

# MISSISSIPPI HISTORY

## NEWSLETTER

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Spring 2013

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## Life of Medgar Evers Commemorated

### New Exhibit, Programs Set For Winter Building, Old Capitol, Welty House

In observance of the fiftieth anniversary of his death, MDAH will commemorate the life of civil rights leader Medgar Evers with exhibits and programs. Evers was the Mississippi field secretary for the NAACP from 1954 until his assassination in the driveway of his family's home in Jackson on June 11, 1963.

On May 1, a History Is Lunch lecture by Myrlie Evers, former chair of the NAACP and Medgar Evers's widow, will open the exhibit "*This Is Home*": *Medgar Evers, Mississippi, and the Movement*. Drawing on photographs, artifacts, documents, and newsfilm footage from the MDAH collection, the exhibit will cover Evers's early life and family, his career with the NAACP, and his death. The exhibit will run through October at the William F. Winter Archives and History Building in Jackson, then travel the state.

The impact of Evers's killing was imme-



Medgar Evers, at left, with three men in March 1963. Photo from Evers Collection, MDAH.

diate and widespread, influencing the work of writers, poets, musicians, and other artists. At the Eudora Welty House the exhibit

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## War of 1812 Bicentennial Events Planned

This spring the Department of Archives and History will partner with the Natchez Trace Parkway Association on living history events at MDAH sites commemorating the bicentennial of the War of 1812. On April 12-13, military reenactors will encamp on the grounds of Historic Jefferson College, and on April 16 the Old Capitol

Museum will host a concert of period music and an address by a reenactor portraying Andrew Jackson. The events are part of the nine-day *Expedition Natchez 1813: "Becoming Old Hickory"* celebration that has been organized under the direction of Bryant Boswell, president of the Natchez Trace Parkway Association.

In 1813 Major General Andrew Jackson and the 2nd Division Tennessee Regiment were dispatched to the Mississippi Territory in anticipation of an attack by the British on New Orleans. En route to Fort Dearborn, the force of some two thousand soldiers bivouacked near the grounds of Jefferson College in Washington, the territorial

capital. When it was determined no assault on New Orleans was imminent, Jackson received orders to disband his troops immediately. Refusing to cut loose his volunteers to make their way home individually, Jackson led the men up the Natchez Trace. It was on that march to Tennessee that Jackson earned his

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# Construction Project at Governor's Mansion

## Installation of new HVAC, Fire Suppression Systems Will Suspend Public Tours

The Mississippi Governor's Mansion is in the midst of a project to help preserve the century-and-a-half-old building and its fine art, antique furniture, and historic furnishings. A fire suppression system and new heating and cooling system are being installed to protect the Mississippi Landmark structure and its contents from damages by fluctuations in humidity and temperature.

Work began in January in areas used only by staff, but the regular public tours of the historic building will be suspended April through August as construction moves to those sections.

"This work is not glamorous, but it is necessary for the preservation of the mansion and its furnishings," said Lauren Miller, mansion curator. "We regret that we won't be able to offer tours in the spring and summer, but this work will maintain the mansion for generations to come."

The existing HVAC system is forty years old and inefficient by modern standards, and the new equipment is projected to cost less

to operate. The complete replacement will include the installation of new ductwork and registers.

Visitors are unlikely to notice many changes to the mansion. The fire suppression system boasts a low profile, with only the sprinkler heads being visible in the ceiling.

The majority of the mansion's furniture was constructed in the Empire style, with some French Restoration, Rococo Revival, and Renaissance Revival pieces. All furniture and furnishings will be packed securely and stored off site. Furniture conservator Richard Branyan, owner of Lower Lodge Conservation and Museum Services in Natchez, will be on site to assist movers with the antique furniture, including the fragile and historic walnut *étagère* that belonged to Governor William McWillie, and ornate beds, wardrobes, and bookcases.

Antler & Iron Lighting of Hazlehurst have been chosen to remove, pack, and store the mansion's lighting and fixtures, including the well-known rose chandelier. Once the contents of the mansion have been removed, the floors, walls, columns and other architectural elements will be protected and work on the new systems can begin.

Staff will take advantage of the opportu-



nity offered by the mansion closing to repair damaged cornice work on the second floor and touch up paint throughout the building. To tour the Governor's Mansion before it closes for the summer, call 601-359-6421.

Explore the furniture of the Mississippi Governor's Mansion online at <http://mdah.state.ms.us/museum/furnishings.html>

## WAR OF 1812, continued from p. 1

nickname "Old Hickory."

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, April 12, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 13, more than one hundred fifty men and women from the 7th Infantry Living History Association will set up a period military encampment at Historic Jefferson College and demonstrate full dress uniforms, military drills, and weaponry. That group will be joined by about fifty more reenactors on Saturday, April 13. Demonstrations that day will include muzzle-loading, tomahawk throwing, cooking with a dutch oven, and weaving. Food vendors will be on site as well. Admission Saturday is free for children, \$5 for ages twelve and up.

Events at Historic Jefferson College will conclude at 11 a.m. on Sunday, April 14, with Gen-



Reenactors will recreate the march north on the Natchez Trace as part of the celebration. Photo courtesy Natchez Trace Parkway Association.

eral Jackson, portrayed by Grant Hardin of Tennessee, reading

the letter of dismissal from the War Department and the militia marching off for Nashville.

On Tuesday, April 16, at 5:30 p.m. the Old Capitol Museum will host a public reception honoring the living history performers. The evening will begin with hors d'oeuvres and musical performances by a string quartet and a fife and drum corps in the rotunda. Following the concert, Hardin will deliver an address as General Andrew Jackson in the House Chamber.

The Natchez Trace Parkway Association began commemorations of the bicentennial of the War of 1812 last year with events at the Gordon House Site in Tennessee. For the complete schedule of *Expedition Natchez 1813: Becoming "Old Hickory"* visit [www.natcheztrace.info](http://www.natcheztrace.info).

## EVERS, continued from p. 1

*The Murder of Medgar Evers and "Where is the Voice Coming From?"* will examine how that event impelled Eudora Welty to write one of the most gripping and political stories of her career, as well as the repercussions Welty faced after her story was published in *The New Yorker*. The free exhibit will run May 15 through December 15 at the Eudora Welty Education and Visitor Center.

On Wednesday, May 29, Michael V. Williams, author of *Medgar Evers: Mississippi Martyr* and Mississippi State University professor, will be the speaker at History Is Lunch at the Old Capitol Museum.

Myrlie Evers donated the papers of her husband to MDAH. The collection is divided into two subgroups: papers of Evers as Mississippi field secretary for the NAACP,

and the family papers of Medgar Evers. The first group includes primary documents relating to civil rights actions, petitions for improvements to black schools, affidavits signed by African Americans denied the right to register to vote, reports on investigations of racial incidents, materials used to develop speeches, and newspaper clippings from his files.

Evers's papers as field secretary show how closely he worked with national, state, and local NAACP leaders to facilitate organizational goals in Mississippi during the early years of the civil rights movement. Included are minutes for the Jackson branch of the NAACP meetings between 1955 and 1959 and monthly reports to NAACP headquarters for 1955–61; correspondence

regarding reported instances of assault and battery, denial of civil rights, economic reprisals, police brutality, segregation, and voting discrimination against African Americans in Mississippi; correspondence concerning the murder of Emmett Till and denial of admission of James Meredith to the University of Mississippi; and letters to Evers from Julian Bond and Thurgood Marshall.

The family papers include correspondence, financial records, photographs, cards, and other items that reflect the activities and interests of Medgar Evers, his wife, and their three children. The Evers Collection can be accessed at the William F. Winter Archives and History Building. For more information call 601-576-6850.

## Natchez Powwow Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Traditional Native American dancing, singing, and fun come to the Grand Village of the Natchez Indians for the twenty-fifth annual Natchez Powwow on Saturday, March 23, and Sunday, March 24. More than 3,500 people attended last year's powwow to celebrate the Native American heritage of the Natchez area.

"We're looking forward to the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Natchez Powwow this year," said Jim Barnett, director of MDAH's Historic Properties Division. "The Department of Archives and History is proud to be able to host this unique event on these historic grounds."

There will be gourd dancing at 1 and 7 p.m. on Saturday and at 1 p.m. on Sunday and grand entry and intertribal dancing at 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. both days. Tribes represented include the Choctaw, Comanche, Natchez, Osage, and Tonka. Bo Limbaugh of Kellyville, Oklahoma, will serve as master of ceremonies, and Darsh DeSilva of Round Rock, Texas, will be arena director. The Osage Singers from Pawhuska, Oklahoma, with Head Singer Kenny Bighorse (Osage) will handle the Southern Drum. McKenzie River, with Head Singer Dean Hugebeck from Ravenna, Ohio, will handle the Northern Drum. Damon Roughface (Ponca) from Pawnee, Oklahoma, will be Head Man Dancer, and Diana Gail Doyebi Sovo (Comanche) from Lawton, Oklahoma, will be Head Lady Dancer. Ted Sovo (Comanche) from Sterling, Oklahoma, will be Head Gourd Danc-



**Choctaw dancers in traditional dress march in the grand entry dance during a recent Natchez Powwow.**

er. Dance groups in attendance will include Gulf Coast Tiapih (Texas), White Star (Indiana), and Wounded Warrior (Louisiana).

Craft and food booths will open at 10 a.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. on Sunday. The trader booths for traditional Native American crafts will carry items such as jewelry, baskets, and leather goods. Food vendors will offer traditional dishes such as fry bread and hominy.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for

twelve and under. Bring your lawn chairs. Powwow participants are allowed to camp on the grounds.

The Grand Village of the Natchez Indians is a National Historic Landmark that features a museum, a reconstructed Natchez Indian house, and three ceremonial mounds. The Grand Village is located at 400 Jefferson Davis Boulevard, Natchez. For more information call 601-446-6502 or email [info@natchezgrandvillage.com](mailto:info@natchezgrandvillage.com).

# Betsey Hamilton Elected to MDAH Board

At its January 2013 meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History elected Betsey Hamilton of New Albany as its newest member. Upon approval by the state senate, Hamilton will assume the seat vacated by Rosemary Taylor Williams of Corinth, who retired after twenty years of service on the board. Williams will be named Trustee Emerita for her dedication and committed service to the department.

“Rosemary Williams has been an inspiration to me for many years and I sincerely appreciate her service,” said



Hamilton. “I am honored to be chosen to serve as a trustee of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.”

Hamilton is a founding member of the Union County Historical Society and Heritage Museum and is a member of the museum’s board of directors. She is the former chair of the Federation of Mississippi Historical Societies.

Hamilton currently chairs the GM&O Rails to Trails Recreational District of North Mississippi, which is overseeing the development of a 44-mile stretch of abandoned railway as a multi-use trail that will run through Chickasaw, Pontotoc, and Union counties. A graduate of the University of Mississippi, Hamilton is a former English

teacher and real estate broker.

“Betsey Hamilton brings a strong record of project management to the board,” said board president Kane Ditto. “Her firsthand experience with historic preservation initiatives and regional museums will serve the department well.”

Board members serve six-year terms. Members of the board are Kane Ditto, president; E. Jackson Garner, vice president; Reuben V. Anderson, Jackson; Nancy Carpenter, Columbus; Valencia Hall, Natchez; Web Heidelberg, Hattiesburg; Hilda Cope Povall, Cleveland; and Roland Weeks, Biloxi.

## Tour Jackson by Trolley with MDAH

Join MDAH architectural historian Todd Sanders on Monday, May 13, from 9:30 a.m. to noon for a tour of Jackson by trolley. Participants will meet in the rotunda of the Old Capitol Museum, and the Fondren Express Trolley will depart at 10 a.m. Points of interest on the route will include the Belhaven neighborhood, Bailey Junior High School, Greenwood Cemetery, and the King Edward Hotel.

The tour won’t just be about the architectural and historical significance of these sites, though. “In addition to those things, we’ll explore the urban legend that Bailey Junior High School was once a prison,” said Sanders.

After returning to the Old Capitol a box lunch will be served, and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Ken P’Pool will discuss Jackson preservation projects. Tickets are \$20 and include lunch and the tour. Space is limited. To reserve a seat, call Maura Johnson at 601-576-6920.

## Merci Car Dedication March 26



A dedication ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, at 10:30 a.m. to celebrate the restored Merci Train boxcar. There will be brief remarks followed by a reception in the historic GM&O Depot, just beside where the car now sits.

The wooden train cars were given in gratitude to each state by France following World War II. Few of the boxcars still exist. Decades of exposure to the elements had taken its toll on the boxcar, which had been located behind the War Memorial Building. A grant from the Community Heritage Preservation Program allowed damaged siding and missing placards to be replaced and the boxcar to be restored and relocated. The car was moved onto a section of specially constructed narrow track under a new aluminum canopy, and interpretive signage covering the history of the Merci Trains was created and installed, along with a concrete platform and metal benches.

# Photo History of Jackson Opening at Museum

More than one hundred years of Jackson's history will be on display at the Old Capitol Museum beginning Tuesday, March 12. The new exhibit *Jackson: A Photographic History* will showcase the capital city's rich history and growth with archival images of buildings, places, and events.

One of the oldest photographs on exhibit is the 1869 image of the ruins of the Bowman House. The popular boarding house was a gathering place for politicians and served as headquarters for both Union and Confederate generals during the Civil War. It was destroyed in an accidental fire in 1863.

The exhibit features early images of well-known buildings and documents Jackson's development from a small

town of modest homes to a bustling metropolis. The city's first skyscraper, the circa-1903 state capitol, and the antebellum governor's mansion are still in use.

Also highlighted in the exhibit are cultural and historical events such as the Tougaloo Nine's 1961 "read-in" at the whites-only city library and an aerial shot of the 1979 Easter Sunday Flood.

*Jackson: A Photographic History* will run through July 7. For more information call 601-576-6920.

Completed in 1839, the Old Capitol is Jackson's oldest building. The National Historic Landmark property is located at State Street and Capitol. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m.



**JACKSON CHRISTMAS PARADE, 1950**

to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Brochures direct visitors through the building, and guided tours are available by request.

School field trips or any groups of ten or more should contact the museum in advance to book tours.

## Knapp-In at Winterville Mounds

Learn how Mississippian Indians made their tools and weapons a thousand years ago at the free Winterville Mounds Knapp-In on Friday, May 10, and Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Knappers from around the country will gather to trade tools and stories and demonstrate the ancient techniques. Flint knapping is the process of removing flakes of stone to shape arrowheads, spear points, and other tools from rock. The procedure can take from five minutes for simpler implements to two hours for more involved pieces. For those interested in participating, flint knap kits will be available for sale.

"This knapp-in is going to be a big time for everyone," said Ken Austin, longtime flint knapper from Raleigh, Mississippi. "We'll show you the mechanics, and let you try it. You never know what you're going to get until you get inside your rock."

On Saturday an atlatl contest will take



place from 1 to 3 p.m. The public is invited to watch the spear throwing competition. For more information, or to register for a booth, call 662-334-4684 or email [jtaylor@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto:jtaylor@mdah.state.ms.us).

Winterville Mounds is a prehistoric ceremonial center built by a Native American civilization that thrived from about A.D. 1000 to 1450. Located at 2415 Highway 1 North, Greenville, the 42-acre park is open 8 a.m.–5 p.m. every day; the museum is open 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Mon.–Sat. and Sun. 1:30–5 p.m. Free of charge.

## Welty House To Hold Plant Sale, Birthday Celebration

On Friday, April 12, the Eudora Welty House will celebrate Welty's 104th birthday with cake and a choir in the side garden, free tours of the house, and a plant sale. The sixth-grade honor choir from First Presbyterian Day School in Jackson will perform at 10 a.m. and birthday cake will be served from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The camellia varieties Elisabeth, Dr. Tinsley, Lady Clare, White Empress, and Debutante will be sold in three-gallon pots for \$25 each from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Those varieties were planted by Welty and her mother, Chestina, and grow in the garden today. A local nursery will provide summer heirloom annuals—a tall pink zinnia, the 'Legion of Honor' marigold, and a lemon-yellow sunset hibiscus with a maroon throat.

Tours will be given at 9 and 11 a.m. and 1 and 3 p.m. To reserve a tour, call 601-353-7762 or email [weltytours@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto:weltytours@mdah.state.ms.us).

# State Senator Harden Dies at 64

Alice Varnado Harden, the first African American woman to be elected to the Mississippi Senate, died December 6, 2012. She was 64.

Harden was born April 17, 1948, in Pike County. She earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from Jackson State University. Harden worked as a schoolteacher before being elected to the legislature in 1987, where she became a strong advocate for public schools. She was the former chair of the Senate Education Committee and president of the Mississippi Association of Educators. Harden also served as the Mississippi representative to the Education Commission of the States, as chair of the Southern Legislative Conference's education committee, and on the Mississippi Advisory Council to the United States Civil Rights Commission.

"As a former teacher, Senator Harden brought her passion for improving Mississippi's schools and universities to the State Senate," said Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves. "She fought diligently for all Mississippi children to have an opportunity to receive a good education. Her dedication to public service will be missed."

Former Lt. Gov. Amy Tuck, who appointed Harden as education chair in 2000, said "Senator



**Alice Harden at the Mississippi State Capitol. Photo courtesy Jay D. Johnson.**

Harden had a special interest in education issues that affected the children of our state."

# Civil Rights Leader Guyot Dies at 73

Lawrence Guyot, a civil rights activist who endured public beatings, jailings, and threats in Mississippi, died November 23, 2012, at his home in Maryland. He was 73. During the 1960s Guyot was field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), a director of the Freedom Summer project in Mississippi, and the founding chairman of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party

Lawrence Thomas Guyot, Jr., was born July 17, 1939, in Pass Christian. He graduated from Randolph High School in 1957 and went on to earn undergraduate degrees in biology and chemistry from Tougaloo College, a school near Jackson that was a safe haven for civil rights workers and that became one of the epicenters of the movement in Mississippi. It was at Tougaloo that Guyot became involved with SNCC and traveled the state conducting civil rights



**Lawrence Guyot, second from right, with (from left) author John Dittmer and Mississippi civil rights movement veterans Unita Blackwell, Rev. Ed King, and Owen Brooks outside the Old Capitol in November of 2005.**

workshops and registering voters. In 1966, he ran for Congress as an anti-war candidate, losing to incumbent William Colmer.

In 1971 Guyot graduated from the Rutgers School of Law and moved to Washington, D.C., where he worked with Mayor Marion Barry, another Missis-

sippi native. Guyot remained active, appearing in documentaries on news programs about the civil rights movement. Guyot worked for the Department of Human Services' Office of Early Childhood Development in Washington, D.C., until his retirement in 2004.

# Architect Sam Kaye Dies at 72

Sam Kaye, a statewide leader in historic preservation, died January 1, 2013. He was 72.

Samuel H. Kaye was born September 27, 1940, in Columbia, South Carolina. He earned his Bachelor of Architecture degree from Auburn University in 1963, and in 1974 moved to Columbus to open his architecture office.

Kaye's professional involvement with the National Trust for Historic Preservation led, in 1992, to the establishment of the Mississippi Heritage Trust, of which he was charter president.

Since 1994, Kaye served as staff consultant to the Mississippi Main Street Association, working with towns throughout Mississippi.

The Mississippi Main Street Association established the Sam Kaye Excellence in Design Award in 2008 to honor Kaye's longtime service to the organization and to the state in architecture and preservation.

"I know of no architect who has done more to develop a public appreciation of historic preservation than has Sam Kaye," said former governor William F. Winter

Kaye received numerous awards from the Mississippi Historical Society for his preservation projects. The Mississippi Heritage Trust awarded Kaye the 2012 Al & Libby Hollingsworth Lifetime Achievement Award.

Memorials in Kaye's honor may be made to the Stephen D. Lee Foundation or Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Columbus.

# GATHERING ON THE GREEN



On Saturday, April 6, the grounds of the Old Capitol Museum will come to life with a celebration of art, music, food, and citizenship at the fourth annual Gathering on the Green from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Old-fashioned games, traditional craft demonstrations, a model archaeology dig, and health screenings are some of the many activities planned. Jackson's first food truck, Lurny D's, will serve hamburgers and hand-cut fries.

## Welty Fellow Applications Being Accepted

Applications are being accepted for the Eudora Welty Research Fellowship. Established by the Eudora Welty Foundation and the Department of Archives and History, the \$2,000 fellowship will be awarded to a graduate student for research within the department's Eudora Welty Collection.

"I am pleased to announce the 2013 Eudora Welty Research Fellowship and the Welty Foundation's generous increase of this year's award to \$2,000," said Julia Marks Young, director of the MDAH Archives and Record Services Division. "We are looking forward to welcoming another highly qualified fellow this summer."

The stipend may be used for travel, housing, and other expenses during the Welty fellow's two-week minimum stay in Jackson. The deadline to apply is March 20, 2013.

The first Eudora Welty Research Fellow was Georgia State University doctoral candidate Elizabeth Crews. She used the fellowship to continue research for her dissertation, which examined the role of home in Welty's novels *Delta Wedding* and *The Optimist's Daughter*. Crews is now an assistant professor of English at Shorter University in Rome, Georgia.

The 2012 fellowship was awarded to Monica C. Miller, currently a doctoral candidate at Louisiana State University. Miller's research was focused on the role of appearance and its relationship to female characters in Welty's *A Curtain of Green*, *The Wide Net*, and *The Golden Apples*, and her unpublished story "The Alterations."

The Eudora Welty Collection at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History is the premier collection of Eudora Welty

materials in the world and one of the most varied literary collections in the United States. The collection includes manuscripts, letters, photographs, drawings, essays, and film and video footage that spans Welty's entire life. Beginning in 1957, and over the course of more than forty years, Welty donated materials to the department, primarily literary manuscripts and photographs. At her death the remainder of her papers were bequeathed to MDAH and included unpublished manuscripts and 14,000 items of correspondence with family, friends, scholars, young writers, and noted writers.

The collection may be accessed at the William F. Winter Archives and History Building, 200 North Street, Jackson. For more information on the collection or the fellowship, contact Forrest Galey at 601-576-6850, or by email at [fgaley@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto:fgaley@mdah.state.ms.us).

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## MARCH-MAY HISTORY IS LUNCH CALENDAR

Programs in the department's History Is Lunch lecture series are held at noon Wednesdays in the William F. Winter Archives and History Building (WFW) or Old Capitol Museum (OCM) in downtown Jackson. There is no admission charge.

In March, the Wednesday programs will be at the Old Capitol as part of the "Capital City Chronicles" series and will focus on stories about the city of Jackson.

There will also be an additional program on Tuesday, March 19. For more information call 601-576-6998 or email cwilson@mdah.state.ms.us.

**March 6**—Vincent Venturini, Mississippi Valley State University, will present "The Growth and Development of Jackson." **OCM**

**March 13**—MDAH Historic Preservation Division director Jim Woodrick will discuss Jackson during the Civil War. **OCM**

**March 19**—Vladimir Alexandrov will discuss his book *The Black Russian*, a biography of Frederick Bruce Thomas, who was born to former slaves in Mississippi in 1872 and became a millionaire impresario in pre-Revolutionary Moscow, becoming the first to bring jazz to Constantinople. **WFW**

**March 20**—Forrest Lamar Cooper will discuss some of the many postcards of Jackson from his collection. **OCM**

**March 27**—Downtown Jackson Partners president Ben Allen will discuss plans for the capital city. **OCM**

**April 3**—MDAH historians Amanda Lyons and Will Morgan will present "Dutch Fliers of Jackson, Part 2." **OCM**

**April 10**—Jackson State University professor Leslie McLemore will talk about the Mississippi Freedom Trail. **WFW**

**April 17**—"The 150th Anniversary of Grierson's Raid," by retired Historic Jefferson College historian H. Clark Burkett. **OCM**

**April 24**—Andrew Haley, University of Southern Mississippi, will talk about his book *Turning the Tables: American Restaurant Culture and the Rise of the Middle Class, 1880-1920*. **WFW**

**May 1**—Myrlie Evers-Williams will open the exhibit "*This Is*

*Home*": *Medgar Evers, Mississippi, and the Movement* with a program about Medgar Evers. See story on front page of newsletter for more on the new exhibit. **OCM**

**May 8**—Libby Hollingsworth will talk about the role of her family, the Shaifers of Port Gibson, during the Civil War. **OCM**

**May 22**—Darrell Baughn will present "Joseph Holt and Mississippi." Holt was Secretary of War under President Buchanan and made his fortune in Mississippi from 1835 to 1842. **WFW**

**May 29**—MSU historian Michael Williams, author of *Medgar Evers: Mississippi Martyr*, will talk about the upcoming fiftieth anniversary of Evers's assassination. **OCM**