



TheSupporter

*The latest news and announcements
from the Sumter County Museum*



In This Issue

**From The
Director's Desk**

On Display Now

Collections Corner

Updates & More

Events

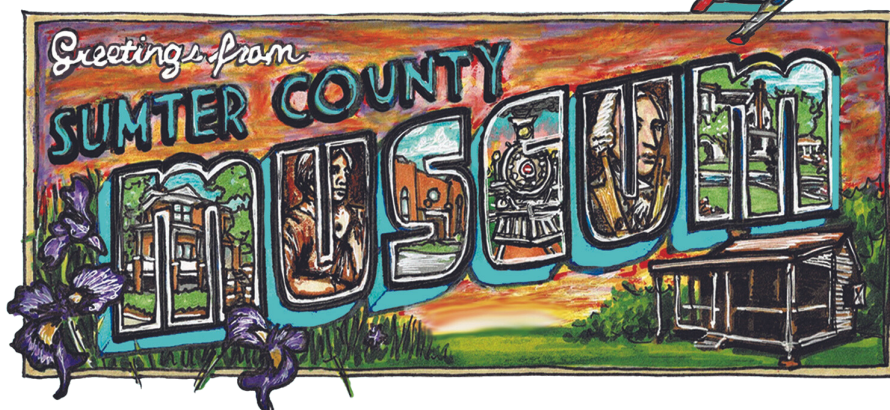
Sumter County Museum

p. 803-775-0908

e. information@sumtercountymuseum.org

a. 122 N. Washington Street, Sumter, SC 29150

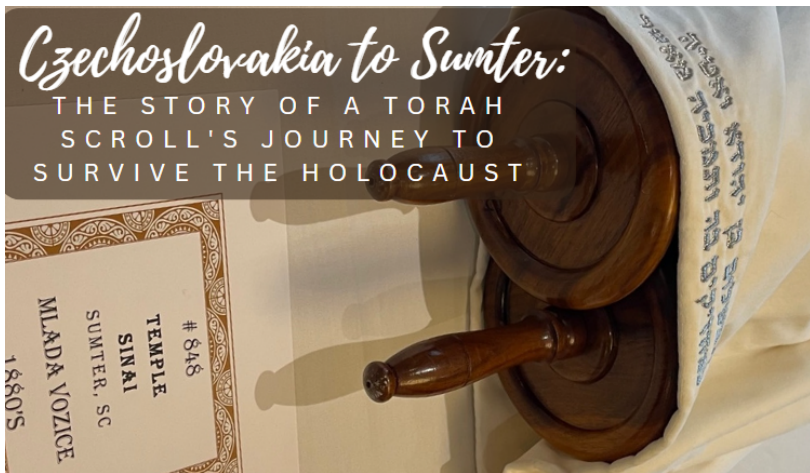
w. sumtercountymuseum.org



From The Director's Desk

Greetings! I hope this newsletter finds you well and gives you a glimpse of just a few of the projects the museum has been busy working on lately. I'd love to see you at these upcoming events. Be sure to catch the Millican exhibit in all three of its parts before it closes on September 30th. We are also thrilled to highlight Temple Sinai's Czech Torah Scroll in our new exhibit at the Jewish History Center. See more enclosed and be on the lookout for detailed information on the construction of our new facility coming soon!

Annie Rivers
Executive Director



Czechoslovakia to Sumter: The Story of a Torah Scroll's Journey to Survive the Holocaust

The Czech Torah Scrolls represent the preservation of the Jewish communities of Czechoslovakia, now known as the Czech Republic. Their story, and the story of Temple Sinai's Scroll #848, is recounted in this exhibit.

LOCATION

TEMPLE SINAI JEWISH HISTORY CENTER
11 CHURCH STREET, SUMTER, SC 29150

HOURS

TEMPLE SINAI JEWISH HISTORY
1pm - 4pm Thurs.- Fri.
10am - 1pm Sat.



Now On Special Display For A Limited Time

Inspired by Millican: The Life and Legacy of Dr. Arthenia J. Bates Millican

This temporary exhibit explores the life and legacy of Dr. Arthenia J. Bates Millican, Sumter native and accomplished author, poet, humanitarian, and teacher. Dr. Millican's first published work appeared in the Sumter Item at 16 years old as a student at Lincoln High School. She received a Bachelor's degree from Morris College and a Master's from Clark Atlanta University, studying under Langston Hughes, as well as a Ph.D. from Louisiana State University. Her writings include "Seeds Beneath the Snow," "The Deity Nodded," "Such Things from the Valley," and the recently published "The Bottoms and Hills: Virginia Tales." She received numerous accolades both during her lifetime and after including a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts and the 2017 induction into the South Carolina Academy of Authors. Her Sumter house was designated as a state Literary Landmark in 2019.

LOCATION

SUMTER COUNTY MUSEUM (Williams Brice House, McKenzie Hall)
122 N. WASHINGTON ST. SUMTER, SC 29150

HOURS

SUMTER COUNTY MUSEUM
10am - 5pm Thurs.-Sat.



Collection's Corner

The Restoration of Pinewood Depot By Leeam Stein, Collections Assistant

The job of a museum is not just to display and protect artifacts of the past, but to sometimes breathe new life into them as well. Today the historic Pinewood Train Depot of Sumter County is the only surviving train depot in the county, but it wasn't always that way. From 1889 to the mid-1960s, Pinewood served as an important hub of transportation between the town of Denmark and Sumter. As automobiles grew in popularity and accessibility however, the railroad ceased operations through Pinewood in the mid-60s, the depot was purchased by railroad giant CSX who left it vacant for nearly 30 years. In 1989 after the depot was severely damaged by Hurricane Hugo, CSX deeded the depot to the Sumter County Historical Society.



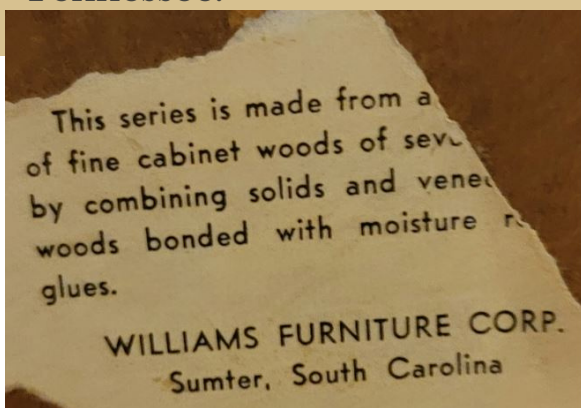
An enormous grassroots campaign was then undertaken with the support of the community, to repair and restore the depot for community use once again.

The Pinewood Depot underwent many changes during its 7-year renovation period from 1996 to 2002, including an entirely new roof and a complete gutting of the interior. The Pinewood Town Council with input from the community also voted to use the renovated building as a town hall and civic center. The Historical Society raised over half a million dollars during the 7-year renovation period to ensure the depot was properly repaired and ready for its new life serving the Pinewood Community. The depot was accepted to the National Register of Historic Places in 1997.



Tracy Miller joins staff as Director of Development

I have started a new chapter in my life at the Sumter County Museum! I retired from book industry after 42 years working at Baxter's Book Store, Waldenbooks and Books A Million. I love to read, quilt and cook. My husband, James, loves to bring home rescue cats so we always have a few to cuddle along with our two dogs. We enjoy camping in our Airstream and visiting family in Virginia and Tennessee.



Did you or anyone in your family work for Williams Furniture, Sumter Cabinet, or another wood products or lumber company in or around Sumter? Do you have stories to tell? If so, USC students would love to interview you. Also, if you have Sumter-made furniture or wood products to lend for a travelling exhibit, let us know that, too! Email jessicae@mailbox.sc.edu or call [803 777-3282](tel:8037773282) and leave your contact information and we'll get right back to you.

Not a museum member?

Scan the QR Code and fill out the easy online form to become a Sumter County Museum Member today! Museum members receive exclusive member pricing on all museum events.



We would love to hear from you! Email information@sumtercountymuseum.org with your feedback today!

FROM BOOK SIGNINGS TO PIRATE DAY THERE ARE MANY EVENTS HAPPENING AT THE MUSEUM.

Upcoming Events



PICTURES ABOVE TAKEN AT PREVIOUS BOOK SIGNING WITH AUTHOR RHONDA MCKNIGHT

AUG
17

SPECIAL EXHIBIT OPENING
CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO SUMTER: THE STORY
OF A TORAH SCROLL'S
JOURNEY TO SURVIVE THE HOLOCAUST

Open through Jan. 7, Normal Temple Hours

AUG
28

TALK & BOOK SIGNING

With Tracey Enerson Wood
on her novel, *The President's Wife*

Noon

SEPT
07

TWILIGHT IN THE BACKCOUNTRY

Must Be 21 Or Older

7PM-9PM

SEPT
19

TALK & BOOK SIGNING

With Rachel Barnett & Lyssa Harvey on
*Kugels & Collards: Stories of Food, Family,
and Tradition in Jewish South Carolina*
6PM

SEPT
30

PIRATE DAY W/ THE
BACKCOUNTRY PRIVATEERS

11AM-4PM

There is much variety
when it comes to events
that the museum puts
on. Included with this
newsletter are event
flyers with more
detailed information
about upcoming
events!

Visit our website to register and see
the full list of upcoming events.