



NOVEMBER 2023

A Note from the Director

October was a record busy month for Historic Downtown Oxford! The month commenced with a show at the Oxford Performing Arts Center and concluded with Trick or Treat on Main. In between was Oxfordfest, and a slew of annual events by Historic Main Street Oxford, downtown businesses and organizations with an estimated attendance of over 60,000 visitors.

Historic Main Street Oxford has informally adopted the phrase "Think Local. Shop Local. Buy Local." Throughout the holiday season, I want to encourage you to repeat those words and strive to follow them. The unique character of Oxford's community, specifically in Historic Downtown Oxford is defined largely by the businesses located there. Local businesses are owned and operated by locals, friends, family, and neighbors. These people are more likely to invest in Oxford's welfare and future. Annually, American Express promotes Saturday, November 25 as "Shop Small Saturday," however, I want to inspire you to shop locally throughout the holiday season at the following businesses.

Cotton Antiques & Collectibles- 518 Main Street

Various vendors of antiques, collectibles, and gifts

Fresh Value- 601 Main Street

Regionally owned supermarket that offers weekly sales and discounts

Hubbard's Off Main- 16 East Choccolocco Street

Full-service Southern cuisine restaurant that offers breakfast, lunch, and dinner

Oxford Performing Arts Center- 100 East Choccolocco Street

1,200 seat performance venue that presents more than 130 performances annually and houses two art galleries

Sarah Cavender Metalworks- 500 Main Street

Handcrafted designer jewelry

Southern Girl Coffee Co.- 31 East Choccolocco Street

Locally owned coffee shop featuring coffee roasted and packaged on-site

Succ It Up- 426 Main Street

Succulents, houseplants, and gifts

The Main Olive- 506 Main Street

Gourmet specialty shop featuring oils, seasonings, jams, pickled items, cutting boards, local art, and much more

The Shop on the Corner- 30 East Choccolocco Street

Women's boutique

The Tackle Box- 515 Main Street

Bait and tackle shop featuring rods, reels, sunglasses, and hats

The Wren's Nest at OPAC- 100 East Choccolocco Street

Art gallery featuring the work of local artist Larry K. Martin

Oxford Christmas Parade

The Oxford Christmas Parade, coordinated by Oxfordfest, will be on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 6 PM in Historic Downtown Oxford. If you are interested in participating in the parade, please visit [here](#) for an application.



Christmas on Main

Christmas on Main will be on Saturday, December 9, 2023, from 2 PM - 7 PM in Historic Downtown Oxford! There will be an open house, festivities, movies, promotions, horse and carriage strolls, live entertainment, and a Christmas tree lighting ceremony.

Interested in being a vendor? Click [here](#) for our market vendor application.



Fall/Halloween Window Display Contest Winners

The downtown businesses of Historic Downtown Oxford competed for the best Fall/Halloween window display in October! There were many competitors, that all did a wonderful job.

1st Place - [Tammie Shaddix - State Farm Insurance Agency](#) (left)

People's Choice - [Cotton Antiques and Collectibles](#) (right)

Congratulations to our winners!



Photo courtesy of Historic Main Street Oxford.

TEAM Rehabilitation - Ribbon Cutting

Historic Main Street Oxford welcomed Team Rehabilitation, a pediatric occupational therapy clinic, with a ribbon cutting on Friday, October 20, 2023!

Occupational Therapist & owner at [TEAM Rehabilitation](https://us13.admin.mailchimp.com/campaigns/preview-content-html?id=6672627), Autumn Bobo, cares and treats patients with Activities of Daily Living (ADL), Amnesia, and Auditory Processing Disorder. Contact TEAM for more information.

Location- 320 Snow Street, Oxford, AL 36203.



Photo courtesy of City of Oxford Marketing & Public Relations.

Oxfordfest

The 36th Annual Oxfordfest took place on Saturday, October 7, 2023, in Historic Downtown Oxford. Annually this event brings thousands of visitors locally and regionally to downtown.



Photo courtesy of Eli Pruett with [Weston Pixel, LLC](#).

Witches Ride & Walk on Main

Our 4th annual Witches Ride & Walk on Main had its spirited stroll through Historic Downtown Oxford along Main Street, Snow Street, Choccolocco Street, and Oak Street on Friday, October 27, 2023.

Additional activities for the evening included Historic Main Street Oxford's inaugural Howl-O-Ween on Main (more information below), and a free showing of Hocus Pocus (1993 version) at Oxford Performing Arts Center.



Photo courtesy of City of Oxford Marketing & Public Relations.

Howl-O-Ween on Main

The City of Oxford and Historic Main Street Oxford co-hosted their inaugural Howl-O-Ween on Main! Howl-o-Ween on Main featured a dog costume contest, pet vendors, and a dog trick demo by Katie Doomy and her dog, Shining Saz! This event was affiliated with our Witches Ride & Walk on Main and it took place on October 27, 2023 at Simmons Park.



Photo courtesy of City of Oxford Marketing & Public Relations.

Trick or Treat on Main

Our 9th Annual Trick or Treat on Main took place on Tuesday, October 31, 2023 in Historic Downtown Oxford.

We want to give special thanks to everyone who came and helped with our annual Halloween event! This event was sponsored by Historic Main Street Oxford, the City of Oxford, and downtown merchants. It is estimated that we had 8,000 - 10,000 attendees within the four square block area of Choccolocco Street and Main Street in Historic Downtown Oxford. This event would not be possible without the support of Mayor Alton Craft and the Oxford City Council. We want to give a special thanks to the various downtown businesses and organizations that participated, and the Oxford Festival of Lights Department, Oxford Fire Department, Oxford Healthcare Systems, Oxford High School Student Ambassadors, Oxford Maintenance Department, Oxford Performing Arts Center, Oxford Police Department, Oxford Public Library and Oxford Public Works Department.



Photo courtesy of City of Oxford Marketing & Public Relations.

Board Member Spotlight - Charlotte Hubbard



Charlotte Hubbard is our Board Member of the Month!

Charlotte Hubbard serves as the Place 2 Council Member for the City of Oxford. She is a retired educator from Oxford City Schools and owns Hubbard's Off Main, a restaurant located in Historic Downtown Oxford. She has served on the city council since 2012. Since her time in office, she believes that the greatest accomplishment serving the citizens of Oxford has been the renovation of Historic Downtown Oxford, the opening of the Oxford Performing Arts Center, and the establishment of Historic Main Street Oxford. Charlotte believes that the biggest key issues in Oxford's growth and stability are the city's infrastructure, a need for a growth plan, creation of an economic development and tourism department for our city.

Charlotte is a 1971 graduate of Oxford High School. She obtained a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Auburn University, a master's degree in educational leadership from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and an associate degree in education leadership from the University of Alabama.

Charlotte has been involved in many civic and non-profit organizations over the years including Altrusa Club, ADK Sorority, Children's Service Center, Berman Museum Foundation, Historic Main Street Oxford. She enjoys collecting antique furniture from the 1880s-1920s and is the mother to Adam. Charlotte is a member of the First Baptist Church of Oxford.

Oxford Performing Arts Center- 2024 Spring Season Reveal

Get ready for an incredible Spring 2024 Season with us at OPAC on Friday, November 10, 2023, at 7:30 PM!

Be among the first to discover our exciting line-up of performances from January to May by reserving your complimentary tickets to our Spring Season Reveal! Don't miss out on this exclusive opportunity to learn about our upcoming shows.

Beginning Wednesday, October 11 at 11 AM, Members and Season Subscribers may reserve tickets and be part of the excitement! But hurry, seats are limited and will fill up fast, so reserve your tickets no later than 6 PM on Friday, October 27th. Tickets are complimentary but required for entry to this special event. Join us in anticipation of a thrilling Fall 2023 Season and reserve your Reveal tickets today. Remember, you must be logged into your account to reserve your tickets.

Reserve your tickets [here!](#)

Location: 100 East Choccolocco Street

Hours of Operation: Tuesday - Friday, 11 AM - 6 PM



The Main Olive has Frios!

The Main Olive now carries Frios Gourmet Pops have come to The Main Olive & Historic Downtown Oxford!

Current Flavors: Strawberry, Strawberry Mango, Blueberry Cheesecake, Chocolate, Cookies & Cream.

Have a favorite flavor? Let us know!



Downtown Discount!

[The Main Olive](#) is offering a 10% discount at checkout if you present a receipt from ANY business located in Historic Downtown Oxford.

Please be on the lookout for more details on other businesses offering this discount!

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 [here](#)!

Then & Now: 400 Block of Main Street



The 400 block (west side) of Main Street was mostly constructed in 1884 after a devastating fire that occurred on December 29, 1883. The first brick building in Oxford was constructed on the same site in 1869 by Daniel P. Gunnels as a general merchandise store. Daniel D. Draper and his sons, William W. Draper and James R. Draper, was involved in the banking, wholesale, and retail business and built many of the buildings that currently stand along Main Street and West Choccolocco Street. On the night of the fire, Draper, Son & Co. (bankers), Phillips & Bailey (hardware), Draper & Mathis (dry goods & groceries), Mrs. Alice Acton (dry goods), Pearce & Kelly (lawyers), J. Draper, Jr. (hardware), R.N. Warnock & Son (general merchandise), Marcus Bros. (dry goods) all suffered losses totaling \$50,000. In the early part of 1884, the present block of structures were constructed.

Sources of information: *Anniston Hot Blast, The Anniston Star, The Montgomery Advertiser, and The Selma*

Times.



Photo courtesy of Mary Kay Whatley (top photo) and Historic Main Street Oxford (bottom photo).

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:

Brad Cleghorn, *owner of Southern Girl Coffee Co.*

Jeremy Farr, *downtown resident*

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

Robin Leonard, *board secretary & downtown resident*

Gerry Lyons, *Oxford Police Department*

Karen Grammer, *owner of The Main Olive*

Debbie Nothdurft, *retired Oxford City Schools*

Gwen Parrish, *board chair & owner of The Vine Chiropractic*

Ben Stewart, *Oxford Fire Department*

Hunter Gentry, *director*

Siri Thackston, *marketing assistant*

Donna Timmons, *board secretary assistant*



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