

June 2025

A Word from Hunter...

As we begin June, I'm excited to reflect on a meaningful and eventful month in Historic Downtown Oxford.

Last month, we hosted *From Idea to Income: How to Start a Business* as part of our Business Development Workshop Series. Ken Grissom of the Jacksonville State University Small Business Development Center provided valuable insights on launching a business, covering topics from business plans to financial planning and taxes.

We also celebrated *Historic Preservation Month*, a national observance recognizing the importance of protecting historic places. Our "Then & Now" photo series, shared across social media, featured 20 images showcasing downtown Oxford's transformation and sparked great community engagement.

To close out the month, we welcomed *HOUSE Counseling* to 231 Choccolocco Street with a ribbon cutting celebrating their new downtown location. We also hosted *Heroes on Main: Oxford's Hometown Veterans Ceremony* at Simmons Park, honoring 44 local veterans with banners now displayed along Main Street and Choccolocco Street through Veterans Day.

Looking ahead, we invite you to join us for the ribbon cutting of *Below Zero Creamery* on Wednesday, June 4, and for *Finance Fundamentals for Small Businesses* on Tuesday, June 17 at the Oxford Civic Center. Presented by First Bank of Alabama, this workshop will cover essential financial topics for small business success.

Lastly, don't miss the Oxford Arts Council's community writing contest, inspired by the city's new tagline, "Oxford, Alabama at Its Best." Adults are encouraged to submit creative entries by June 16 celebrating what makes Oxford special.

Thank you for supporting Historic Main Street Oxford. I look forward to all that's ahead.

See you downtown!

Hunter Gentry

Ribbon Cutting- Below Zero



Ribbon Cutting- HOUSE Counseling

House Counseling has officially opened its new location at 231 Choccolocco Street in downtown Oxford. The ribbon cutting ceremony, hosted by Historic Main Street Oxford, was held on Friday, May 30, 2025.

Founded by Anjuli Thompson, House Counseling offers individual and family counseling services addressing a range of issues including PTSD, depression, anxiety, grief, stress management, and ADHD/ADD. The practice also provides assessments, EMDR, play therapy, consultations, and APOSTC new hire evaluations.

House Counseling is currently accepting new patients and is open Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM. To learn more or schedule an appointment, visit <u>house-counseling.com</u> or call 256-342-6107.







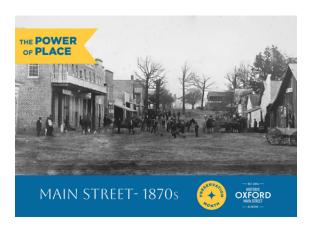
Historic Preservation Month Recap

Each May, communities across the country celebrate Historic Preservation Month—a time to recognize the places that shape our past and inspire our future. Established in 2005 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the monthlong observance encourages communities to honor their heritage through storytelling, education, and preservation efforts.

Historic Main Street Oxford proudly joined the celebration once again this year, continuing a tradition that began in 2020. Throughout the month, we shared a special "Then & Now" photo series across our social media platforms, spotlighting the transformation of downtown Oxford over the decades. The series featured 20 historic and modern-day comparison images that illustrated how far we've come—and the importance of preserving the unique character of our community.

These glimpses into the past sparked conversations, stirred memories, and reminded us all why *this place matters*.

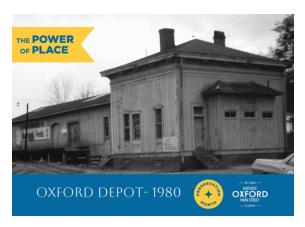
Historic Preservation Month is more than a celebration—it's a call to action. By preserving and honoring our past, we continue building a vibrant and meaningful future for downtown Oxford.

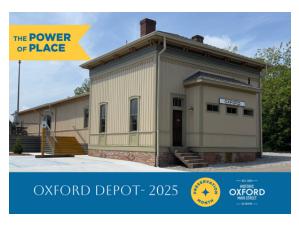


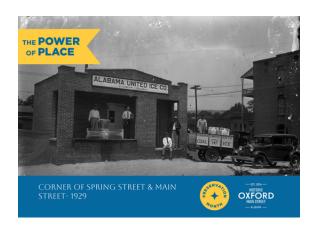














2025 Main Street Investors

Historic Main Street Oxford extends our sincere thanks to our 2025 Investors for their generous financial support of our program. Your investment plays a vital role in preserving our history, supporting local businesses, and enhancing the vitality of downtown Oxford.

HISTORIC MAIN STREET OXFORD

MAIN STREET INVESTORS

Alfa Insurance - Thomas Shelton Agency
Cotton Antiques & Collectibles
First Baptist Church of Oxford
Hubbard's Off Main
Licensed Massage Therapy Associates

Parnell Insurance

R&R Travel

Rice & Rice PC

Spring Street Station

The Main Olive

The Vine Chiropractic

Thank you for your support!

Downtown Litter Clean Up Days

The next cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, June 28, 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.







Business Development Workshop Series

As part of the Oxford Business Development Workshop Series, *Finance Fundamentals for Small Businesses* will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM at the Oxford Civic Center (401 McCullars Lane). Presented by First Bank of Alabama, this workshop will offer a comprehensive overview

of financial management essentials for small business owners. Topics will include accounting basics, understanding financial statements, tax considerations, cash flow management, and strategies for securing financing.







Finance Fundamentals for Small Businesses

A deep dive into financial management for small businesses, this workshop will cover the fundamentals of accounting, taxes, financial statements, and more, with a focus on cash flow management and securing financing.

Tuesday, June 17, 2025, | 10:00 – 11:30 AM Oxford Civic Center 401 McCullars Lane, Oxford, AL 36203

Please register in Advance by Monday, June 16, 2025

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





On Tuesday, May 20, 2025, Historic Main Street Oxford hosted *From Idea to Income: How to Start a Business* as part of its Business Development Workshop Series. Led by Ken Grissom, Director of the Jacksonville State University Small Business Development Center, the session provided practical guidance on launching a business. Attendees gained valuable insights on entrepreneurial traits, business plan development, financial planning, legal structures, local resources, and setting up state and local taxes.

Heroes on Main: Oxford's Hometown Veteran Ceremony

On Saturday, May 31, *Heroes on Main: Oxford's Hometown Veterans Ceremony* was held at Simmons Park in Historic Downtown Oxford. The event honored 44 local veterans with commemorative banners now displayed along Choccolocco Street and Main Street. These banners will remain in place from Memorial Day through Veterans Day as a tribute to the service and sacrifice of Oxford's hometown heroes.

The ceremony featured remarks from Mayor Alton Craft, Oxford Arts Council President Cindy Lett Williams, and Historic Main Street Oxford Director Hunter Gentry. Additional participants included Bro. C.O. Grinstead of Trinity Baptist Church (Invocation), Col. Greg Potts (Pledge of Allegiance), Cheryl Mills

(National Anthem), and Kellie Martin (Taps). Live music was provided by Ryan Robertson's *Alabama Rain*.

Veterans honored during the ceremony include:

Bester Adams, Sam Alexander Mellon, Charles Ash, Bill Beck, Howard Bentley, Kevin Billingsley, James Daniel Black, David Bobo, Oscar Cotton, Virgil Cotton, Ellis Craven, Raymond Dale, Fred Denney, Bobby Fulton, Clay Goff, Therman Greene, James Hammonds, Claude (Butch) Haynes, Larry Ryan Hicks, Troy Hubbert, William Otha Johnson, Bobby Jones, Thomas Kandziorski, Andrew Kirkland, Neil Ladley, Terry Lambert, John Land, Joseph Lett, Alton G. Lewis, Carlos Lipham, K.V. Lipham, Earl R. Martin, Lanford Owens, Howard Pilkington, Greg Potts, Bernard Proietty, Chris Reeves, Charles Hugh Rice, William Francis Roberts, Doyle Robinson, Ryan Robertson, Richard Sparks, Jesse Turner, Alan Waits, and Willard Young.

This meaningful event served as a powerful tribute to the men who have defended our country with courage, honor, and dedication.











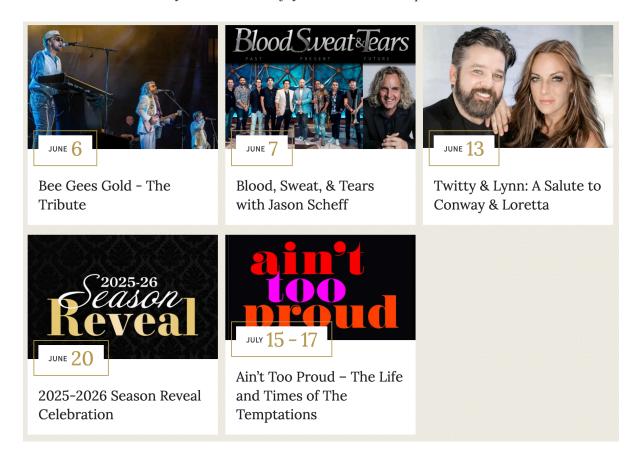








Oxford Performing Arts Center



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 Commercial Property

Interested in moving your existing business or opening a new business in Historic Downtown Oxford? Check out these available commercial properties for lease.



324 Snow Street

Looking to open or relocate a business in Historic Downtown Oxford? A prime space at 324 Snow Street is now available, offering over 1,700 square feet with seven rooms, two restrooms, and a kitchen—ideal for retail or professional office use in a highly walkable area. For serious inquiries, contact Bruce Rice at 256-310-4056.









Available Residential Property

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



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



1208 Barry Street- \$70,000.



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



115 Miller Street- \$89,000. Click <u>here</u> for more information!



11 Hickory Hills Circle- \$209,900.

Click here for more information!

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



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Our mailing address is:

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