive conservation was completed earlier this year on the large banner, funded by a grant from the Billups-Garth Foundation in Columbus and private donations. The flag has been mounted inside a frame to protect it and allow it to be displayed upright.

“There were only two United States flags used before this one,” said MDAH director of collections Cindy Gardner.

Hundres of people viewed the 1817 Mississippi Constitution in September in Columbus, the first stop of the tour.
To commemorate the state’s 200th birthday, the Mississippi Historical Society will hold its annual meeting at the site of the state’s planned 100th birthday celebration—which never happened due to the U.S. entering World War I.

In 1916, Gulfport was to be the site of Mississippi’s celebration of its first hundred years of statehood. But after the United States declared war on Germany, that ceremony never occurred. Instead, the planned celebration site was used as a military training facility and as a hospital for servicemen.

“There could be no more appropriate place for the society to meet in 2017,” said William “Brother” Rogers, 2016-17 MHS president. “We are particularly excited to see the progress of the renovation of Centennial Plaza.”

Attendees will hear presentations on topics that include the state’s Native American culture, its role in the Civil War, first-hand accounts of civil rights activities, and ways in which local communities are taking ownership of their history.

The annual meeting and conference will be held Thursday, March 2, through Saturday, March 4, 2017. The first plenary session will showcase authors from the Heritage of Mississippi Series, a planned fifteen-volume series spanning the entire history of the state.

Mississippi aviator John C. Robinson, the “brown condor.”

Scholars James Barnett, Randy Sparks, and Timothy B. Smith will speak on a panel moderated by John Marszalek.

Friday’s second session will highlight the life of Hollis Watkins and his recently published book, Brother Hollis: the Sankofa of a Movement Man. Co-written with Jackson State University English instructor C. Leigh McInnis, the book explores Watkins’s grassroots efforts with organizations such as the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee during the height of the modern Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi. Watkins and McInnis will also discuss the work Watkins does today with Southern Echo, his community organizing group.

At the Friday luncheon Thomas E. Simmons will talk about his book The Man Called Brown Condor: The Forgotten History of an African American Fighter Pilot. John C. Robinson was an African American pilot from Gulfport working in the early twentieth century to encourage more African Americans to become aviators. Simmons, the author of three other books, is a businessman, pilot, and veteran of the Korean War.

Friday panels conclude with the Phi Alpha Theta student research presentations, moderated by Christian Pinnen, professor at Mississippi College. On Friday afternoon participants may tour the historic Centennial Plaza and hear plans for developing the property.

Friday evening, the winner of the McLemore Prize for the best book on Mississippi History—to be announced that same night—will be the banquet keynote speaker.

Saturday, attendees will hear presentations on the state’s bicentennial celebration. David Sansing will discuss his new book Mississippi Governors: Soldiers, Statesmen, Scholars, and Scoundrels. Representatives of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Museum of Historical Photography and the Historical Society of Gulfport will discuss work historic preservationists are doing in the Gulfport area to close the program, and presentation of awards will be made at the awards luncheon.

Early registration is $35 for MHS members and $60 for non-members. Registration after February 17 is $50 for MHS members and $75 for non-members.

Rooms are reserved for March 2 and 3 at the Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront Hotel, 1600 East Beach Boulevard in Gulfport, 228-864-4310. When making reservations, be sure to specify the MHS rate of $129 plus tax per night. Deadline for reservations is February 16. For more information call 601-576-6849 or email mhs@mdah.ms.gov.

Author, Historian Michael Ballard Dies at 69

Michael Ballard, author, Civil War scholar, and longtime professor of history and archivist at Mississippi State University, died on October 11, 2016. He was 69 years old.

Born in Choctaw County in 1946, Mike Ballard was a sixth-generation Mississippian. He earned his bachelor’s, master’s, and doctorate in history from Mississippi State University. A prolific writer, Ballard was the author of dozens of scholarly articles, editor of three books, co-author of Sonny Montgomery: The Veteran’s Champion, and author of twelve books, including Pemberton: A Biography; Civil War Mississippi: A Guide; U.S. Grant: The Making of a General, 1861-1863; Maroon and White, Mississippi State University, 1878-2003; Vicksburg: The Campaign That Opened the Mississippi; and The Civil War in Mississippi: Major Campaigns and Battles. In 2005, Ballard received the Mississippi Historical Society’s Dunbar Rowland Award in recognition of his publications and other contributions to the documentation of the state’s history.

“The death of Mike Ballard is a tremendous loss to the study of American history, and he leaves behind a marvelous legacy of writing and publication. We will all miss him a great deal.”

A memorial fund has been established with the MSU Foundation to facilitate ongoing Civil War scholarship. For more information, call 662-325-8918, or donate online at the foundation’s website, www.msufoundation.com.
Preservation Leader Libby Hollingsworth Dies

Elizabeth “Libby” Shaifer Hollingsworth, a champion of historic preservation in Mississippi, died on July 2, 2016.

Born in Vicksburg, Hollingsworth grew up in Leland and graduated from Southwestern at Memphis, now Rhodes College. Libby and her husband Al lived for many years in Connecticut, where they renovated a historic home. While there Libby was ordained a ruling elder and a delegate from the New England Presbytery. She was the director of the North Guilford Nursery School and a member of the Board of Trustees of Yale-New Haven Hospital.

After retiring and returning to Mississippi to live in Port Gibson, Libby and her family donated to the state her grandfather’s home, the A.K. Shaifer House, site of the opening shots of the Battle of Port Gibson during the Vicksburg Campaign. Hollingsworth worked tirelessly with the Civil War Trust and other preservation organizations to protect and promote the Port Gibson battlefield. The Hollingsworths were founding members of the Mississippi Heritage Trust, and Libby also served as a member of the board of directors of the Mississippi Historical Society. She was active with the Main Street program and served on the advisory board of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi.

In 2013, Hollingsworth donated to MDAH the “reconciliation chair,” a double rocker designed and crafted by Union veteran William Duffner. The chair was made as a gift for Confederate veteran A.K. Shaifer around 1870. Duffner painted the seat and back with depictions of the movements of his regiments in the Battle of Port Gibson on May 1, 1863, near the Shaifer House, and with the words “may God forgive, unite, and bless us all.” The chair will be on permanent display in the Museum of Mississippi History.

“With the passing of Libby Hollingsworth, the Department of Archives and History and the Mississippi Historical Society have lost a dear friend whose support of MDAH, the Society, and historic preservation in Mississippi, along with that of her husband Al, was unsurpassed,” said MDAH director emeritus Elbert R. Hilliard. “Libby was truly a remarkable lady and a wonderful ambassador for Port Gibson, Claiborne County, and the State of Mississippi. Most certainly, she will be greatly missed.”

Contributions in memory of Libby Hollingsworth may be made to the Action to Cure Kidney Cancer, 150 West 75th Street, New York, NY 10023.

MDAH Receives $100K Grant for Online Classrooms

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded a $100,000 Humanities Access grant to MDAH to launch an online classroom learning initiative in December 2017.

The project will extend the reach of the Museum of Mississippi History and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum directly into schools by using state-of-the-art equipment and multimedia programs delivered on the web. Students will communicate with curators, historians, and history makers and interact with artifacts, stories, music, and art as they experience the museums from their classrooms before and after visits to the site.

“We are committed to expanding our outreach across the entire state and connecting the resources of the department with teachers, students, and communities,” said Lucy Allen, MDAH Museum Division director. “This program, developed with the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities, will allow students to immediately access the holdings of the museums and interact with Civil Rights Movement veterans, Mississippi authors, musicians, and historians right from their desks.”

The project will provide technological and academic funding for a pilot program in select schools across Mississippi to support teaching innovation and student engagement with Mississippi history, culture, and literature.

“We are very grateful to many people who supported this application, including Senator Thad Cochran, Mrs. Myrlie Evers, and Mississippi teachers across the state who made the case regarding the impact of this initiative,” said Kane Ditto, president of the MDAH Board of Trustees.

MDAH will provide a dollar-for-dollar match for the grant with non-public funds. The NEH grant is one of 34 totaling more than $3 million in their new Humanities Access program, which offers matching grants toward term endowments for programming at cultural institutions that broadens access to excellent humanities content for underserved groups.

Libby Hollingsworth with the “reconciliation chair” made for her Confederate ancestor by a Union veteran following the Civil War.
IN THIS ISSUE

- Museums Progress
- Preservation Grants
- Five Elected To State’s Hall of Fame

JAN-MARCH HISTORY IS LUNCH CALENDAR

Programs in the *History Is Lunch* series are held noon Wednesdays in the William F. Winter Archives and History Building (WFW) or Old Capitol Museum (OCM). There is no charge.

For information call 601-576-6998 or email info@mdah.ms.gov.

**January 18**—Paul Davis, “Rankin County People and Places: A Re-Photography Project.” WFW

**January 25**—William “Brother” Rogers, “A Fascinating Romp through Mississippi History as Told by Historical Markers.” WFW

**February 1**—Debbie Z. Harwell will discuss her book *Wednesdays in Mississippi: Proper Ladies Working for Radical Change, Freedom Summer 1964*. WFW

**February 8**—Charles Westmoreland, “Fleeting Fickly Sports: Segregation, Intercollegiate Athletics, and Social Change in Mississippi.” WFW

**February 15**—John Kyle Day will discuss his book *The Southern Manifesto: Massive Resistance and the Fight to Preserve Segregation*. Sales and signing to follow. WFW

**February 22**—Fred C. Smith will discuss his book *Trouble in Goshen: Plain Folk, Roosevelt, Jesus, and Marx in the Great Depression South*. Sales and signing to follow. WFW

**March 1**—Howard Bahr will discuss his Civil War trilogy of books: *The Black Flower*, *The Year of Jubilo*, and *The Judas Field*. Sales and signing to follow. WFW

**March 8**—Delta State University photography instructor R. Kim Rushing will discuss his book *Parchman*. Sales and signing to follow. WFW

**March 15**—Sara Wood, “From Tamales to Slugburgers: Mississippi’s Diverse Foodways.” WFW

**March 22**—Mississippi State University president Mark Keenum, “Stephen D. Lee—A Higher Education Perspective.” OCM

**March 29**—Stephen Cushman, “Surrender According to Johnston and Sherman.” WFW

---

**Writer Nicholas Lemann To Speak at OCM**

Columbia professor and *New Yorker* writer Nicholas Lemann will speak at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7, in the Old Capitol Museum.

Lemann is the author of *Redemption: The Last Battle of the Civil War*, a searing account focusing on how Reconstruction was defeated in Mississippi through what he calls “a campaign of organized terrorism.”

The program is co-sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council. Admission is free. For more information call 601-576-6920.