



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES NEWSLETTER

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May is Historic Preservation Month

May has been designated Historic Preservation Month both nationally and locally. Preservation Month was designed to raise awareness of the power historic preservation has to protect and enhance our homes, neighborhoods and communities - the places that really matter to us. It provides an opportunity to celebrate the diverse and unique heritage of Forsyth County and enables all of us to become involved in the growing preservation movement. This year events are being celebrated in the City of Winston-Salem, in unincorporated Forsyth County, and in four of the county's small towns.



The Historic Resources Commission (HRC) invites the community to two historic marker unveilings. The first will be the Samuel and Sarah Stauber Farm on May 7 at 3:00p.m. Join the HRC to learn more about this farm which was established in 1852. The Stauber Farm represents Forsyth County's agrarian development in the mid-to-late 19th century.

On May 20 at 1:00p.m., join the HRC at Happy Hill Park to unveil The Brothers' Spring and the African School marker.

The Brothers' Spring provided clean water, an important campsite, and a recreational park in the 18th and 19th centuries. Uphill from the spring, freedmen of the area and the Salem African Church (St. Philips Moravian) established the first school in the county for African-American children in 1867. A tour of the Happy Hill neighborhood will follow, led by Cheryl Harry, Director of African-American Programming for Old Salem Museums & Gardens.

The HRC will also host a Downtown Winston-Salem Architectural Walk on May 25 at 12:00p.m. and will co-host



with the Black History Archives, a Trolley Tour of the Historic Residences of East 14th Street on May 18 at 11:30 a.m. The tour will utilize the trolleys recently refurbished by Triad Eco Adventures Tours and it is the first time the Black History Archives, led by Linda Dark will have a tour about the East 14th Street area. The tickets are free but seating is very limited. Contact Michelle McCullough at michellem@cityofws.org if you are interested in tickets.

Other programs during May include the Old Salem Museums & Gardens' Wednesday Lunch and Learn program; a Grounds and Gardens Walking Tour at Reynolda House; Preservation Forsyth trolley tours and an awards program; and events in Rural Hall, Bethania, Kernersville, and Walkertown.

Most events are free and open to the public but some of the events have a fee and/or have limited ticket sales. For more information and a more extensive list of events, visit: www.Forsyth-CountyHRC.org



2017
Great Historic Rehabilitation
Award Recipient
The North Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association celebrates excellence in planning.



R.J. Reynolds Building Recognized as a Great Historic Rehabilitation



The R.J. Reynolds building in Downtown Winston-Salem was recognized as a “Great Historic Rehabilitation” in a People’s Choice category of the “Great Places in North Carolina” awards program sponsored by the North Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association (NCAPA). NCAPA is an organization of 1,500 professional and citizen planners dedicated to preserving and creating great communities throughout North Carolina. This is the sixth year NCAPA has sponsored the Great Places program, designed

to bring recognition to special places across the state. The program includes awards selected by an expert panel and People’s Choice awards, selected by on-line voting.

The iconic Art Deco style building was the original Reynolds Tobacco Company headquarters and has stood as a

symbol of the city since the 1920s. The building’s architects, Shreve and Lamb, used the building as the model for the Empire State Building. PMC Property Group began renovations for adaptive reuse in 2014. Total project cost was approximately \$60 million, partially financed by state and federal historic tax credits. The renovated building includes a hotel, a restaurant and apartments. The signature, National Register designated building has become a significant part of the dynamic revitalization of Downtown Winston-Salem.



Great Places winners were recognized on March 29 at the NC League of Municipalities’ Town Hall Day at the State Legislative Building in Raleigh. Mayor Allen Joines and other Winston-Salem elected officials accepted the award for Winston-Salem. Lewisville’s Shallowford Square, was also recognized this year, winning in another People’s Choice category, “Great Public Space”.

May is Building Safety Month



The International Code Council’s (ICC) Building Safety Month is a public awareness campaign to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures. The campaign reinforces

the need for adoption of modern, model building codes, a strong and efficient system of code enforcement, and a well-trained, professional workforce to maintain the system. The North Carolina Building Code is an ICC sponsored and developed code.

This year’s theme is *Who Needs Building Codes?* All communities need building codes to protect their citizens from disasters like fires, weather-related events and structural collapse. Model building codes are society’s best way of protecting homes, offices, schools, manufacturing facilities, stores and entertainment venues. Code officials work day in and day out to keep the public safe.

Each week in May will focus on a different aspect of building safety. Topics for 2017 are: Mentoring the Next Generation of Building Professionals; Building Design Solutions for All Ages; Manage the Damage – Preparing for Natural Disasters; and Technology for Safety, Energy & Water Efficiency.



Locally, the Winston-Salem City Council and the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners will be asked to adopt proclamations recognizing May as Building Safety Month, acknowledging the essential services provided by state and local building safety officials and encouraging participation in Building Safety Month activities.

For more information from ICC about Building Safety Month, visit: <https://www.iccsafe.org/about-icc/building-safety-month/2017-building-safety-month/>

Want more information?

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