Welcome to the Banner

Bringing you information every Thursday on 200 years of statehood. Highlighting news and events celebrating Alabama.

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On this day in Alabama - October 10

Upcoming Events
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Help us @ ALABAMA200.org

Alabama has been a state for 200 years, and its people are stepping up to commemorate its bicentennial. We’re here to keep you up to date on events and programs throughout the state and help you tune in to the state’s diverse cultural and historic heritage.

To stay on top of everything that’s going on, check out our community calendar at ALABAMA200.org, and to get the full scoop, like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram and Twitter. Encourage your friends and family to do the same.

Your participation helps us reach as many people as possible and is an easy and effective way to show pride for our state, from Bay Minette to Tuscaloosa, Huntsville to Old Cahawba, and the many other towns and communities joining in the celebration. Don’t miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to celebrate with us. Join the party!
Alabama’s path from territory to statehood book released

From the article by Morgan Bryce on OpelikaObserver.com:

*Editor note:* The Alabama Department of Archives and History, NewSouth Books, the Alabama Bicentennial Commission, and the Alabama Tourism Department is hosting a reception on Oct. 11 at 10 a.m. to celebrate the publication of “Alabama From Territory to Statehood: An Alabama Heritage Bicentennial Collection.” This special event will be held at the The Alabama Department of Archives and History and is free and open to the public.

Learn more about Alabama’s journey toward becoming a state in 1819 in *Alabama Heritage Magazine*’s NewSouth Books’ release titled “Alabama From Territory to Statehood.”

The 225-page book chronicles the “prehistory and colonial settlement” of Alabama and “describes border disputes and land surveys, squatting, prospecting, and the land rush remembered as ‘Alabama Fever’,” according to a NewSouth Books press release. It is also published with support from the Alabama Bicentennial Commission.

According to Alabama Heritage Editor Donna Baker, the book contains a compilation of
articles published in special bicentennial issues of her magazine published the last two years, written by a number of well-respected state educators and writers.

“This particular period in our history has been neglected for so long. Of course, it has gotten more attention the last couple of years because of the bicentennial. But I went through the Alabama Reviews looking for articles on the territorial period back when we were planning this,” Baker said. “There were quite a few articles from the 1970s and before that delved into this topic, but (not many) after that. It had been written out, basically, and is part of the reason why we decided to put this book together.

Another critical component of this book is its in-depth analysis of the near Alabama-Mississippi union that took place on the path to statehood.

With Mississippi’s side being more densely populated, the Alabama Territory was carved out on March 3, 1817, with St. Stephens serving as its territorial capital. Two years and four days after Mississippi became a state, Alabama followed suit on Dec. 14, 1819.

“I hope this book fills a gap and that we get people excited about this earlier history. Sometimes, it feels like our history starts at the Civil War, because that’s what people know best, but there was this world before that, and I want to help our view of who we are and where we came from,” Baker said.

Baker added that the book will be released in correlation with her magazine. It should be available in major book retailers statewide.

For more information or to pre-order a copy of the book, visit www.alabamaheritage.com or http://www.newsouthbooks.com/

For the complete article please see https://opelikaobserver.com/book-on-alabamas-path-from-territory-to-statehood-to-be-released-oct-1/
'A Taste Through Time: Celebrating 200 Years of Alabama Food'

Tickets are now available for "A Taste Through Time: Celebrating 200 Years of Alabama Food." The special bicentennial event will take place Oct. 17, 6:30 to 9 p.m. on the grounds of the Alabama Governor's Mansion.

Created by author, lifestyle blogger and Alabama native son Trace Barnett, in partnership with Alabama Executive Chef Jim Smith, the event features a culinary tour through every region of the state. Tickets are $50 each with only 200 places available.

Go to https://atastethroughtime.eventbrite.com/?aff=al200 to order.

Visit www.ALABAMA200.org for more information. Proceeds from ticket sales support the renovation of the governor's mansion's kitchen.

Barnett and Kathy G & Company, a renowned Birmingham-based catering and event design firm, have created a menu that will take diners from barbeque with North Alabama white barbecue sauce to Gulf Coast seafood gumbo with iconic dishes such as fried green tomatoes, Alabama black-eyed pea "caviar" and banana pudding moon pies in between.

"Our bicentennial year is a fabulous occasion to celebrate our state," says Barnett, whose book, "Tracing Roots: A Modern Approach to living Off the Land," showcases fresh takes on many traditional dishes. "And what says 'Alabama' more than the ingredients and dishes that are unique to our regions? This is going to be a very special event that spotlights our history as well as our vibrant contemporary food scene."

"We are thrilled to be a part of the dinner and welcome the support it will give the mansion," notes Stephen Brickley, president of the Friends of the Alabama Governor's Mansion. "Our kitchen does not date from the founding of the state, but you might not know that if you saw it today!"
"Proceeds from the event will go a long way toward helping with its renovation," he adds.

The event is made possible with the generous support of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama and Coca-Cola Bottling United, Inc., both long-time sponsors of ALABAMA 200, the official bicentennial commemoration. "A Taste Through Time" is just one of many events planned this fall that celebrate Alabama's people, places and stories. Visit [www.ALABAMA200.org](http://www.ALABAMA200.org) to learn more.

Gov Ivey, Union Spring murals and Camden water tower

**Murals on Main comes alive in Union Springs**

From the article by Bryan Henry on [WSFA.com](http://WSFA.com):

With a large mural of Hank Williams on a building wall, Midge Putnam ‘saw the light’ one year ago. She came up with the idea of boosting tourism in Bullock County.

“Just with the Facebook traffic, we’re seeing people stopping and taking photos,” said Putnam, executive director of the Bullock County Tourism Council.
One year and five murals later, it’s become the talk of the town, enough of a splash to lure Gov. Kay Ivey to the city.

“We are celebrating Alabama’s bicentennial,” Ivey said. She cut the ribbon to formally celebrate the murals, starting with Hank Williams staring back from a bygone era.

“With Hank Williams having a connection to Bullock County,” said Putnam.

And a block or two away, school children treated the crowd with ‘My Girl,’ a long-ago hit by The Temptations with co-founder Eddie Kendricks smiling down for all the world to see from another wall.

“A new avenue of sprucing up the town and bringing in tourists,” Putman said.

In recent years art murals have become must-see attractions in many towns across the country. An artist recently turned the water tank in Camden, Alabama, into a nature scene. Camden happens to be the governor’s hometown.

The work in Union Springs was done at the hands of Wes Hardin. “To have the governor honor my work, I have never in my career had any honor like that,” Hardin admitted.

He says he feels good about the work he’s done in downtown Union Springs, but the real grade came from Eddie Kendricks’ sister who gave it more than a thumbs up.

“It captures his smile, his inner spirit, and his soul,” said Patricia Simpson, of Birmingham.

The murals tell the stories of people from a different time. With Midge Putnam’s conception and Wes Hardin’s handiwork, they have resurrected local history and brought it closer to home.

For the complete article please see https://www.wsfa.com/2019/10/09/murals-main-comes-alive-union-springs/
Bankhead House hosting bicentennial traveling exhibit

From the article by Jennifer Cohron on MountainEagle.com:

An exhibit celebrating 200 years of state history opened Tuesday at the Bankhead House and Heritage Center.

The exhibit will remain in Jasper through Oct. 25.

The exhibit, presented by Alabama Humanities Foundation, first went on display in Montgomery in March 2018 before beginning a 19-month tour of each of Alabama's 67 counties.

Four exhibits showcasing the same material are being used so that the tour can be completed by November.

The exhibit groups Alabama history into eight periods that span from the state's settlement by Native Americans to the present day and the future.

Guests will read about important events on interactive computer tablets. Artistic collages have been developed to be used as backdrops for each time period.

AHF has decades of experience with traveling exhibits through its partnership with the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum on Main Street traveling exhibit.

The Bankhead House has hosted two Museum on Main Street programs: "Journey

“Just like the Smithsonian, where not everyone has the opportunity to view a Smithsonian exhibit in Washington, not everyone can make it to Montgomery to see Alabama Department of Archives and History’s unparalleled ‘Voices’ exhibit,” said AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser. “What we are putting together gives them that opportunity.”

"Alabama Voices” opened as the centerpiece exhibition at the Museum of Alabama in February 2014.

The Bankhead House is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. as well as the third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free.

School groups are encouraged.

For the complete article please see http://mountaineagle.com/stories/bankhead-house-hosting-bicentennial-traveling-exhibit,22255
As Alabama gears up to celebrate its bicentennial anniversary Dec. 14, a traveling exhibit depicting some of the most important points in the state’s history continues making its way to each county.

“Making Alabama” made its Etowah County debut on Friday at the Gadsden Museum of Art.

The exhibit will be housed in the museum’s main gallery, showing off artistic panels that depict different periods of the state’s history, as well as some of the most influential people who played a part in that history.

The gallery contains eight separate panels, each set up with interactive screens that provide details from different eras of Alabama’s history. A segment covering the years of 1815 to 1860 chronicles the cotton industry that boomed across the state. Another display provides context on the Civil Rights Movement from 1940 to 1965. Other segments highlight critical turning points in the state’s history.

The exhibit’s appearance in Gadsden was a combined effort by the museum and the Gadsden Public Library, Downtown Gadsden Inc. and the City of Gadsden. The library’s director, Craig Scott, said he applied for the exhibit to appear locally, requesting that it could be located here in December, when the state actually celebrates the milestone.

Montgomery already had reserved the exhibit for that month, he said, so he requested November, which Madison County had already claimed. They were able to pencil Etowah County in for October, though, and Scott said he was excited for the gallery to be set up and open to the public.

“We’re expecting a big crowd,” he said, adding that the exhibit has been popular in other counties during the three years it has been traveling.

The exhibit is presented by the Alabama Humanities Foundation along with the Alabama Bicentennial Commission and the Alabama Department of Archives and History. In addition to providing the travelling exhibit, they worked with communities around the state to commission localized exhibits to accompany it.

The “History of Etowah County” exhibit, which will be on display upstairs at the museum, features historic aerial images of downtown Gadsden, relics from Native Americans who lived in the area, the Civil War era, memorabilia from first responders and industry in the county and more.
A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held for the exhibits at 6 p.m. during Downtown Gadsden’s First Friday event. After the ribbon cutting, the gallery will be on display for three weeks before it is packed up and moved to its next destination on Oct. 25.

For the complete article please see https://www.gadsdentimes.com/news/20191003/traveling-alabama-bicentennial-exhibit-to-debut-at-gma-on-friday

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New bus wraps unveiled to mark city, state’s bicentennial

From the article on WSFA.com:

With the 200th birthday of both the city of Montgomery and the state of Alabama nearing, a group of residents recently shared ideas with the Public Arts Commission on how to mark the bicentennial.

Kalonji Gilchrist shared his idea for creating artistic bus wraps to mark the historic occasions, and the art commission got to work putting everything in place to make it happen.

Two Montgomery artists, Bill Ford and Chris Hardy, were chosen to design their work on the city’s bus fleet.

Ford, who worked for decades as the art director at WSFA 12 News, designed “A River Runs to It,” which draws on the entire history of Montgomery.
It depicts people, places and events that impacted the nation and includes Andrew Dexter’s merger of New Philadelphia and Gen. John Scott’s Alabama Town. Others include names like the Wright Brothers, F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald, Hank Williams, Nat King Cole, Dr. Percy Julian, Gov. George C. Wallace, Rev. Martin Luther King, Winton “Red” Blount and Oscar-winner Octavia Spencer.

Hardy, an advertising design instructor at Lanier High School, came up with the “All Together Now!” theme which uses the expressive nature of graffiti to show the vibrant future of the city and state.

The layered textures are said to mimic the walls of subway trains in cities like New York, hoping viewers feel its energy, the same that reverberates throughout Montgomery.

Montgomery was founded Dec. 3, 1819, while Alabama’s statehood was granted a little over a week later on Dec. 14, 1819.

The buses are already in service and can be seen around the city.

For the complete article please see https://www.wsfa.com/2019/10/09/new-bus-wraps-unveiled-mark-city-states-bicentennial/

The Randolph County line dancers
Local line dancers planning bicentennial celebration

From the article by Morgan McGue on TheRandolphLeader.com:

The Randolph County Liners need you to "come make history!"

The Randolph County line dancers are ecstatic and eager to have anyone and everyone join them in their attempt for the best bicentennial celebration at the Wedowee Family Fun Day this coming Saturday, Oct. 12. If you have ever wanted to try your hand, or shall we say foot, at dancing, now is your chance.

Line dance leader Cherry Ward has set a goal for the town to gather 200 people to all join and do the electric slide to "Sweet Home Alabama" at this year's bicentennial celebration at French Park in Wedowee. All are welcome as Ward aims to have the best and most creative bicentennial celebration in the state.

For those of you who may not know, this year marks the state of Alabama's 200th birthday, and towns all over the great state of Alabama are coming together to celebrate this historical moment. In 1819, Alabama's state constitution was signed in Huntsville, allowing Alabama to become the 22nd state to join the Union. This year marks the 200th anniversary of that signing, and Wedowee is going big for their celebration.

Don't let the word "dancing" scare you off, however. All they are looking for are proud Alabamians moving around and attempting to shuffle their feet to a classic song that is special to our state. We know you all can't help but to move around when the well-known tune "Sweet Home Alabama" starts to play. So why not come out and join in with all the others who also secretly dance to this tune?

You will have the chance to be a part of history. Who knows just how monumental this movement could be? And for those who are part of the younger generation, you will be able to also celebrate the 250-year anniversary in the future. This is a truly unique opportunity.

Live music by Ryan and Roger will be played from 6-9 p.m., and the electric slide is set to begin at 7 p.m. Plan to sign up for the Electric Slide at 6 p.m. at French Park in order for the dancers to keep a head count. The first 200 to sign up will receive a free glow-in-the-dark necklace to wear during the dance. At the festival, you can also expect to see a cruise-in of vintage cars. And for all the football fanatics, there will be a tailgate set up playing the games on television. Lastly, there will be fireworks to end the night with a
bang at 9 p.m.

Ward, leader of the liners, wants you to "just get out there and join us! Age doesn't matter at all," says Ward. "It's not about the dancing, just the 200 people." Ward promises that it'll be a nice, slow electric slide. She exclaims, "This will be fun for all ages, if they can stand up, they can dance!" Sylvia French, another leader, offers, "Come, participate, and have a good time!"

For the complete article please see https://www.therandolphleader.com/news/article_ba799052-eaa9-11e9-bd41-63cb26e96842.html

Joe Cain
October 10, 1832

Joseph Stillwell Cain was born in Mobile. In 1866, Cain and six members of the Tea Drinkers Society, dressed in exaggerated Indian costumes, paraded through downtown Mobile in a decorated charcoal wagon playing horns and drums. The parade was Mobile’s first Carnival celebration since before the Civil War and the first to move festivities from New Year’s Eve to the more traditional pre-Lenten period in February. Each year, Mobile honors Cain with Joe Cain Day, which is held the Sunday before Fat Tuesday and features “The People's Parade” and Cain’s Merry Widows, who visit his burial site in mourning to lay a wreath and lament his loss.

http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-2923

Oct. 1-31 – Huntsville History Month (Huntsville)
Huntsville History Month is back for its second year, with a variety of history-centric events and activities for visitors and locals alike to enjoy. Huntsville History Month, an initiative spearheaded by the Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau, celebrates the area’s rich historical heritage. The focus point of the campaign - a digital, month-long calendar of events – is a one-stop shop for those eager to take a step back in time through the variety of historical events taking place in October.

Oct. 9-12 – Moundville Native American Festival (Moundville)
The annual festival celebrates Native American culture through performers, vendors, demonstrators, living history teachers, and more.

Visit the tools and weapons range to learn how to throw an atlatl, or stop by the Native American stage to watch stomp dancers, social dancers, and the great hoop-dancer, Lyndon Alec. Don’t miss the fantastic music of GrayHawk Perkins and many others. Learn about traditional pottery firing, weaving, beadwork, and other crafts. Bring your children by the children’s area for face-painting and make-and-take crafts.
Visit https://moundville.museums.ua.edu/moundville-native-american-festival/

Oct. 11 – Alabama From Territory to Statehood (Montgomery)
The Alabama Department of Archives and History, NewSouth Books, the Alabama Bicentennial Commission, and the Alabama Tourism Department— is hosting a reception at 10 a.m. to celebrate the publication of 'Alabama From Territory to Statehood: An Alabama Heritage Bicentennial Collection.' This special event will be held at the The Alabama Department of Archives and History and is free and open to the public.

Oct. 11-12 – Alabama Historical Association Fall Pilgrimage (Wetumpka)
Embark on a cultural and educational experience created by the Wetumpka AL200
Celebration Committee, along with their partners, Main Street Wetumpka, the Elmore County Black Heritage Association, the Elmore County Commission, and the City of Wetumpka. Wetumpka is lovingly called “Rumbling Waters” because of its location near the Coosa River. On Friday afternoon, we will have a special treat at Jasmine Hill Gardens & Outdoor Museum followed by an opening reception and refreshments at the home of noted art collector, Benjamin Fitzpatrick. Visit [https://www.alabamahistory.net/meetings](https://www.alabamahistory.net/meetings)

Oct. 12-13 – Kentuck Festival of the arts (Northport)
Every year, over 10,000 travel from across the United States to become immersed in a Southern experience of prolific creativity rarely found at other festivals. Having roots in folk art, the festival features 270-plus artists, live music, spoken word, activities for children, folk-and-contemporary craft demonstrations, food trucks, and local craft brews.

Oct. 21 – Rosenwald Schools in Alabama Traveling Exhibit (Huntsville)
You are invited to the opening of the Rosenwald Schools in Alabama traveling exhibit on the Drake State Community and Technical College.

Oct. 23 – Judson College Authors Symposium (Marion)
The Judson College Authors Symposium will celebrate Judson College alumnae who are published authors with emphasis on five of the more than 100 identified to-date. There is no charge to attend the event. Lunch may be purchased at $35 per plate. Ribeye will be served. Luncheon reservations can be made by contacting Beth Poole, Alumnae Director at Judson College at bpoole1@judson.edu or 334-683-5167 by Oct. 10. High School groups attending the event must email Beth Poole their completed and signed registration form for school participation by Oct. 10. Visit [https://www.judson.edu/news/judson-authors-symposium-to-celebrate-alumnae-authors-oct-23/](https://www.judson.edu/news/judson-authors-symposium-to-celebrate-alumnae-authors-oct-23/)

Oct. 30 – A Commemoration of Alabama's Constitutions (Montgomery)
The Blackstone & Burke Center for Law & Liberty at Faulkner University Thomas Goode Jones School of Law announces “A Commemoration of Alabama’s Constitutions,” a symposium addressing the complex history of Alabama’s six constitutions. The event will feature seven sessions that include a variety of speakers with diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise.

Nov. 1-11 – Clean Home Alabama Initiative (State-wide)
Community college students, faculty and staff will serve alongside residents and members of several community organizations on Clean Home Alabama days for a number of beautification and litter pickup projects in Alabama’s counties. Several community organizations have already committed to projects. Visit [www.accs.edu/CleanHomeAL](http://www.accs.edu/CleanHomeAL).

Nov. 2 – Butler County's Bicentennial Celebration (Greenville)
Celebrating Alabama's Bicentennial as well as 200 years of Butler County's existence, our celebration event will include: Center Stage, a flag ceremony, local history displays, local tours, a vintage auto show and children's hands on history discovery area. Visit [http://alabama200.org/events/butler-county-bicentennial-celebration](http://alabama200.org/events/butler-county-bicentennial-celebration)

Nov. 3-Dec 31 – We the People: Alabama’s Defining Documents (Montgomery)
Celebrate Alabama’s bicentennial with the documents that defined our state and shaped its history. All six of Alabama’s constitutions will be on view together in a special exhibition presented by the Alabama Department of Archives and History. The exhibition will also highlight intensive conservation work recently completed on the constitutions and the 1861 ordinance of secession, which declared Alabama’s separation from the Union on the eve of the Civil War. The ordinance will also be included in the exhibition. Visit [http://www.wethepeoplealabama.org](http://www.wethepeoplealabama.org)

Nov. 6 & 7 – Teacher Professional Development Workshops on Alabama's Six Constitutions (Montgomery)
Featuring the Alabama Department of Archives and History's new bicentennial exhibition *We the People: Alabama's Defining Documents*, these day-long workshops for grades 3-12 teachers will delve into the history of Alabama's six constitutions and provide valuable tools and resources for incorporating them into your classroom curriculum. Visit [http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=rmg54lcab&oeidk=a07egmle02j3eae74a2](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=rmg54lcab&oeidk=a07egmle02j3eae74a2)

Go to [Alabama200.org/events](http://Alabama200.org/events) for more information on these and other events.

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**Exhibitions**

**Unframed Images: Photography from the collection of P. H. Polk**

Sept. 16 - Oct. 31 Madison Co., City: Huntsville, Venue: Alabama A&M University Library

Nov. 1 - Nov. 29 Dale Co., City: Dothan, Venue: Troy University Dothan Campus Library

Dec. 2 - 30 Jefferson Co., City: Birmingham, Venue: Springville Road Public Library

**Alabama Justice: The cases and faces that changed a nation**


**Making Alabama: A Bicentennial traveling exhibit**


Oct. 4 - Oct. 25 Etowah Co., City: Gadsden, Venue: Gadsden Museum of Art


Oct. 8 - Oct. 25 Walker Co., City: Jasper, Venue: Bankhead House and Heritage Center
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to the Sponsors who make this possible

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For a complete list of sponsors, click here.