

Mobile Vietnam memorial to be exhibited in November

Press Release

The Wall That Heals, a three – quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial along with a mobile Education Center, is coming to Columbia on November 14 to November 17 at Bluff Park, Columbia, MS, and will be open 24 hours a day and free to the public.

The Wall That Heals honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed forces in the Vietnam War and it bears the names of the more than 58,000 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is one of the most visited memorials in our nation’s capital, with more than 5.3 million visitors each year. However, many Americans have not been able to visit what has become known to many as “The Wall.” The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF), the organization that built The Wall in 1982, wants to give all veterans and their family members across America an opportunity to see the Memorial.

“VVMF is pleased to bring The Wall That Heals” mobile exhibit to Columbia to allow local veterans and their family members a chance to visit The Wall and honor and remember those who have served and sacrificed,” said Jim Knotts, president and CEO of VVMF. “We hope it provides an opportunity for healing and an educational experience for the whole community on the impact of the Vietnam War on America.”

Nearly 400,000 people visited an all-new The Wall That Heals exhibit in 2018. Since its debut in 1996, the exhibit has been on display in more than 500 U.S. communities in addition to an April 1999 tour of the Four Provinces of Ireland and a visit to Canada in 2005. Hosting The Wall That Heals provides a community with a multi-day experience that includes an educational experience for local schools and organizations on the history of the Vietnam era and The Wall.

The three-quarter scale Wall replica is 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. With the replica at this size, visi-

tors can experience The Wall rising above them as they walk towards the apex, a key feature of the design of The Wall in D.C.

Like the original Memorial, The Wall That Heals is erected in a chevron-shape and visitors can do name rubbings of individual service member’s names on The Wall. The names are listed in order of date of casualty and alphabetically on each day. Beginning at the center/apex, the names start on the East Wall (right-hand side) working their way out to the end of that wing, picking up again at the far end of the West Wall (left-hand side) and working their way back in to the center/apex. The first and last casualties are side by side at the apex of the Memorial.

The replica is constructed of Avonite, a synthetic granite, and its 144 individual panels are supported by an aluminum frame. Modern LED lighting from the top of The Wall provides readability of The Wall at night.

The Wall That Heals is transported from community to community in a 53-foot trailer. When parked, the trailer opens with exhibits built into its sides, allowing it to serve as a mobile Education Center telling the story of the Vietnam War, The Wall and the divisive era in American history.

The mobile Education Center displays includes: digital photo displays of “Hometown Heroes”- service members whose names are on The Wall that list their home of record within the area of a visit; digital photo displays of Vietnam veterans from the local area honored through VVMF’s In Memory program which honors veterans who returned home from Vietnam and later died as a result of their service; video displays that teach about the history and impact of The Wall and of the collection of items representative of those left at The Wall in D.C.; educational exhibits told through items in the collection; a map of Vietnam and chronological overview of the Vietnam War. The Exhibits tell the story of the Vietnam War, The Wall and the era surrounding the Conflict, and are designed to put American experiences in

Vietnam in a historical and cultural context.

Please join us for the Inaugural Visit of The Wall That Heals and its mobile Education Center to the state of Mississippi on November 14-17 on the banks of the Pearl River in beautiful downtown Columbia.

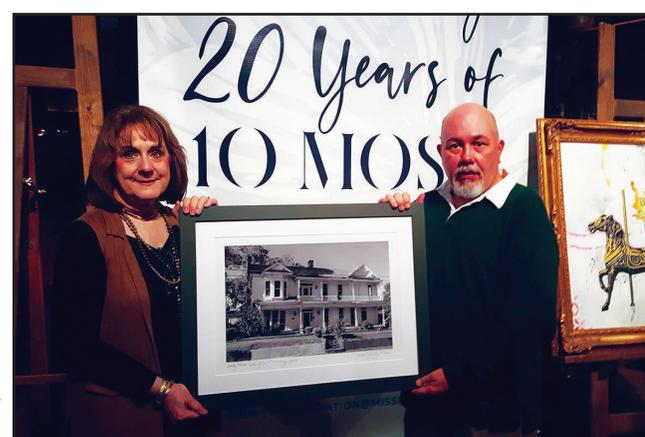
There will be an 8:00 AM Flag Raising ceremony, a noon wreath laying ceremony, 4:30 PM Sunset ceremony, and a very special Candlelight ceremony on Saturday the 16 th at 6:30 PM. The event is free and open to the public 24 hours a day until its closing Sunday at 2:00 PM. We invite everyone to be a part of this historic event as we salute those that gave all.

For more information, see our Facebook page The Wall That Heals Columbia, MS or call The Wall That Heals Columbia Committee Chairman Carlton Thornhill 601-408-5165.

Locals attend historical designation announcement



Lexington residents attended the October 24 announcement event of 10 Most Endangered Historic Places in Mississippi at the Morris Ice Company in Jackson. This event was to celebrate 20 years of “10 most endangered places in Mississippi.” This year the local historic Lundy House Stagecoach Inn was added to the endangered list of places gaining statewide attention to save the historic structure. Pictured at top (from left): Ed Wilburn Hooker, Lexington Mayor Robin McCrory, Fran Thurmond, Louise Hooker and Ed Thurmond. Pictured at right: McCrory and fellow attendee, Jerry McCrory, hold a framed photograph of the Lundy House in Lexington. (Photo submitted)



Global music convention to be hosted in Mississippi in 2020

Press Release

The city of Cleveland will host the global Music Tourism Conference Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2020, officials announced Saturday.

Visit Mississippi Director Craig Ray and officials from the city of Cleveland joined representatives from Sound Diplomacy at GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi to make the announcement.

“It is truly an honor that the city of Cleveland was chosen as the host of Sound Diplomacy’s next global tourism conference,” Ray

said. “This is a wonderful opportunity to welcome leading music and tourism professionals from around the world to the Birthplace of America’s Music, where they can experience the truly authentic sights and sounds of our state’s revered musical legacy.”

The Music Tourism Convention explores how music impacts, benefits and improves tourism, location branding, partnership development and economic development.

Event planners antici-

pate more than 300 attendees and more than 30 international speakers from the music and tourism industries. The conference previously was hosted by Franklin, Tenn., Liverpool, England and Cologne, Germany, bringing together more than 725 international delegates from approximately 125 cities and 25 countries.

The Music Tourism Convention is part of Sound Diplomacy’s Music Cities Events series. Sound Diplomacy is a global organi-

zation dedicated to empowering cities and places to achieve social, cultural and economic goals through music and the entertainment economy. Music Cities Events is a global series of conferences focused on all aspects of music and cities, including how music impacts and influences policy, city planning, economic development, tourism, health and education. The group has organized 23 events spanning Europe, North America, South America, Asia and Australia. Learn more and register to attend at musictourismconvention.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, 4:00 P.M.

GOOD HOPE M.B.C.
Good Hope M.B.C. in Mileston will celebrate its 159th Church Anniversary on Sunday, November 10 at 11 a.m. 10-31;11-7

SALEM M.B.C.
Salem M.B. Church in Pickens will host its Men’s and Women’s Day program on Sunday, November 10 at 2 p.m. 10-31;11-7

TRINITY M.B.C.
Trinity M.B. Church will host its annual Harvest Fest

on Sunday, November 17 at 2:30 p.m. 11-7,14

ST. PETER ROCK
St. Peter Rock M.B.C. will host its annual 100 Men and Women in Red & Black Program on Saturday, November 16 at 6 p.m. 11-7,14

SECOND PILGRIM REST
Second Pilgrim Rest Church will celebrate its Men and Women Day on Sunday, November 17 at 2 p.m. 11-7,14

LUNCHEON
Workers from the former Lexington Elementary School will meet on Monday, November 18 at 12:30 p.m. at Harvester Restaurant in Lexington for a luncheon. This event is hosted by Jaquetta Griffin and Lois Edwards. 11-7,14

HORSESHOE BAPTIST
Horseshoe Baptist Church in Tchula will host its Homecoming Services on Sunday, November 10 at 10:45 a.m. with lunch to follow. 11-7,14

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