Foundation Works To Better “The Far Horizon”

By Paul Kennedy

From 1993 to 2007, I left Walker County early most mornings and came home after the sun set most evenings. During those 14 years, I lived in Jasper and commuted to Birmingham to work for US-DA-NRCS until, as I like to say, “I woke up in Walker County in 2007.” That is the year the Walker Area Community Foundation asked me to be the its next director.

When I got the opportunity to work in just one county and flip the table from grant-seeker to grant-maker, it was an easy decision. Little did I know that I would fall in love with this job.

The true work of a community foundation is building teams, building people and building communities. They take time, and when it works, it is beautiful.

I love Walker County because it is my home, and these are my people. Working for this foundation affords me and my team the time to invest in the far horizon, creating positive outcomes for generations.

A community foundation by its nature is the reserve account of the community. Ideally, we look for ways to end a problem while still addressing the symptom(s). We will feed hungry children until we manage to lift them out of the circumstances that require someone or something to augment their nutrition. We work in education, workforce development, community development, animals and seniors. And we empower nonprofits.

This kind of work takes time. I suppose my love of gardening and forestry was a good teacher. You cannot harvest tomorrow what you plant today – the care between the start and the finish is critical to the success of the final product.

Excerpt from The Birmingham News This Is Alabama column

Celebrating 200 Years

By Pam Fikes, WACF Staff and Bicentennial Committee Member

As the State of Alabama celebrates its bicentennial birthday, we want to spotlight some of the people and places that made our area what it is today and our contributions to the state of Alabama. The Walker County, Alabama Traveling Exhibit highlights the history of our communities, the places and people that created this great county, and the photos that remind us of where it all began. The exhibit will be on display in each incorporated community of Walker County throughout 2018.

The project was made possible through a grant from the Alabama Bicentennial Commission and the work of the Walker County Alabama Bicentennial Committee. Committee members are: Pam Callahan-Walker County Arts Alliance, Kathy Chambless-City of Jasper, Tara Collins-Bevill State Community College, Pick Deason-Walker County Genealogical Society, Pam Fikes-Walker Area Community Foundation, Linda Lewis-Chamber of Commerce of Walker County, Pat Morrison-Bankhead House & Heritage Center and local historian, Mike Putman-Jasper Main Street, Rodger Starnes-local historian, Holly Trawick-Walker College Foundation and Rick Watson-local historian.

In October 2019, the Bankhead House & Heritage Center will host Making Alabama-A Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit presented by the Alabama Humanities Foundation, displaying 200 years of Alabama history and beyond. The exhibit recently opened in the capitol in the Old Supreme Court Library.

This impressive display blends artistic collages, interactive computer tablets and an audio medley of song and spoken word to tell the story of Alabama – from becoming a territory to achieving statehood. It also conveys a message of “Hope” in its presentation about the future.

The exhibit will be on tour for 19 months, traveling to all 67 of Alabama’s counties. Four exhibits have been built, and they will travel the state concurrently so that all counties will be able to experience this historic event in that time period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>TOWN</th>
<th>FESTIVAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEB 2018</td>
<td>Jasper Civic Center</td>
<td>20119th Street East</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MAR 2018</td>
<td>Sumiton City Hall</td>
<td>416 State Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>APR 2018</td>
<td>Parish Community Center</td>
<td>6484 Highway 269</td>
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<td>Parish CoiFest</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAY 2018</td>
<td>Dora Municipal Building</td>
<td>1465 Sharon Boulevard</td>
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<td>Horse Creek Jubilee</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE 2018</td>
<td>Kansas Town Hall (small display)</td>
<td>407 Old Highway 78</td>
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<td>Kansas Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUL 2018</td>
<td>Nauvoo Town Hall</td>
<td>176 McDaniell Avenue</td>
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<td>Nauvoo Car Show</td>
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<td>JUL 2018</td>
<td>Sipsey Community Center</td>
<td>3737 Sipsey Road</td>
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<td>Heritage Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUG 2018</td>
<td>Cordova City Hall</td>
<td>154 Main Street</td>
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<td>Blue Devil Day</td>
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<td>SEP 2018</td>
<td>Carbon Hill Community Center</td>
<td>215 NW 2nd Street</td>
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<td>Hill Fest</td>
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<td>OCT 2018</td>
<td>Oakman Senior Center</td>
<td>10147 Main Street</td>
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<td>Days Gap Festival</td>
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<td>NOV 2018</td>
<td>Eldridge City Hall</td>
<td>208 Smothers Avenue</td>
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<td>Eldridge Day</td>
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<td>DEC 2018</td>
<td>Jasper Public Library</td>
<td>98 18th Street East</td>
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On display during 2019 at the Townley Community Center - 62 Townley School Road
HONORARIUMS: November 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018

Anne and Jack Allen  
Morgan and Matt Allen  
Ell and Elmer Swanson

Lisa and Barry Allen  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Robbin and Anthony Allen  
Betty Underwood

Dr. and Mrs. James Barton  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Rev. and Mrs. Alan Beasley  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Dr. Gene Birdsong  
Kay Byars

Margery Birdsong  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Chapman and Al Blanton  
Brenda Beard

Danky Blanton  
Brenda Beard

Daphne and Jim Bradley  
Judy and Steve Hager  
Jane and Sam Murphy

Al Brandon  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Patsy Brown  
Alice Short

Mr. and Mrs. Ed J. Bull  
Betty Underwood

Jean Byars  
Kay Byars

Kay Byars  
Gene Birdsong  
Jeanette and Pete Smith  
Betty Underwood

Kevin Callahan  
Mike Putman

Pam and Kevin Callahan  
Katie Pickler  
Mike Putman

Mr. and Mrs. Reaves Crabtree  
Kay Byars

Karen and Bubba Crump  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Josephine Davis  
Kay Byars

Abbie Drummond  
Gene Birdsong  
Sylvia Crump  
Corky Hagen  
Tab and Deb Hudson  
Judy and Gerson May  
Brenda and Al McAdams  
Jimmie Carol Sherer  
Jeanette and Pete Smith  
Betty Underwood

Billie Ruth Drummond  
Kay Byars  
Betty Underwood

Toni and John Drummond  
Gene Birdsong

Vicki Drummond  
Consensus Club

Vicki and Michael Drummond  
Corky Hagen  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Karen Duke  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Lee and Stan Eggers  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Rev. and Mrs. Tex Ergle  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Kay Byars

Jean Byars

Kay Byars

Jane and Sam Murphy

Jane and Alec Grant

Mr. and Mrs. Clay Graves, Jr.

Kay Byars

Corky Hagen

Jeanette and Pete Smith  
Betty Underwood

Marsha Hagen  
Corky Hagen

Dr. Michael Hagen  
Corky Hagen

Judy Hager’s Birthday  
Jeanette Smith

Judy and Steve Hager  
Jane and Sam Murphy  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Bert Hendrix  
Bob Boylan

Debbie and Bert Hendrix  
Mary Neal Hendrix

Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Hicks  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Lynda and George Hiller  
Jane and Sam Murphy

Sharon and David Hogg  
Judy and Steve Hager

Kristine and Joe Holley  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Susan Imbrulia  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Eddie Jackson’s Birthday  
Cristy and Lincoln Moody

Susan Jackson  
Jane and Sam Murphy

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Johnson  
Corky Hagen  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Francis and Max Judy  
Sandy and Charles Sanders

Beth and Paul Kennedy  
Mary Neal Hendrix

Sarah and Carl Kennedy  
Leigh Ann and Ralf Ratter

Curt and Brandy Lee  
Judy and Steve Hager

Sandra and Jimmy Lee  
Kay Byars

Captain David Lockhart  
Honorable Greg Reed

Phyllis Long  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Susan and Bud Long  
Corky Hagen  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Betty and Jerry Lovett  
Corky Hagen  
Jeanette and Pete Smith  
Betty Underwood

Terri and John Lyon  
Brenda and Al McAdams  
Jimmie Carol Sherer

Linda Maddox  
Lucy Richardson

Linda and Bob Maddox  
Betty Underwood

Stacey Maher  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Caroline and Frank Mann  
Judy and Steve Hager

Hazel Marlow  
Kay Byars  
Betty Underwood

Judy and Gerson May  
Jane and Sam Murphy

Brenda McAdams  
Lucy Richardson  
Jimmie Carol Sherer

Brenda and Al McAdams  
Judy and Steve Hager  
Betty Underwood

Libbo and Gwaltney McCallum  
Jane and Sam Murphy

Cheryl and Burke McWilliams  
Judy and Steve Hager

Lisa and Eddie Miller  
Judy and Steve Hager

Helen Moses  
Kay Byars

Jane and Sam Murphy  
Judy and Steve Hager

Linda and Lawson Murphy  
Judy and Steve Hager

Carmen and Jack Nicholson  
Jane and Sam Murphy

Dr. and Mrs. Jimmy Nunis  
Kay Byars

Debbie Olive  
Judy and Steve Hager

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John Oliver III

John T. Oliver, Jr.  
Benny LaRussa Sr.  
Lynn and Benny LaRussa Jr.

Dr. and Mrs. Louis Payne  
Lisa and Eddie Miller

Dr. and Mrs. Tommy Payne  
Lisa and Eddie Miller

Jane Pounds’ Birthday  
Kay Byars

Dr. and Mrs. John Poynor  
Kay Byars

Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Poynor III  
Kay Byars

Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Poynor IV  
Kay Byars

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Mary Neal Hendrix

Sudie and Robert Reed  
Betty Underwood

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Francis and Max Judy

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Jeanette and Pete Smith

Jerry Selman  
Judy and Steve Hager

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Jimmie Carol Sherer

Betsy and Al Simmons  
Jane and Sam Murphy

Carla and Tommy Simmons  
Kay Byars  
Jane and Sam Murphy

Rene and John Simmons  
Judy and Steve Hager  
Jane and Sam Murphy

Terry Simmons’ Birthday  
Kay Byars

Jeanette Smith  
Kay Byars  
FUMC Ladies Sunday School Class

Kris and Joe Holley

Jeanette and Pete Smith  
Kay Byars  
Corky Hagen  
Judy and Steve Hager  
Holly and Hugh Smith  
Betty Underwood

Becky and John Stallsmith  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Anne Stanfield  
Kay Byars  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Susan and Charlie Stephens  
Sandy and Charles Sanders

Beth Stukes  
Sylvia Crump

Beth and Rick Stukes  
Kay Byars  
Kathy and James Emison  
Brenda and Al McAdams  
Jeanette and Pete Smith  
Betty Underwood  
Karyn and Brent Uptain

Betty Underwood  
Kay Byars  
Corky Hagen  
Judy and Steve Hager  
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Veterans and Police Officers  
Ann and James Frye

Walker County Amateur Radio Emergency Services  
Linda and Jimmie Dill

Wilson Family  
Corky Hagen

Linda and John Word  
Lisa and Eddie Miller
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Gregory Benefield

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The Bevill Foundation

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Kay Byars

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Byars Wright
Jean Byars

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Sue Pritchard and Josephine Camp

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Elizabeth Weber

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Schrell and Mark Crump

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Larry Drummond
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Charolyn Shurbitt

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Alice Short

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Rene and John Simmons

Gerald Hooks
Alice Short

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Judy and Steve Hager
Robbie and Brack O’Rear
Hulene Sherer
Betsy and Al Simmons
Jackie Simmons

C. Rogers Hyche
Betsy and Al Simmons

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Alice Short

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Emelii and Billy Humphries

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Jeanette and Pete Smith

Florence Johnson
Jane and Sam Murphy

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Alice Short

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Lucy and Bill Richardson
Betsy and Al Simmons

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Emelii and Billy Humphries

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Linda and Lawson Murphy
Doris and Ray McAdams

Margaret McCluney
Emelii and Billy Humphries

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Abbie Drummond
Debbie and Joey Sanders

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Charlotte Sherer

George Mitnick
Charolyn Shurbitt

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Rene and John Simmons

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Reidie and Jerry Redmill

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Imogene and James Fowler

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Abbie Drummond
Karen and Chip Globetti
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Debbie and Joey Sanders
Pinkie and Frank Watts

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Jeanette and Pete Smith

Kerry Sartain
Alice Short

Kerry Sartain
Alice Short

Morrison Savage
Alice Short

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Jenny and Henry Smith

Wayland Sherer
Wilene Sherer

Phillip W. Simmons
Jackie Simmons

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Jimmie Carol Sherer
Alice Short

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Rene and John Simmons

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First Bank of Jasper

Barbara Drummond Thorne
Cathy and Terry Guranus

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Susan and Grant Rolley
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Ann Tucker
Jeanette and Pete Smith

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Kay Byars
Judy and Steve Hager
Lisa and Eddie Miller
Betty Underwood

Becky Vance
James Ann and Gary Martin

Matthew Wilcoxson
Jeanette and Pete Smith

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Abbie Drummond
Debbie and Joey Sanders

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Alice Short

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Jeraldene and John Woodley

Charlie Woods
Lucy Richardson

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Scott Thornley-Secretary/Treasurer and Director
Kevin F. Callahan-Director
Abbie Drummond-Director
Steven “Chip” Globetti-Director
Edward R. Jackson-Past Chairman and Director
Robert B. Nolen, Jr.-Director
J. Douglas Warren-Director

DIRECTOR EMERITUS
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Cristy Moody-Operations
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Mimi Hudson-Community Relations
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Barbara Brown Medders-
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bmedders@wacf.org

Pam Fikes-Program Director
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Debbie Daniel-Accounting
ddaniel@wacf.org

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Visit our website: wacf.org

The Bankhead House & Heritage
2018 Remaining Exhibit Schedule

Celebrating our Communities: Chapter 2
Featuring artifacts from Dora and Sumiton
March 20-September 14
Culturally significant items representing our rich history from these communities in Walker County.

The Magic of Music
October 2-December 28
Opening Reception: October 2, 2:00pm-4:00pm
Walk through our collection of instruments and music related items from local residents and marvel at the evolution of music.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK
Join the Walker Area Community Foundation Group and the Bankhead House & Heritage Center Group on Facebook for the latest news on upcoming events.

HOUSEKEEPING: if you would rather not receive the newsletter, please contact the Foundation.

QUESTION: Would you be interested in receiving an electronic newsletter? If so, please email us at info@wacf.org.