

March 2025

A Word from Hunter...

Spring is in full swing!

On April 1, Ulti-Mutt Bakery was awarded \$10,000 as a Bright Ideas Regional Finalist from Main Street Alabama and will compete for an additional \$25,000 in August. The Alabama Spark Initiative has already awarded \$15,000 to downtown Oxford businesses this year.

Step back in time with our free Historic Walking Tours on Main planned for April 12 and April 26, showcasing Oxford's rich history, meeting at Simmons Park. Help us keep downtown beautiful by joining our next Litter Cleanup Day on April 19 from 9 AM to 11 AM, meeting at Simmons Park—supplies provided. Volunteers will collect litter and help with beautification efforts.

Our Business Development Workshop Series kicks off April 22 with Oxford Zoning 101: A Real Estate Agent's Guide at the Oxford Civic Center. Led by city experts, this session will cover zoning regulations, permits, and property maintenance.

Vendor applications are now being accepted for the 2025 Spring Market on Main, happening May 10 at Simmons Park. Apply by April 28 to be part of this popular event featuring artisans, food vendors, and entertainment.

Historic Main Street Oxford remains committed to preserving downtown, supporting local businesses, and fostering a thriving community. We hope to see you at these upcoming events!

See you downtown!

Hunter Gentry Director, Historic Main Street Oxford

HMSO Annual Meeting- Grant Presentations

On April 1, Ulti-Mutt Bakery in Historic Downtown Oxford was awarded \$10,000 as a Bright Ideas Regional Finalist from Main Street Alabama. Owners Jennifer Kendall and Bobby Carson were surprised with the check, presented by Historic Main Street Oxford Director Hunter Gentry, along with board members and representatives.

Out of 27 businesses competing for a spot as an Alabama Spark Bright Ideas State Regional Wildcard Winner, only five were selected, and Ulti-Mutt Bakery was among them. They will now advance to the Bright Ideas State Finals in August, where they will compete for an additional \$25,000 grant.

The Alabama Spark Initiative supports small business growth, and downtown Oxford businesses have already received \$15,000 in funding this year through the program.

For more information about the program and others winners across the state, click <u>here!</u>







2025 Main Street Membership Program

Support the Heart of Oxford - Become a Main Street Member

Historic Main Street Oxford (HMSO) is committed to preserving our historic downtown, supporting local businesses, and fostering a vibrant community. Since 2014, we have used Main Street America's Four-Point Approach—Organization, Promotion, Design, and Economic Vitality—to drive sustainable, community-based change.

By becoming a member, you directly support:

- Local business development and networking opportunities
- Community events that bring foot traffic downtown
- Façade and signage grants to maintain Oxford's historic charm
- Free business development workshops and resources
- The continued success of downtown revitalization efforts

Membership Tiers:

- Main Street Investor (\$250) For downtown businesses. Includes a website listing, window decal, sandwich board sign listing, priority event participation, Ovation & Oxford Access listing, and an annual social media highlight post.
- Friend of Main Street (\$450) For non-downtown businesses. Includes a website directory listing, window decal, sandwich board sign listing, and an annual social media highlight post.
- Friends of Main Street (\$100) For individuals and families. Includes an annual social media highlight post and an annual Oxford Access listing.

Join us in making a lasting impact on Oxford's downtown. To become a member, contact Hunter Gentry at hunter.gentry@oxfordal.gov or 256-862-6067.

HISTORIC MAIN STREET OXFORD

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM



APRIL 2025 - MARCH 2026

HISTORIC
OXFORD
MAIN STREET
— ALABAMA

ABOUT HISTORIC MAIN STREET OXFORD PROGRAM

WHO WE ARE

Historic Main Street Oxford (HMSO) is an economic and community development organization committed to revitalizing and enhancing downtown Oxford. We utilize Main Street America's Four Point Approach—Organization, Promotion, Design, and Economic Vitality—to drive sustainable, community—based change. Established in 2014 when Oxford became a Designated Main Street Community by Main Street Alabama, HMSO continues to foster growth, preserve history, and promote local businesses.

VISION STATEMENT

Historic Downtown Oxford will become Northeast Alabama's destination for arts, dining, entertainment, shopping, and special events.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Historic Main Street Oxford is to enhance downtown vibrancy, preserve its history, empower its community of businesses, and foster a center of activity for residents and visitors.



HISTORIC MAIN STREET OXFORD MEMBERSHIP TIERS

FOR DOWNTOWN BUSINESS MEMBERS MAIN STREET INVESTOR - \$250

- MAIN STREET INVESTOR -
- Special Listing on WebsiteWindow Decal
- Priority Participation for HMSO Events
- Sandwich Board Sign Listing
- Ovation & Oxford Access Listing
- Annual Social Media Highlight Post

FOR NON-DOWNTOWN BUSINESS MEMBERS PARTNER OF MAIN STREET - \$450

- Website Directory Listing
- Window Decal
- Sandwich Board Sign Listing
- Annual Social Media Highlight Post

FOR INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES FRIENDS OF MAIN STREET - \$100

- Annual Website Listing
- Annual Oxford Access Listing

To Become a Member Contact Hunter Gentry, HMSO Director

hunter.gentry@oxfordal.gov



WHY INVEST IN HISTORIC MAIN STREET OXFORD? HMSO DOES THE FOLLOWING:

- Provides direct, hands-on support for downtown Oxford merchants, businesses, and organizations
- Coordinates monthly and quarterly networking events to foster collaboration and growth
- Offers free business development workshops to help businesses thrive
- Administers façade and signage grant programs to enhance downtown's historic charm
- Organizes annual community events that drive foot traffic and engagement for local businesses
- Strengthens economic vitality by supporting local entrepreneurs and job creation
- Preserves Oxford's historic buildings and unique downtown character
- Ensures the continued success of revitalization efforts, making downtown a vibrant place to live, work, and visit







Contact us:
P.O. Box 3383
Oxford, AL 36203
256-241-6667
mainstreet@oxfordal.gov





Step back in time with Historic Walking Tours on Main in Oxford. These free guided tours will showcase the city's rich history, highlighting buildings, homes, and sites dating from the 1850s to the 1920s.

- April 12 Commercial District Tour
- April 26 Architectural Styles Tour

Each tour begins at Simmons Park (400 Main Street) and offers a unique glimpse into Oxford's past. The event is part of the Alabama Tourism Department's April Walking Tour Initiative. Don't miss this opportunity to explore and learn more about the city's historic downtown.





Downtown Litter Clean Up Days

Historic Main Street Oxford kicked off its first litter cleanup of the year on March 29, with volunteers collecting 25 bags of garbage across downtown streets. In addition to the cleanup, another group planted flowers in the new planters along the main corridor of the commercial district, adding fresh color to the area.

The next cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, April 19, 2025, from 9 AM to 11 AM, meeting at Simmons Park (400 Main Street). All supplies—including litter grabbers, buckets, gloves, and garbage bags—will be provided. Just wear closed-toe shoes and bring your community spirit!

If you want to make a difference in downtown Oxford, be the change! Register <u>here</u> to join the next cleanup.









2025 DOWNTOWN LITTER CLEAN UP DAYS

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

SATURDAY, MAY 17

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Join Historic Main Street Oxford for Downtown Litter Clean - Up
Days & help make a difference in your community!

Meet at Simmons Park (400 Main Street) to tidy up designated
downtown areas, all supplies are provided- just wear closed-to
shoes & come ready to make an impact!



Spring Market on Main

Applications are still open for the 2025 Spring Market on Main, and the deadline to apply is April 28, 2025. Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your products at one of the most anticipated events of the season! The market will take place on Saturday, May 10, 2025, from 8 AM to 4 PM at Simmons Park (400 Main Street). This vibrant event will feature local and regional craft and artisan vendors, art vendors, live entertainment, food trucks, downtown shopping, and fun activities for kids.



Oxford Business Development Workshop Series

Historic Main Street Oxford is committed to equipping the local business community with valuable resources through its Business Development Workshop Series. These free workshops are open to citywide, local, and regional businesses and entrepreneurs.

The first workshop of the year, Oxford Zoning 101: A Real Estate Agent's Guide, will provide real estate professionals with a comprehensive understanding of Oxford's zoning laws and development regulations.

- Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025
- Time: 10 AM 11:30 AM
- Location: Oxford Civic Center (401 McCullars Lane)

Presented by Hunter Gentry, Director of Historic Main Street Oxford, and Kristi Durham, Director of

Oxford Building Services, this workshop will cover zoning regulations, permits, inspection processes, rezoning procedures, and property maintenance requirements. Attendees will gain valuable insights to navigate Oxford's regulatory landscape with confidence, ensuring smoother transactions and better client guidance.

RSVP by here Thursday, April 17, 2025, to secure your spot!

Oxford Business Development Workshop Series

Oxford Zoning 101:

A Real Estate Agent's Guide

An essential workshop for real estate agents, this session will cover Oxford's zoning laws, building codes, permits, inspections, and more, helping agents navigate the complexities of property transactions in the city.

KRISTI DURHAM

Director of Oxford Building Services

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025 10:00 - 11:30 AM

HUNTER GENTRY,

Director of Historic Main Street Oxford

OXFORD CIVIC CENTER, ROOM 215 401 MCCULLARS LANE, OXFORD, AL 36203





SAVE-THE-DATE

Oxford Business Development Workshop Series

Oxford Zoning 101: A Real Estate Agent's Guide

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM

From Idea to Income: Starting a Business

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 | 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Finance Fundamentals for Small Businesses

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Grow Your Brand: Small Business Marketing Strategies

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Conflict Resolution Through Healthy Communication

Thursday, September 4, 2025 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Building a Better Oxford: Volunteer Opportunities

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 | 6:00 - 7:30 PM





Oxford Performing Arts Center

The show goes on at the Oxford Performing Arts Center! Tickets for all performances are now on sale. Don't miss your chance to enjoy an incredible lineup of events in April 2025!



An Evening with Comedian Jeff Foxworthy



Seven Wonders - A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac



Tesla Quartet



The Addams Family -Broadway Musical National Tour



Leonid & Friends - 2025 Tour



Behind The Scenes Tours



The Perondi's Stunt Dog Experience



An Evening with Clint Black



A Night at the Popera with the Atlanta Pops Orchestra



Oxford, Alabama at Its Best!

Cindy Williams with the Oxford Arts Council invites you to help celebrate Oxford, Alabama, at its best by participating in a writing contest.

To celebrate the city's new tagline, "Oxford, Alabama at Its Best," participants are encouraged to be creative and share a poem or essay about their memories of places in Oxford or our communities that epitomize Oxford at its finest; humorous occurrences in Oxford's history that illustrate Oxford at its best; individuals who personify Oxford at its best; or events that highlight Oxford at its best.

Adult Contest Details:

The contest is open to all adults aged 19 to 100.

Submission Deadline: June 16, 2025.

Winners will be recognized during Oxford's 4th of July celebration at Oxford Lake and at various community events. Selected entries will also be featured in publications and on social media.

Submission Guidelines:

Entries should be no longer than 500 words and must be original. Plagiarism, submissions created by others, or AI-generated content will not be accepted.

Please submit all entries here!

For any additional information, email oxfordartscouncil@gmail.com



Available Residential Property

Interested in moving to Historic Downtown Oxford? Check out these available residential properties for sale.



220 East Fourth Street- \$264,999. Click here for more information!



207 West Oak Street- \$119,000.



211 West Oak Street- \$90,000. Click here for more information!



925 Luttrell Street- \$214,900. Click here for more information!



1208 Barry Street- \$70,000. Click here for more information!



1214 Barry Street- \$70,000. Click <u>here</u> for more information!



115 Miller Street- \$110,000. Click <u>here</u> for more information!



211 Spring Street- \$199,900. Click here for more information!

(Old) Oxford Library Building

The Oxford Library was established as a branch of the Calhoun County Library in November 1927. From its earliest days, it was supported by the Europa Club, which had sponsored the library since 1928. Through the combined efforts of the Europa Club, the Quest Club, and the Exchange Club, funds were raised to construct a new library building in 1947 on the same site as the original library. Several Europa Club members played a key role in securing funding, including Terrell Pace Standford, Sarah Wright Walker, Doris Johnson Allen, Ruby Cox, and Eugenia Thornton Pace.

For 32 years, the library served as a vital resource for the Oxford community, until it was relocated a few blocks away in 1979. That same year, the building was briefly used by the newly formed Cheaha Baptist Church. In February 1983, it was rededicated as the Earl Martin Scout Hall, honoring the late Mayor Earl Martin. Since then, it has been home to Oxford Scout Troop 10, which has been active in the community since 1924.





Calendar of HMSO Events & Committee Meetings

To stay up-to-date with all things happening in Historic Downtown Oxford, please checkout our newly improved calendar <u>here!</u>

Dine, Shop, & Explore!

Historic Downtown Oxford offers a unique experience for everyone including, but no limited to a first class performing arts center, a locally owned and operated coffee shop, variety of speciality shops, a Southern home-cooking restaurant also locally owned and operated, two art galleries, three historic churches, and walking distance to homes listed on the Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage and National Register of Historic Places.

A full directory listing can be found here.

About Historic Main Street Oxford (HMSO):

Historic Main Street Oxford (HMSO) is an economic and community development organization that focuses on the Four Point Approach strategy of organization, promotion, design, and economic vitality as outlined by Main Street America. The Four Point Approach makes Main Street an effective tool for a community-based, volunteer-driven, grassroots revitalization efforts. HMSO was created in 2014 when Oxford became a Designated Main Street Community by Main Street Alabama.

Vision Statement:

Historic Downtown Oxford will become Northeast Alabama's destination for arts, dining, entertainment, shopping, and special events.

Mission Statement:

The mission of Historic Main Street Oxford is to enhance downtown vibrancy, preserve its history, empower its community of business, and foster a center of activity for residents and visitors.

Our Team:

Jeremy Cruse, owner of The Terrortorium

Karen Grammer, owner of The Main Olive

Charlotte Hubbard, city council member & owner of Hubbard's Off Main

Robin Leonard, board secretary & downtown resident

Gerry Lyons, Oxford Police Department

Debbie Nothdurft, retired Oxford City Schools

Gwen Parrish, board chair & owner of The Vine Chiropractic

Ben Stewart, Oxford Fire Department

Donna Timmons, board secretary assistant

Hunter Gentry, director
Wren Munroe, marketing assistant



Copyright © 2025, Historic Main Street Oxford, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

145 Hamric Drive East P.O. Box 3383 Oxford, AL 36203

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can <u>update your preferences</u> or <u>unsubscribe from this list</u>.





